

Bruins trip Jayhawks in dramatic opener

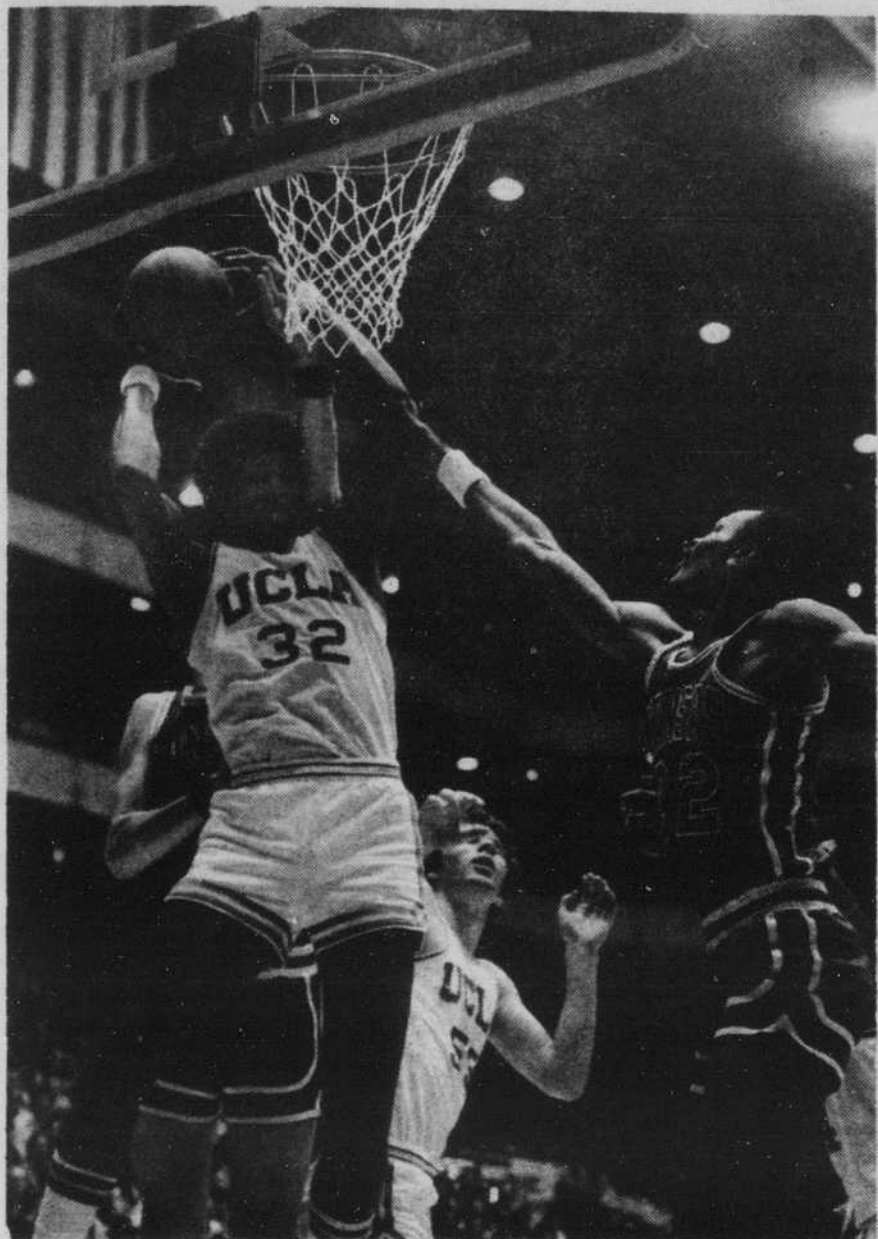


Photo by Mike Beer

UCLA's Darrell Allums came in to control the boards against Kansas Saturday, and as a result the Bruins ended up controlling the game and winning, 83-76.

By MIKE MARINO
Emerald Sports Editor

All week people asked Gary Cunningham what he thought of having to play Kansas in the first round of the NCAA basketball tournament.

With six and half minutes gone in the game Saturday, he could have said "not much."

