

Ducks try to regroup against UC-Davis

By MIKE GRADY
Of the Emerald

Tomorrow night at McArthur Court, the Oregon basketball team will use its last non-league game of the season against the University of Cal-Davis as a new beginning.

After three straight Pac-8 losses and with the tough road trip to Washington and Washington State coming up next weekend, the Ducks will be looking to recapture the intensity they showed in early January.

As pointed out by head coach Dick Harter, the Ducks' problem in recent weeks has been their inability to play with the adequate amount of intensity over the full 40 minutes of a basketball game.

A prime example was last Saturday's 62-48 loss to Oregon State. After playing the Beavers to a deadlock of 25 at the half, Oregon came out "soft and not ready to play in the second half," according to Harter.

They subsequently managed to hit only one field goal from a measly five attempts in the initial 8:13 of that decisive half. With that loss, their Pac-8 record dropped to 2-3 while their overall record slipped to 11-6.

One aspect of the Ducks' recent rough times that they can point to with an optimistic attitude is the fact that they were in the same predicament last year and still managed to come through in good shape. Starting on Jan. 13 of last season the Ducks hit their season's low with four straight losses (two to OSU, one to Washington State and one to St. John's).

But then by finishing off strong and winning seven of their last 10 games, Oregon took second place in the Pac-8 and earned their third straight trip to the National Invitational Tournament. With 10 games left on this year's schedule there can be no better time to point out the fact history does repeat itself.

One belief is that the Ducks will be facing an easy time with Cal-Davis. But not so. The Aggies, 13-5, who are coached by Bob Hamilton, Oregon's number 10 all-time scoring leader, are currently 12-5 and one of the best in their league.

Nothing would please Hamilton more than to beat his old team in the building where he played from 1944-46. In their only previous game against Oregon, Hamilton's Aggies lost at Mac Court in December of 1973, 82-59.

The way things have been going for the Ducks, Harter sees every game for the remainder of the year as important and holds a respect for every opponent he faces.

"They're pretty good," said Harter about Cal-Davis. "Every game is important for us now. We have 10 left and it's important that we start playing better."

Oregon will once again be without the services of junior guard Rob Closs. Another mid-week x-ray of his foot showed no damage, but a persistent pain when he jogs on it may indicate that it is a stress factor.

"I was hoping he'd be ready for next weekend," Harter said, "but now I don't know. It must be a stress factor because if it was the muscle it should have healed by now."

DUCK NOTES — Mike Clark, Oregon's freshman who led the Ducks in scoring the last two games, has moved into third in the Oregon point total, averaging just over nine points. Dan Hartshorne still leads Oregon, scoring at a 10.4 per-game clip. Phil Barner is third with 9.6....Kelvin Small's 7.2 rebounds a game rank him number one for the Ducks and ninth in the Pac-8. Hartshorne is second for Oregon with 6.2....The highest active Oregon player in conference statistics is Mike Drummond, who is third in assists (4.9) behind UCLA's Roy Hamilton and Cal's Gene Ransom. Rob Closs, sidelined again this weekend, is second in free throw percentage....Felton Sealey is currently the most aggressive Duck, having fouled 69 opponents. For his efforts Sealey has been disqualified eight times.

