

Ducks eliminated from Pac-8 title

And two more wins get away

Dick Harter walked out of the Oregon dressing room, head lowered. When it came up to meet reporters it showed the expression of a coach who had just lost a game he could have won.

After the initial questions he stood around waiting for any additional offerings, impatient when they didn't come, looking like he wanted to retreat back to the solemn security of the locker room.

Reporters sensing he might leave put forth several feeble inquiries, delaying his departure a few more minutes.

By JIM HUNTER
Of the Emerald

But after those minutes, Harter didn't return to his players and assistant coaches but sunk down on the long wooden bench opposite the dressing room door and looked at and pondered the totals of the Oregon-California game.

Stats show why

The stat sheet showed who won, Cal by a 71-67 score. The stats told why Cal won. The Bears had connected on 21 of 25 from the foul line, Oregon just seven of 13. The stat sheet also showed 34 points next to the name of Ansley Truitt, Cal's 6-10 center.

Truitt had kept the Bears in the game the first half, hitting on 10 of 14 from the floor while his teammates managed six of 16. And the shots he was hitting—not tips or second efforts but jumpers from the 15 to 20 foot range.

Truitt hot

During that half fans were convinced Truitt was the best thing to hit Mac Court in two years. That assumption, of course, fell by the wayside Saturday night when the Stanford Straw Hat Band put on its show, the best thing to hit Mac since 1970 when Oregon beat UCLA.

The Ducks trailed 41-36 at half after the lead had changed hands nine times and been tied on six occasions. With 5:35 left in the half Oregon was down by one, 31-30. But almost three scoreless minutes by Oregon gave the Bears the opportunity to up their advantage to 37-30.

The second half didn't start any better, Oregon going scoreless for the first two minutes, 49 seconds. By then Cal had a nine point edge, 45-36.

Ducks rally

But when Oregon came alive they did a job. Paced by Rusty Blair's nine points, the Ducks zoomed into a 54-50 lead with 11:48 left. A little surprised, Cal regrouped and came back. While the Bears' offensive proess over the last 10 minutes was nothing great, accounting for only 13 points, the Ducks performance was even less impressive, managing just 10 points.

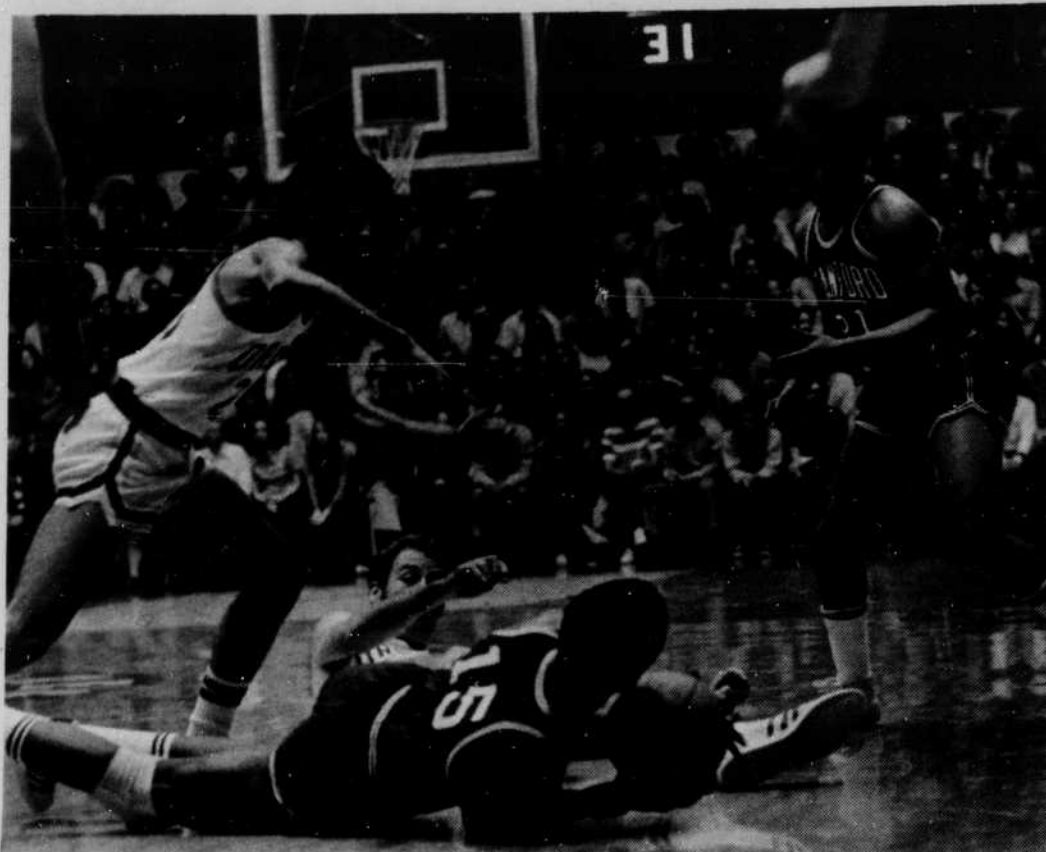
There were two scoreless stretches that did in the Ducks. One from 6:22 to 3:52 and the other over the last three minutes, one second of the game. Oregon had been ahead 64-62 at 6:22 and down by only one, 68-67, at 3:01.

After the contest the dejected Harter said, "This is the poorest we've played since the Washington State game. We made mental errors and showed lack of intelligence in spots."

Despite Doug Little's 23 points, 12 of them coming on six consecutive jumpers in the first half, Harter said, "I don't think anyone played well tonight."

Those were Oregon players he was talking about. Harter called Truitt "a great, great basketball player. Certainly Oregon had no one out there tonight that could compare."