His Bruins came out with all the gusto of a lame racehorse to fall behind by 10 points, but they turned to their strengths and fought their way back for a dramatic 83-76 victory at Mac Court.

It wasn't easy by any means. "They are the best team we have faced this year," Cunningham said. "We had a great deal of trouble shutting down their transition game."

Transition, you'll recall, is a phrase right out of Westwood. But in the beginning of both halves, it was the Jayhawks who were using the rebound-outlet-fast break game effectively.

"We were in a great frame of mind and playing loose," said KU Coach Ted Owens. "We were playing the best early — the way I felt we could play."

Meanwhile, the surroundings got to UCLA. With the Big Green band playing "Mighty Oregon" amidst the flavor of the Pit, the Bruins showed a local trait — they shot one for nine to open the game.

"We got off to a slow start," Cunningham said to no one's surprise. "I didn't feel that the ball

would ever go in the basket for us at the start of the game."

But the Bruins hadn't come this far on a fluke. With their skill they came back and made it a game — seven lead changes, six ties. And they won it the only way they could — by controlling the tempo.

With two minutes left and a 77-76 lead, UCLA went into the "four corner" offense, a pretty risky move with just a one-point margin.

"One, we wanted to keep the ball as long as we could," Cunningham said. "Two, we wanted to get a layup if we could. And three, if we were fouled, we would have to go to the line and make the free throws. It gets a little scary."

That it did when KU guard Wilmore Fowler chopped UCLA's Roy Hamilton for a foul and the one-and-one situation. But Hamilton, who finished as the game's leading scorer with 23 points, hit both shots with 1:22 showing on the clock for 79-76.

Fifty seconds later Fowler did it again, but so did Hamilton and the Bruins led by five with :32 left.

"The key was when we started hitting those one-and-ones," Cunningham said. "We were really fortunate to make those and win the game."

Especially when they started so badly. When Clint Johnson of Kansas slammed one in off the fast break at 13:33 of the first half, the Jayhawks led by a 15-5 margin.

But with the play of back-center Darrell Allums, who had six points and six rebounds in the next stretch, UCLA began to click and tied it with 7:31 to go, 25-25. "Darrell Allums had his most outstanding game of the year for us today," Cunningham said. "He did a good job for us on the boards when we needed it."

Allums also shut down Kansas

center Paul Mokeski, who burned UCLA for a while with some strong inside play.

"We just wanted to keep the ball away from him, and hopefully he'd have to foul to get position," Allums said. "It hurt him a little bit."

Did it ever. The 7-1 KU junior picked up his fourth whistle with just over six minutes gone after intermission, and played timidly the rest of the way.

"I had to give up a lot of things inside," Mokeski said. "There were a lot of times I wanted to stay with someone, but I couldn't take a chance on the fifth foul."

Still, Mokeski's teammates managed to carve a nine-point spread early in the second half, only to see that dwindle at the UCLA free throw line as Kansas kept on fouling, finishing with 40 total to UCLA's 14.

UCLA trailed 67-62 when they made five straight trips to the line for five points. And then they caught fire, with David Greenwood, Raymond Townsend and Hamilton hitting jump shots as the Bruins took control.

KU's last lead came with 2:38 to go, as John Douglas connected on a 22-footer from the top of the key for a 76-75 lead.

Twenty seconds later Johnson grabbed Townsend to foul out and the lone Bruin senior sank both foul shots for the final lead, 76-76.

So the Bruins kept their record clean of never losing an NCAA first-round. They'll face Arkansas next in Albuquerque which means another tough team in the tough Western Regional.

Kansas (76) — Koenig 8, Mokeski 18, Johnson 15, Douglas 14, Valentine 11, Von Moore 8, Sanders 2, Fowler, Gibson, Anderson. Totals 34 8-17 76.

UCLA (83) — Greenwood 14, Wilkes 5, Sims 2, Hamilton 23, Townsend 22, Allums 6, Vandeweghe 11. Totals 26 27-39 86.

Halftime — Kansas 45, UCLA 42. Fouled out — Koenig, Johnson, Valentine. Total fouls — Kansas 40, UCLA 14.

