Blazer reign ends as Sonics win series

SEATTLE (AP) — Wally Walker scored eight points and Fred Brown six in the crucial fourth period, sparking the Seattle SuperSonics to a 105-94 victory over the Portland Trail Blazers Monday night.

The loss eliminated the defending National Basketball Association champions from the playoffs.

"This was the best game we've played in this series," said Seattle Coach Lenny Wilkens.

"It looks like we're in the groove again," he added. "If we are, there's no telling how far this team can go."

The triumph gave the Sonics a 4-2 margin in the best-of-seven series and sends them into the Western Conference finals against the winner of the Denver-Milwaukee series.

"You have to give Portland a lot of credit. They hustled and showed a lot of courage," continued the Seattle coach. "I think it will be more enjoyable from now on. There was a lot of outside pressure on us. Maybe that goes with having a rivalry."

The Sonics led 75-69 going into the final period. Walker, a 6-foot-7 forward acquired from the Blazers last November, scored his seventh and eighth points in the period on a pair of free throws with 4:25 left that gave the Sonics a 94-81 lead.

Brown, who finished with 19 points, scored Seattle's next three baskets for a 100-86 Seattle lead and Jack Sikma followed with a rebound stuff off a missed Brown shot with 1:27 left for a 16-point Sonic lead, their biggest of the game.

"Our team showed lots of courage all year long. It seems we have had to prove ourselves time and time again. I don't think we are a cocky group, but we do have confidence," Wilkens said.

Portland Coach Jack Ramsay credited the Sonics tenacious defense and good shooting down the stretch for the victory.

"I've always said in a seven-game series the best team would win, and I believe Seattle was that team in this series," Ramsay said.

"The first thing I'd like to do is congratulate the Seattle team and especially Lenny Wilkens and Les Habegger, Seattle assistant coach for the outstanding coaching job they did."

The Blazers, obliged to play without regulars Bill Walton and Bob Gross and key reserve Lloyd Neal because of injuries, trailed 55-49 at halftime.

They closed to within four points at 73-69 with 28 seconds left in the third period, but a Marvin Webster basket at the buzzer gave Seattle its six-point margin heading into the final quarter.

"This is one of the greatest groups of individuals I've ever been around," continued Ramsay, speaking of his injury-plagued club. "They've never quit. They've shown poise and as much class as can be expected with the adversity that we've had. I've never been more proud of a team than this one — even considering last year's team."

Portland, which lost its third consecutive playoff game in Seattle, was led by Johnny Davis' 23 points and Maurice Lucas' 22 and a game-high 12 rebounds.

PORTLAND (94) — Lucas 11 0-2 22, Steele 4 6-6 14, Owens 6 0-2 12, Davis 11 1-2 23, Hollins 3 1-2 7, Calhoun 3 0-0 6, Twardzik 3 4-4 10, Norwood 0 0-0 0. Totals 41 12-18 94.

SEATTLE (105) — J. Johnson 2 3-4 7, Sikma 6 2-2 14, Webster 6 7-11 19, D. Johnson 8 4-5 20, Williams 5 2-8 12, Brown 9 1-2 19, Walker 4 3-5 11, Silas 0 3-4 3. Totals 40 25-41 105.

Portland	22	27	20	25	94
Seattle	26	29	20	30	105

Fouled out— none. Total fouls-Portland, 29. Seattle, 19. A — 14,098.

Golfers a poor third in Pac-8

By MIKE BAER
Of the Emerald

As the sun settled in the ocean west of Los Angeles last evening, so too it appears did the Ducks' Pac-8 golf title hopes.

Oregon currently is a distant third with 616, trailing surprising Stanford (594) and host USC (603) in the chase for the championship.

Duck coach Jim Ferguson was puzzled with his team's performance.

"We had a chance to win the Pac-8 but we just died. We weren't ready to play," he said. "They played worse this afternoon than any team that has ever played for me."

All players were subject to a full day of competition today — 36 holes or about nine hours of golf. The Ducks shot 316 for the final 18 holes, an average of 79 strokes per man. The par for the course is 72.

Stanford, the team the Ducks beat by 30 strokes two days ago in Arizona, are 22 strokes up on Oregon and nine strokes up on USC, last year's second place Pac-8 finisher to the Ducks.

Mike Peck of Stanford carded fine rounds of 69 in the morning and 72 in the afternoon on the tough North Ranch Country Club course to lead the tournament. USC's Jim Williams is five strokes back followed by Brent Murray of Oregon. Murray had a solid 71 in the morning but blew to a 77 the second time around.

Jon Hesselwood had a pair of 76's and Scott Tuttle shot 78 and 79. Two Duck golfers broke the 80 barrier. Jeff Sanders, the NCAA third place finisher two years ago, had a miserable afternoon score of 84 to go with a morning round of 75. Scott Krieger had an early round of 82 followed by a 77 in the afternoon.