California coach Jim Padgett supported Harter's view, saying, "There just wasn't much you could do with Truitt."



If Stanford's Mike Mann (15) had any ideas of unloading the ball, Walt Reynolds was ready. Action took place in the first half of Oregon's eighth consecutive Pac-8 loss.

Photo by Matt McCormick

CALIFORNIA (71)					STANFORD (91)						
	FG	FT	RB	PF	TP		FG	FT	RB	PF	TP
Brown	3-9	3-4	11	4	9	Beuell	5-9	4-6	8	2	14
Coughran	3-8	4-5	8	5	10	Shupe	5-10	4-4	13	5	14
Truitt	14-22	6-7	12	3	34	Mann	4-11	4-7	8	4	12
Duwe	1-5	1-1	3	2	3	Nicholsen	3-6	1-2	1	3	7
Long	1-2	1-1	3	1	3	Terry	13-25	10-12	6	0	36
Johnson	1-1	0-0	0	2	2	Frost	0-2	0-0	0	1	0
Meier	1-3	5-5	3	0	7	Cain	0-0	1-4	0	1	0
Rudow	0-1	0-0	0	1	0	Stratton	1-2	5-7	5	1	7
Armstrong	1-1	1-2	0	0	3	Totals	31-65	29-42	49	16	91
Totals	25-52	21-25	49	18	71						

*Includes 9 team rebounds.
Shooting: Field goals, 48.1%.

OREGON (67)					OREGON (79)						
	FG	FT	RB	PF	TP		FG	FT	RB	PF	TP
Little	10-22	3-6	6	2	23	Little	9-19	2-2	10	4	20
Ingram	4-13	1-3	8	3	9	Ingram	7-18	5-6	11	3	19
Carlson	3-10	1-2	4	3	7	Blair	8-15	2-4	13	5	18
Halupa	2-4	1-1	1	0	5	Halupa	2-4	1-1	0	4	5
Strand	1-4	0-0	0	2	2	Strand	5-14	1-2	3	4	11
Sunderland	4-6	0-0	0	2	8	Sunderland	0-2	2-3	4	2	2
Blair	6-9	1-1	2	5	13	Ela	0-1	0-0	0	1	0
Totals	20-68	7-13	41	17	67	Carlson	0-1	0-0	0	0	0

*Includes 5 team rebounds.
Shooting: Field goals, 44.1%.
**Technical on Oregon bench.

California		Oregon	
Turnovers—Oregon 11, California 26.	41	30-71	
Officials—Mal Ross and Charles Reed.	36	31-47	
A—6,200.			

Shooting: Field goals, 47.7%.

Pac-8 Conference				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
UCLA	8	0	1.000	—
USC	7	1	.875	1
Oregon State	5	3	.625	3
Stanford	5	5	.500	4
Washington	4	4	.500	4
California	4	6	.400	5
Washington State	1	7	.125	7
Oregon	0	8	.000	8

Turnovers—Stanford 15, Oregon 12.
Officials—Don Sherwood and Jack Ditty.
A—7,500.

Can Ducks catch WSU?



Doug Little is off to the races, fast-breaking past three California players. Little made the basket for two of his 23 points.

Photo by James Link

By PAUL BUKER
Of the Emerald

The funny thing that happened to Oregon Friday night on the way to conference win number one popped up again Saturday.

One man went wild and beat the Ducks himself.

But give referee Dan Sherwood an assist for what went on in a 91-79 loss to the Stanford Indians.

Momentum stopper

The guy's so good at stopping momentum he would have been tremendous help to the Germans when the allies were storming those beaches on VE day.

As it was, he did a pretty good job putting the skids to Oregon.

Behind 79-69 with six minutes left in the game, the Ducks had flurried within 79-73. It looked like Dick Harter's mob would overtake Stanford—even if Claude Terry did get 65 points.

Then Sherwood slapped Rusty Blair with his fifth foul, said he was going over the back of the Indians' John Stratton underneath.

Blair was beside himself. And the frustration of being 0-7 in the Pac-8 (for the moment) prompted Harter to tell Sherwood in 25 words or less what he thought of the call.

Harter boils

It was about four of those words and a wild rush to mid-court that brought two technical fouls. Stratton dumped in four free throws and before it was over Stanford was up by 10, 83-73.

Call off the dogs, Howie Dallmar, the Ducks have lost conference game number eight.

"The refs call was all part of the game," said a very quiet Harter afterwards.

And he's right. But the call on Blair didn't jive with allowances made by the officials in a very rough game.

While 7,500 fans were waiting for Oregon to get that first Pac-8 victory, both teams played it like football.

Doug Little was doing his usual thing. Diving like a maniac for loose balls, pumping in 20 points—and defending super-gunner Terry with a blackjack and chains. No blood, no foul.

Little and Blair were rolling around like tenpins themselves, it was so rough under the backboards.

No wonder a hail of paper cups, ice, and programs greeted Sherwood's ouster of Blair. All for going over John Stratton's back while both were going for a rebound.

It's like kicking somebody out of a war because his gun is loaded. Or calling off an electrocution because the chair isn't padded.

Terry tough

In the end, however, it was the 6-5 Terry who supervised the final execution. With backcourt speed and the height of an inside man, he was tough to handle. He had 23 points at halftime, finishing with 36.

The Indians, like Cal the night before, needed just one man to do the job.

"He's got super-balance—and one heck of a touch," admitted Ken Strand. "It's tough to fight it."

Strand and Little took turns trying to stop the Stanford star. Neither succeeded completely, but Little got his licks in.

And for the frustrated Ducks, now 6-14 on the year and staring at weekend games with UCLA and USC in Los Angeles, that consolation may have to do.

"That's just about as hard as we can play," shrugged Harter. "Being an underdog in every game is a hell of a load for these players to carry."

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