Hogs overcome first-half jitters, to control and beat Weber State

By MIKE GRADY
Of the Emerald

Sixth-ranked Arkansas shook off its first-half jitters in the opening NCAA Western sub-regional basketball game at Mac Arthur Court Saturday, rolling past Weber State, 73-52 and earning the chance to face UCLA in Albuquerque N.M. Thursday.

Tabbed before the weekend as the team to have the easiest time of it in Eugene, the Razorbacks of the Southwest Conference found the unheralded Weber State Wildcats tougher than expected. It was more than six minutes into the game before Arkansas could claim the lead for good at 10-8, but even then they couldn't claim control.

Two straight howitzers by Arkansas' 6-4 All-American Marvin Delph gave the Razorbacks their biggest lead at eight, with seven-and-a-half minutes left in the half, 22-14, but the Wildcats clawed and fought to keep the game from getting out of hand just yet.

Two baskets by reserve guard Ben Howland and a pair of free throws by seven-foot center Richard Smith, brought Weber back to within four, 26-22. But then Arkansas' Ron Brewer took over.

After Brewer, a 6-4 All-American missed his first six shots early in the game, he finished off the Razorback's first half scoring in a flurry. Hitting both ends of a one-and-one and two outside jumpers in the final two-and-a-half minute stretch, Brewer gave his team a 32-36 lead at the intermission.

With most of the shots coming from Brewer, Delph and their third All-American — Sidney Moncrief, the Razorbacks came out from halftime sizzling and outscored Weber 15-4 in the first five-and-a-half minutes of action.

The taller and slower Wildcats worked for close-range jump shots against a loose Arkansas zone, but nothing seemed to want to find the bottom of the nets for the Big-Sky Conference representative.

"I thought we had good control of the tempo in the first half," said Weber Coach Neil McCarthy. "When it started getting away from us was when we hit that dry spell."

"It seemed that they were really hitting well from the perimeter and we were missing four, five and seven-foot shots."

While Arkansas was burning the chords at a .567 clip in the second half, Weber could manage only .353. On the game overall, Arkansas finished with a shooting percentage of .517 while the Wildcats finished at a dismal .359.

On the other hand, two people who had no trouble shooting were Brewer and Delph. The two seniors scored 23 of Arkansas' 41 second-half points by combining on nine of 14 shots from the floor and five of seven from the charity stripe.

Delph finished as high-man for the game with 20 points while Brewer was close behind at 19.

"My offensive production was nothing in the first half, but I wasn't going to worry about it," said Brewer in the locker room

afterwards. Arkansas' Eddie Sutton, AP and UPI coach of the Year, appeared relieved afterwards to get the first game out of the way and anxious to find out who he would be playing in Albuquerque.

"It was really a very average game for us," he said. "We're certainly going to have to play better against UCLA or Kansas next week."

ARKANSAS (73) — Counce 4, Delph 20, Schell 6, Brewer 19, Moncrief 16, Watley, Zahn 2, Reed 2, Crockett 4. Totals 30 13-15 73.

WEBER STATE (52) — Johnson 9, Moore 14, Smith 8, Matos 2, Collins 13, Howland 6, McKone. Totals 23 6-11 52.

Fouled out — none. Total fouls — Arkansas 17, Weber State 14. Technical foul — Weber State Coach McCarthy.

Oregon women finish second

BELLINGHAM, Wash. — Oregon's women's basketball team came up just a bit short here over the weekend, as it made the finals of the AIAW Regional Tournament only to lose to Washington, 68-58.

Oregon beat Washington State Friday night to gain the berth in the final against the Huskies, and the Ducks led UW, 45-44 midway into the second half. But that was it for Oregon, as the Huskies came back to take the lead for good.

Julie Cushing and Becky Pashcke led Oregon with 15 points apiece, and Debbie Adams added 14. Margie Nielsen had 20 for Washington.

Oregon (58) — Adams 14, Paschke 15, Blickey 2, Cushing 15, Clawson 2, Shekel 2, Smith 8, Kelly 2, Hunt, Doherty.

Washington (68) — Wittman 15, DeCamp 10, Felton 7, Smith 6, Nielsen 20, Norton 2, Bakken 8.

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