Though Ferguson won't use the course's toughness as an excuse for his team's poor performance, he feels the course could be the only hope for the Ducks in tomorrow's final two rounds.

"It's the kind of golf course where you could pick up that many strokes."

It is hard to understand the Ducks' performance yesterday. Saturday's final round in the Sun Devil-Phoenix Thunderbird Classic was the lowest of the day against a field including Stanford, USC and top ten teams San Diego State, Arizona State and Brigham Young.

For Oregon, the chances of repeating as the conference winners now look very slim, but their earlier performances put them into the NCAA championships (to be hosted by the Ducks), where coach Ferguson will expect his players to make a turnaround.

Tomorrow will tell how Oregon can react to a rough first day. Ferguson is hoping for a comeback, but the Ducks may have dug their graves too deep.

Ali-Spinks bout

NEW YORK (AP) — Top Rank Inc., promoters of the Muhammad Ali — Leon Spinks rematch, announced Monday the fight will be televised live by ABC Sports Sept. 15 from the Superdome in New Orleans.

Ducks minus two starters; face OSU in last home tilt

By TIM LEONARD
Of the Emerald

Because of injury and an illness, there have been two changes in the Oregon women's tennis roster for the last home match of the season against Oregon State today at 3:30 p.m. on the Alder Street courts.

Coach Marti Schey had to juggle the singles and doubles rosters Monday night with Mo Hermann and Tina Mickelson unable to compete. Debbie Borchers will play number two singles and team with Patti Marihart in doubles. Sheryl Anderson and Ann Thompson, both brought up from the junior varsity, will play five and six singles respectively, and team for number three doubles.

"I would imagine Oregon State has improved from two weeks ago, but we have also. Even though we defeated them 9-0, I don't want to take them lightly," said Schey.

How will the player changes affect the team? "We can still do it as long as they have their heads together and are up for the match," the Oregon mentor said.

The helpful junior varsity members have not only made valuable contributions to the top six but have molded a 5-0 record thus far. The junior varsity will see action tomorrow against Oregon College of Education here and the varsity travels to Lewis and Clark on Thursday for their last match of the season before the regionals in Seattle.

Ducks are last in tournament

Oregon finished eighth in the eight team Husky Invitational tennis tournament over the weekend. Host Washington took home the championship honors, garnering 60 points to second place Idaho's 59.

The first two days of the tourney saw the Ducks win a pair of singles and doubles matches. Eric Lehto had the only Oregon win Friday with a 6-3, 7-5 edge over second-ranked Tim Highnight of Idaho. Jim Wilson provided Saturday singles win, downing Mike Frampton of Portland, 7-5, 6-3.

In doubles play, Tom Goldman and Jim Wilson took a victory from Boise State's Mike Megale and Nelson Gourley, 4-6, 6-4, 6-4.

The Ducks were in seventh place going into Sunday's play, but couldn't keep out of the cellar. Lehto beat Washington State's Mark Howell, 7-6, 6-4, and Goldman defeated Dave Baumer of Seattle, 6-1, 6-4 in the only Oregon singles wins. Wilson and Goldman combined to take a doubles victory, 6-3, 6-4, from Joe Hunt and John Kemper of Seattle.

Singles — Flight 1; Roger Tyzzer, WSU d. Jim Wilson, Oregon, 6-4, 6-2. Flight 2; Kevin Acuff, Seattle, d. Russ Childers, Oregon, 6-1, 6-2. Flight 3; Nelson Gourley, Boise State, d. Tom Greider, Oregon, by default. Flight 4; Eric Lehto, Oregon d. Mark Howell, WSU, 7-6, 6-4. Flight 5; Tom Goldman, Oregon d. Dave Baumer, Seattle, 6-1, 6-4. Flight 6; Gerald Clerx, Portland, d. Jim Lowell, Oregon, 6-4, 6-3.

Doubles — Flight 1; Acuff-Kirk MacGregor, Seattle d. Childers-Greider, Oregon, 7-6, 2-6, 6-2. Flight 2; Wilson-Goldman, Oregon d. Joe Hunt-Jon Kemper, Seattle, 6-3, 6-4. Flight 3; Dave Jackson-Tom Wall, Boise State d. Lehto-Lowell, Oregon, 6-4, 6-3.

Softball squad wins first

Oregon's women's softball team won its first game of the year yesterday, holding off a Southern Oregon College rally to nip the Raiders, 8-7.

The Ducks scored four runs in the seventh inning to take an 8-4 lead, but then the roof almost fell in on the Ducks, 1-10, again this year. Shawna Baxter who had thrown six innings, was pulled in favor of Becky Paschke. Paschke gave up three runs, so coach Becky Sisley put Baxter back in the game. Baxter walked the next three batters, so Sisley brought in Kim Knox, who struck out the next two batters to end the game with the winning run on second base.

Knox was the leading hitter for the Ducks, rapping three hits in as many trips to the plate. Paschke was two for three, while Mary Harata and Hanna Munson both had two hits in four appearances.

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