

Fiery Oregon captures Sun Devil Classic

Any doubts that Oregon's basketball success left campus last year were all but put to rest over the weekend as the Ducks posted two victories to win the Sun Devil Classic held in Tempe, Ariz., raising their record to 2-1.

Senior forward Greg Ballard played like he owned the city of Tempe by totaling 32 points and 26 rebounds in Oregon's wins of 57-49 over Wichita State Friday and 57-47 over host Arizona State Saturday.

Ballard was named to the all-Classic team at forward — along with Mike Drummond at guard — and was chosen outstanding player of the classic.

Through three games, including a 34 point, 15 rebound performance in a 78-67 loss to sixth-ranked Nevada-Las Vegas last Wednesday, Ballard is averaging 22 points and 14 rebounds a game.

The Ducks won the championship game against Arizona State Saturday night with a persistent defense. After blazing the nets in an 86-65 opening round victory over San Diego State Friday night, the Sun Devils managed only 12 field goals in 50 attempts against Oregon while turning the ball over numerous times.

"I thought we played consistent defense for 40 minutes," Oregon coach Dick Harter said following the ASU game.

That may be something of understatement as the Ducks outscored their counterparts 15-4 during the first 10 minutes of the game, and, with the Sun Devil offense unable to mount anything remotely resembling a rally, the Duck lead was never threatened.

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Drummond, the 5'8" junior guard who worked his way onto the all-classic team by hitting seven of nine points as Oregon stretched its lead to 30-15 late in the first half.

During the last two minutes of the first half, Arizona State looked like a unified team for the only time all night, scoring the final seven points to make it 30-22 at half-time.

"We were physically dominated during the last two or three minutes of the first half and they got a few easy baskets," Harter said. "But in the second half, we regained our poise. We knew at halftime that we had to begin playing with force again, and we did."

The second half was somewhat of a see-saw battle as Arizona State would close the Oregon lead to seven or eight points only to find itself behind by 11 or 12 again before long.

Midway through the second half, the Ducks increased their lead to 43-32 and seemed to be easing into the classic title. A quick spurt by the hosts closed the lead to 47-40, but baskets by Ballard and Drummond put Oregon up 51-40.

Again, Arizona State tried its best by closing the lead to eight at 51-43, but free throws by Greg Graham and Ballard during the last two minutes did the Sun Devils in.

Ballard finished high man for Oregon with 16 points and 15 rebounds, while Drummond scored 15. High man for ASU was forward Mark Lansberger, who scored just nine points but grabbed 18 rebounds.

The win over Wichita State Friday night to put Oregon into the finals was another good defensive effort but it took a little longer for the Duck offense to get in to the game.

Oregon held Wichita to 26 first half point, but managed only 24 itself.

"We weren't setting screens and weren't taking good shots during the first 15 minutes of the game," Harter explained, "but we got two or three good minutes in at the end of the first half, which helped."

"Danny Mack and Joe Moreck came off the bench to play well and hit some big baskets for us. I also felt Gary Nelson came off the bench to play well," said the coach.

The Ducks begin a five-game home stand this Thursday night when San Francisco State comes to town for an 8:05 game, the first regular season home game for Oregon this season.

Sun Devil Classic championship game

Oregon-30 27-57
Arizona State-22 25-47

OREGON (57) — Ballard 16, Drummond 15, Closs 6, Graham 6, Kent 5, Mack 4, Small 2, Murray 2, Nelson 1, Moreck.
ARIZONA STATE (47) — Lansberger 9, Davis 8, Nash 7, B. Taylor 7, Zeno 5, R. Taylor 4, Holliman 4, Harris 2, Monk 1.

Swimmers win handily, 155-85

By CHRIS NORMAN
Of the Emerald

Labeled as a tune-up meet, Oregon's men and women's swimming and diving team easily defeated Willamette, 155-85, at Leighton Pool Friday night.

Both Oregon coaches, Don and Virginia Van Rossen, switched the swimmers around from their regular events and entered them in other events to help identify this season's line-up.

The men captured 10 of 11 first-places, but that figure is somewhat deceptive because Willamette failed to enter two events.

Although Don Van Rossen said this was an "easy win," what pleased him most was the level of conditioning his swimmers were in this early in the season.

He expressed particular pleasure toward freshman John Seton's surprise victory in the 200-yard freestyle with a time of 1:52.62 — about seven seconds off the Oregon all-time 10th ranked spot.

Also, Van Rossen believes this meet has identified a much-needed butterfly sprinter in the form of sophomore Tom Gamble, a former Oregon high school backstroke champion.

Virginia Van Rossen concurred with her husband, expressing her satisfaction about Friday's win as

the women grabbed eight of 14 first-places.

"They did much better than I anticipated. Almost everyone had a better time than last Wednesday (the Oregon State meet)," said the coach.

Senior Linda Crowe gave a good split in the 200-yard freestyle relay and Julie Wilson dropped eight seconds off her 500-yard freestyle time.

At the deep end of the pool,

Oregon divers John Lloyd and Lynne Wallack won both the one-meter and the three-meter diving events.

Freshman Sam Nixon, however, provided the evening's springboard surprise as he turned in fine performances on both boards.

Oregon's next meet is the Oregon Intercollegiate All-Around Championships at Leighton Pool, Friday and Saturday.



Photo by Chris Norman

Oregon men's swimming coach Don Van Rossen looks worried, but had no reason to be as his varsity paddlers clobbered Willamette in a co-ed meet, 155-85, at Leighton Pool Friday night.

Grapplers key for Arizona State dual after disappointing Arizona tourney

TEMPE, Ariz. — Oregon tries to improve its dual meet wrestling record tonight when it meets tough Arizona State University.

The Ducks will also be trying to rebound from a disappointing showing at the Arizona Invitational wrestling tourney in Tucson Friday and Saturday.

Oregon finished a dismal seventh in the tourney with 26.5 points, while Oklahoma captured the team title with 88.25. Cal Poly San Luis Obispo was second with 61.25, while Minnesota finished third with 56, followed by Arizona State (46), Oregon State (44.25), Brigham Young University (44), Oregon, Wyoming (22), Arizona

(19.5), Utah State (16), New Mexico (14.25), Cal St. Fullerton (9.5), and Nevada Las Vegas (6.5).

Kevin Kramer was the lone Duck wrestler to come away from the tournament with a first place ribbon, as he defeated ASU's Roy Oliver in the 158-pound finals, 6-4.

Oregon's Bob Bragg reached the semi-finals before losing to Minnesota's Evan Johnson 5-2 in the 190 class. Bragg then lost in overtime to Mark Neuman of Oklahoma 4-2, after a 2-2 regulation tie in the third-place consolation finals.

Buck Davis, the number one seed in the 177 division, was knocked out of competition the

second day with a pinched nerve in the neck.

More important to the Ducks, however, will be Davis' availability tonight against the Sun Devils. Oregon will have to forfeit Davis' match if he can't perform, because only 10 wrestlers made the trip south.

The Ducks are 2-1 in previous meets with Arizona State. Oregon won the initial meeting back in 1971, 23-15. The Ducks also won in 1975, 28-10. The Sun Devils ripped Oregon 30-10 last year.

The team returns to Oregon for a dual against Utah at Roseburg Thursday before opening their home slate at Mac Arthur Court Dec. 15.



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