

Ducks start slow, but rip Gators 78-51

By STEVE GEIGER
Of the Emerald

It wasn't until the 13:00 mark of the second half in Thursday night's 78-51 basketball victory over San Francisco State that The Pit began sounding like The Pit once again.

That was just after Duck forward Ernie Kent made a slam dunk on a breakaway to give Oregon its fourteenth consecutive point and a 47-23 lead over the winless Gators.

The screaming had little reason to stop as the Ducks increased their halftime lead of 31-21 to 63-30 late in the game while scoring 18 straight along the line.

With 3:38 left another familiar sound from the stands was heard as the fans gave a standing ovation to a guard — in this case freshman John Murray — when leaving the game after an excellent performance.

Murray came off the bench in the second half with Oregon leading 35-23 and hit four consecutive shots, scoring 8 of 10 Duck points, to begin the 18-point rally and to give Oregon a 45-23 lead.

Before leaving the game, Murray hit eight of nine shots from the floor and led all scorers with 16 points.

"I thought this was a tremendous back-slide compared to the way we played our first four games," Oregon Coach Dick Har-

ter said. "I thought we played a good 10 minutes in the second half and played pretty well offensively. But 10 minutes just isn't enough."

The Ducks had their troubles early in the game as both Kent and Ballard sat out much of the first half in foul trouble.

With Ballard on the bench with three fouls and leading only 14-13, Harter called a time out "because we had to play better defense." It seemed to do the trick.

Gary Nelson came off the bench for six quick points and Murray added four as Oregon increased its lead to 30-17. It was all Oregon after that.

SFS cut the lead to 31-21 at the half, the teams traded baskets during the first minute of the second half, then Oregon broke it wide open with the 18-point spurt.

"We just got a little more intensity in the second half after making some adjustments," said Harter.

The added intensity was obvious in the offensive improvement during the second half. In the first half, the Ducks shot a respectable .483 from the field. But in the second, with Murray hitting six of six, the Ducks shot .704 on 19 of 27 from the floor.

The Duck defense, which allowed its opponents to hit just .355 from the field during the first three games, kept that figure down by holding the Gators to a .357 shoot-



Photo by Greg Wasson

Joe Moreck shoots a jump shot as Rob Closs sets a screen on San Francisco State's Jimmy Turner in Oregon's 78-51 win over the Gators Thursday night.

State's Orlando Williams (21) looks on during the win which improved Oregon's record to 3-1.

ing average on 15 of 42.

While raising their season record to 3-1, the Ducks failed to get the usual outstanding game from Ballard. Averaging 22 points and

13.7 rebounds a game going into the contest, the early foul trouble held Ballard to just 10 points and five rebounds.

With four players in double fig-

ures — Murray with 16, Kent with 12 and Ballard and Kelvin Small with 10 each — the Ducks didn't need the spectacular individual performance.

Aussies rip women netters

BY DAN LINDAHL
Of The Emerald

Showing all the weaknesses Coach Elwin Heiny feared it would, the Oregon women's basketball team found itself hopelessly outmatched by the visiting New South Wales All-Stars and were pummeled 84-35 Thursday night at McArthur Court.

Showing severe deficiencies in the areas of ball handling, rebounding and shooting, the Ducks were never in the contest against the much taller visitors.

"We planned on them being good but we really hoped to do better," sighed Heiny after his women's first game of the season. "But this will be good for us. You only learn by games such as this."

Heiny had hoped his club could wear down the five-person Australian contingent with a pressing defense and fast break offense. However, that didn't prove to be the case. NSW, with its superior height, was able to control the tempo of the game and prevent the Duck strategy from working.

New South Wales held the Ducks scoreless for more than six minutes in the first half before Julie Cushing finally brought the Ducks back with three straight jumpers to draw Oregon within two at 8-6. Giant Kerry Donnelly then started putting on her show — which resulted in 30 points — and six minutes later the Ducks were down 24-8 and out of the contest.

Trailing 35-18 at the half-way mark, things didn't improve in the second half. Led by Wendy Anderson's eight points, NSW outscored Oregon 14-2 to open the second stanza. After that, it was a matter of the 6-3 Donnelly taking lob passes inside and converting them into buckets. When Donnelly and Anderson weren't scoring, they were usually at the foul line. Heiny's crew committed

27 fouls, resulting in 25 Aussie free throws.

"Their height leads to all those fouls," explained the rookie Oregon coach. "There is just no way the smaller girls can cover such tall girls."

Finding bright spots in the landslide was difficult, but Heiny did cite the team defense for its occasional spurts of toughness, while pointing to Shannon Kelly in particular for a strong defensive showing.

Best of all, however, the game

is over. But the new Oregon coach isn't about to give up for the year.

"It's our first game and that is something which should be emphasized," commented Heiny. "I still say we will do something this year."

But it's probably fortunate they have a month before they have to start doing it.

New South Wales—84 Donnelly 30, Anderson 18, Williams 17, Ryan 11, Bywater 9.
Oregon—35 Cushing 10, Kelly 7, Paschke 5, Aiken 8, Hunt 4, Masters 2, Reichers, Briot, Bickie, N. Aiken, Unger, Bonn.