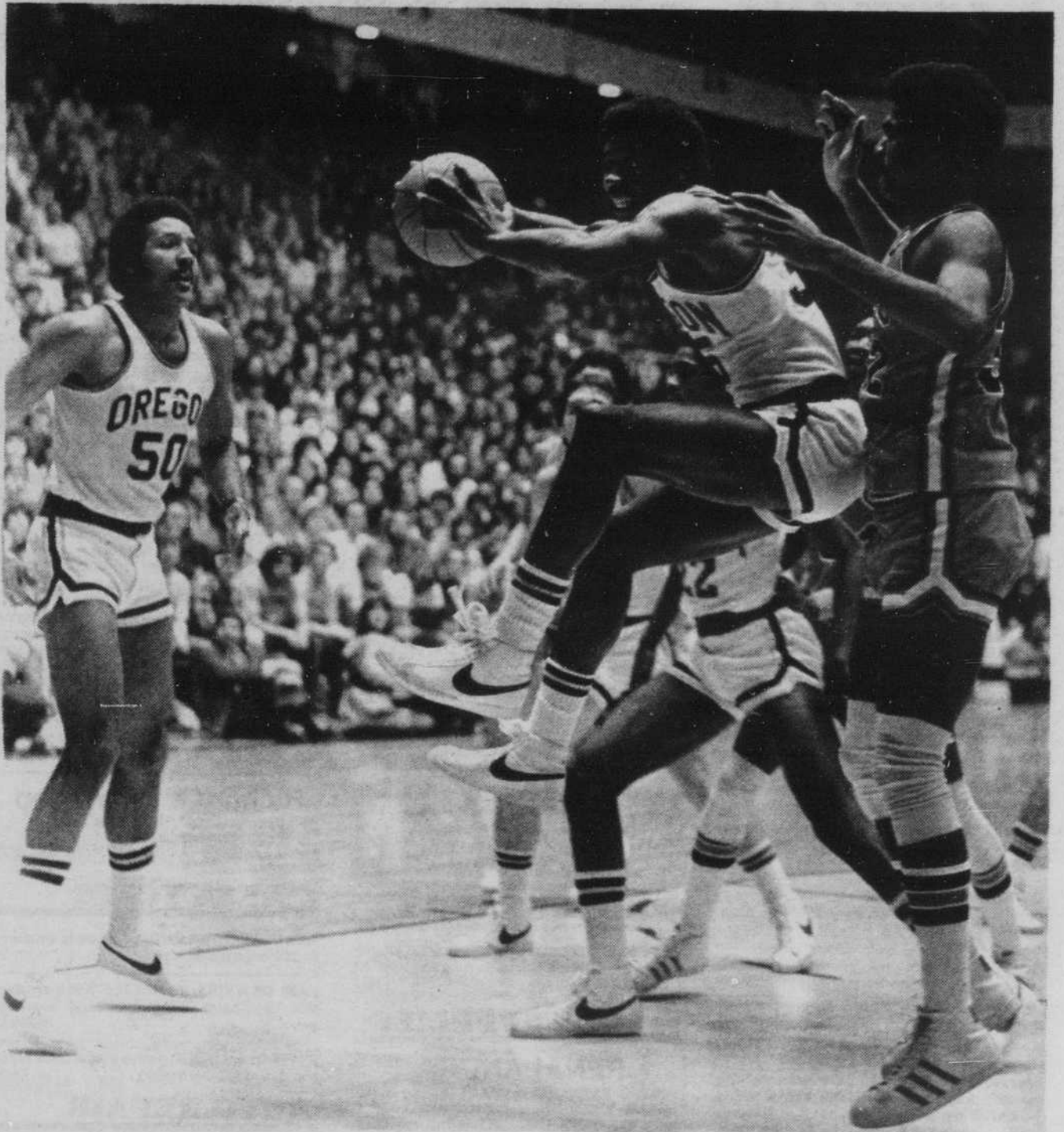


Photo by Mike Baer

Felton Sealey, here rebounding against Oregon State will be looking along with his teammates for some stability this weekend against Cal-Irvine. Sealey has fouled out in eight of the Duck's 17 games.



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TENTATIVE SCHEDULE**

Friday

Take Dad to classes

10:30 & 2:30 Campus Tours, Oregon Hall

12:00 - 5:00 Art Museum open

All day bowling, A.C.U. - I Regionals, EMU

* 3:00 - 5:00 Registration for Dads Weekend, EMU Lobby

Beer Garden 4-7

BB King 7-10/Tickets EMU Main Desk

Campus Movies: "Carrie", 7 & 9:30, 180 PLC, one dollar;

"Drive, He Said", 7, 8:45, 10:30, 150 Geology, one dollar.

Saturday

* 8:00 - 11:00 Registration for Dads Weekend, EMU Lobby

8:30 Campus Tour, 13th & University

9:00 - 11:00 Dad's Breakfast, \$2.50 per person, 167 EMU

All day bowling, A.C.U. - I Regionals, EMU

12:00 - 5:00 Art Museum

2:30 Wrestling, U of O - Wash. State, McArthur Court

5:00 Dine out with Dad

7:00 Gymnastics invitational, McArthur Court

Campus Movie: "Silver Streak", 7, 9, 11:15, 150 Geology, one dollar

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