

Sporadic Ducks win at hit-and-yawn, 72-59

By BOB WELCH
Of the Emerald

Oregon compressed a hot-cold season into one game Thursday night and wound up with a strange 72-59 Pacific-8 win over Stanford that left most Kamikaze fans baffled as they left McArthur Court.

For the record, it was the Ducks' second biggest Pac-8 win since Dick Harter arrived and evened Oregon to 3-3 in league play. But if it looked impressive in the record book, it wasn't on the floor.

"We played in spurts," said Harter. "Greg Ballard was consistent; other than that, we played well only in spots. We're thankful we caught a team tonight on an off-night."

Oregon wasn't exactly on. Then again, the Ducks weren't exactly off. They were both, outscoring Stanford 14-1 at one point in the first half and not hitting a field goal for nearly eight minutes in the second half.

"In spots we moved the ball and when we did, we got the good shots," said Harter. "We had some good opportunities to break it open, but didn't and we're just thankful for the win."

Stanford, obviously, was not Oregon State. The Cards shot .327 from the field—.217 in the first half—and managed only four assists while committing 21 turnovers.

Oregon, meanwhile, hit .429 from the field, got three less rebounds than the Cards (48-45), got 15 more assists (19-4) and eight more steals (12-4).

Ballard was the Ducks' chief weapon, scoring 15 points and grabbing 15 rebounds. "The turning point of the game was Ballard's play," said Harter.

Ron Lee, averaging 32 points in his last three games, nosedived in the second half—he was 0-6 from the field—but still wound up with 17 points and 10 assists.

Lee injured a knee late in the game but, according to trainer Larry Standifer, there was no ligament or cartilage damage.

The game itself wouldn't win any awards for excitement. Except for Oregon's brief first half flurry, the most exciting thing that happened was when Oregon State's one-point loss to California was announced.

Both teams played tight, aggressive defenses to begin with and both were shaky on the offensive side of things. The Ducks reeled off 10 straight to jump into a 14-7 lead but the Cards narrowed it to 14-11 before Oregon went into high gear.

Dan Hartshorne hit a banker with 10:43 left in the half and the Ducks were off. Everybody got in the act, including the defense, which yielded only one Stanford field goal in the last 11 minutes of the opening half.

"That spurt killed us," said Dick DiBiasi, the Cards' rookie coach. "We committed four turnovers, two offensive charges and took two bad shots—Oregon converted everyone's mistake into points."

Besides poor shooting, both from the field and the line, DiBiasi hinted that the refing wasn't exactly jim dandy. Asked "how he saw the game," DiBiasi replied: "Better than a couple of people." Most people who did see it wondered why Oregon didn't blow Stanford from here to Palo Alto once it built a double-figure lead.

"We just didn't have a good week of practice," said Ballard. "And it was evident tonight."

For all practical purposes, the game could have been called at the half and fans could have saved their yawns for another time. Gary Nelson and Greg Ballard were the only Ducks to hit a field goal in the second half until Stu Jackson hit underneath with 7:15 remaining.

Lee, meanwhile, couldn't hit anything and Harter scowled on the sideline as the offense stalled.

The Ducks probably won't beat Cal Saturday night with a repeat performance. "We've got to improve on offense, especially on our rebounds," said Harter. "As for our defense, well, it played just good enough to get the win."

STANFORD	25	34-59
OREGON	34	38-72

STANFORD (59)—Schweitzer 21, Perry 10, Patterson 7, Bratz 6, Simons 6, McHugh 5, Carter 2, Giovacchini 2, Schader, Dohrmann, Filtner
OREGON (72)—Lee 17, Ballard 15, Jackson 11, Graham 9, Nelson 8, Hartshorne 5, Barwig 5, Mack 2, Geoff Nelson, Moreck, Coldren, Drummond
Field goals—Stanford, 17-52 (.327), Oregon, 27-63 (.429)
Free throws—Stanford, 25-37 (.676), Oregon, 18-28 (.643)
Fouled out—Hartshorne, Gary Nelson (UO), Bratz, Carter (Stanford)
Attendance—10,500



Photo by Kerner Steinhauer

Leaping for rebounds or going after loose balls, Greg Ballard was Oregon's brightest spot Thursday night.



Friday, Feb. 6

Men's gymnastics, California, USC and Stanford at Berkeley. Men and women's swimming, Dolphin Championships at Leighton Pool. Women's basketball, Seattle Pacific at Seattle.

Saturday, Feb. 7

Men's basketball, California at McArthur Court, 3:30 p.m. (televised live). Men's gymnastics, California, USC and Stanford at Berkeley. Wrestling, Southern Oregon State College at Ashland. Men's and women's swimming, Dolphin Championships at Leighton Pool. Women's basketball, Washington at Seattle. Women's gymnastics, Seattle Pacific at B-54 of Gerlinger Annex.

Sunday, Feb. 8

Men's swimming, Dolphin Championships at Leighton Pool, 3 p.m.

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Pac-8 basketball round-up

Cal shocks Beavers, 73-72

	W	L	Pct.	GB
UCLA	5	1	.833	-
Washington	4	2	.666	1
Washington St.	4	2	.666	1
Oregon State	4	2	.666	1
Oregon	3	3	.500	2
California	3	3	.500	2
Stanford	1	5	.166	4
Southern Cal	0	6	.000	5

Thursday's results

California 73, Oregon State 72
UCLA 92, Washington 87
Washington St. 80, Southern Cal 72
Oregon 72, Stanford 59

From AP reports

CORVALLIS — Gene Ransom, a 5-9 freshman guard, hit a 25-foot desperation shot in the last second, as Cal came from behind to upset Oregon State, 73-72.

Oregon State led by as many as 15 points in the first half and never trailed until Ransom won it for the Bears. Lonnie Shelton

went to the free throw line for two shots after an intentional foul, but Shelton missed both and California got the rebound. Ransom finished with 25, including 17 in the second half and Carl Bird had 23.

UCLA, 92-87

SEATTLE — A baffling zone defense and Marques Johnson's 25 points Thursday night led the ninth-ranked UCLA Bruins to a 92-87 Pacific-8 basketball upset of sixth-ranked Washington.

UCLA switched from man-to-man to the zone defense with about 12 minutes to play in the first half when it trailed 24-20.

The Bruins then scored 10

straight points and never trailed again though Washington cut their deficit to 47-46 early in the second period.

Washington State, 80-72

A quick ten points by Edgar Jeffries at the start of the second half helped spark a come-from-behind 80-72 victory for Washington State over Southern Cal.

Jeffries' effort helped WSU outscore USC 18-4 in the first eight minutes after intermission to give the Cougars a 42-41 advantage. USC had led at half 37-24.

Steve Puidokas, Ron Davis and Norton Barnhill each scored 18 points to pace the Cougars. Casey Jones was high man for USC with 20.

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