New South Wales	36	48	84
Oregon	17	18	35

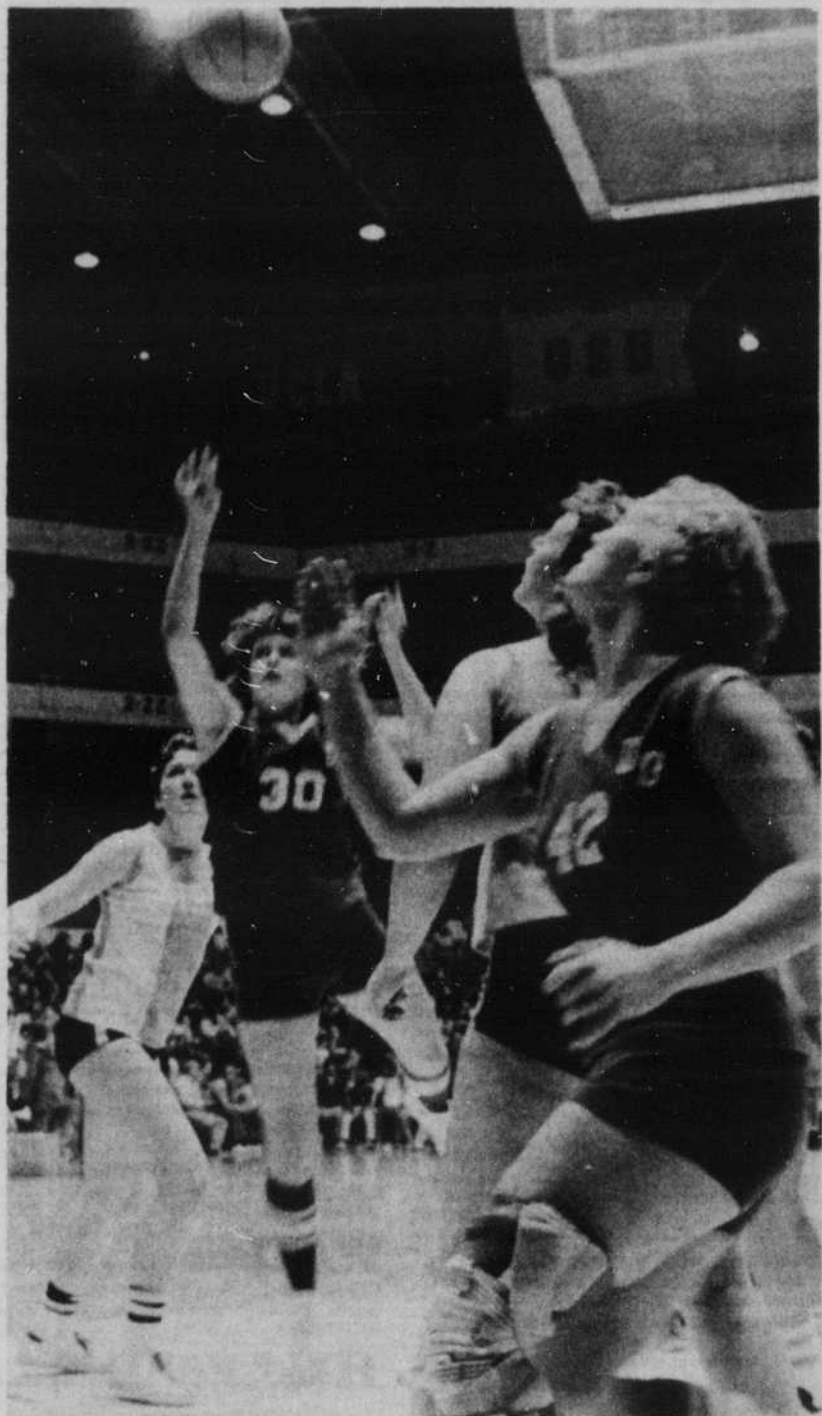


Photo by Greg Wasson

For Becky Paschke (30), as for the entire Oregon women's basketball team, the going was tough Thursday night against the New South Wales All-Stars. Paschke scored four points in the 84-35 loss which was the unofficial opening of the Duck season. Watching Paschke is teammate Margeret Bonn (42) and New South Wales forward Julie Ryan.

Wrestlers pin Utah, 33-6

Oregon defeated Utah 33-6 Thursday night at Roseburg High as Dan Hollenbaek (158 pounds),

freshman Don Brown (190) and Brian Dunagan (heavyweight) achieved pins for the Ducks.

All-Around meet to test tanker stamina

Track and field isn't the only sport to have a decathlon — Oregon's men and women's swimming and diving team will stage its own 'decathlon' in the Oregon Intercollegiate All-Around Championships at Leighton Pool, today and Saturday.

Formerly known as the 'Iron Man', each swimmer will enter every event, with the men swimming a total of about 2,350 yards (1.3 miles) and the women about 1,700 yards. The participant with the most points will be crowned the individual winner at the all-around's conclusion.

The men will compete against Portland Community College, but as far as Oregon Coach Don Van Rossen is concerned, "The competition will be within ourselves."

He expects junior Steve Hamilton to capture the individual crown, "but as for second, third and fourth, it'll be wide open." The Ducks' Tom Gamble, Ron Wigham and Jay Evans should be toss-ups for second place, according to Van Rossen.

Not only is the all-around a "super test to see what kind of shape a person is in," he said, but "it's a test to see how well I've been doing my coaching."

The women will face Portland State, and coach Virginia Van Rossen anticipates junior Michelle Menkens to repeat last year's performance and win the women's individual all-around title.

Menkens will not enter the breaststroke events because she is still nursing an injured knee, which she sprained during a volleyball game two months ago.

Van Rossen believes Robin Wheeler will figure into the all-around competition as well.

The all-around kicks off today with the diving events at 3:30 p.m. and swimming at 6 p.m. On Saturday, swimming begins at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., while diving starts at 12:45 p.m.