

Titan zone press tightens around 'sputtering' Ducks

By KEN SANDS
Of the Emerald

"We got lucky! Detroit coach Dave Gaines admitted in the wake of his team's last-second, 75-74 victory over the Ducks Thursday night in Mac Court.

Titan center Keith Jackson tipped in a missed Terry Duerod shot with one second left in the game, stunning the Mac Court crowd and the Ducks.

"We had the game won — all we had to do was get the rebound, or even deflect the ball," said Oregon coach Jim Haney. "The last words we uttered were 'everyone must block out, we must rebound!'"

Although the game went down to the final shot, the Ducks began to lose the game with 12 minutes left, when they held a 13-point lead.

It was then that Detroit's full court zone press forced the Ducks into turnovers.

"Our mistakes brought them back into the game. It really wasn't anything they did," said Haney. "If you don't do the little things right, you can't win."

Playing with a lead was new to the Ducks, and center Dan Hartshorne said the team tried to protect the lead instead

of working to increase it. "You're never in the driver's seat until the game's over," he added. "We went into a nose-dive at the end of the game — I saw it coming."

Detroit captain Duerod said his team won because they were in better shape, and because of their intensity.

"When we got down, we didn't give up," he said. "We knew they were going to be tough."

Duerod had 18 points, Jerry Davis added 20 as the Titans outshot the Ducks 57 percent to 54 percent. Surprisingly, Haney was pleased with the Ducks defense. "I thought defensively we were doing fine. A lot of their shots were not high percentage shots, but they made them," he said.

Though the Ducks also shot well, the offense "sputtered" according to Haney.

"We didn't attack on offense. We stood around and didn't force the zone to move," he says.

But what the game came down to was doing the little things. "We just have to get back our determination and talk about doing the little things down the stretch," said Haney.

Saturday night in Mac Court the

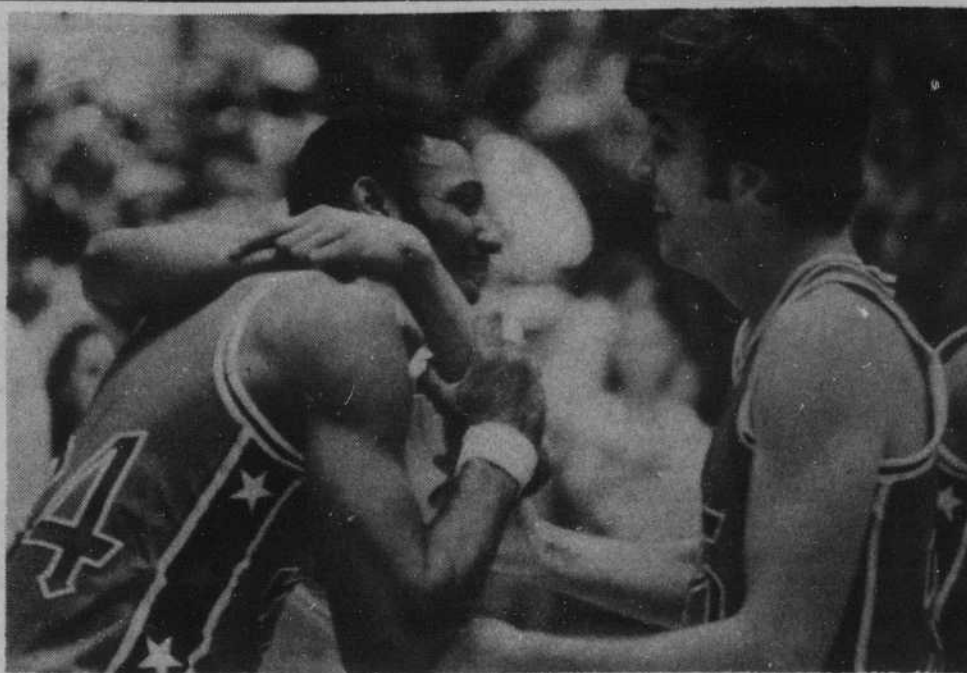


Photo by Steve Dykes

Detroit Titan Keith Jackson gets a congratulatory hug from teammate Mario Berson and a smile from Joe Kopicki, following his game-winning, last-second tip-in in Thursday night's 75-74 win over the Ducks.

Ducks face 3-4 Northern Arizona. Unfortunately, said Haney, that leaves only today to practice.

"What we'll have to work on is playing 40 minutes of basketball, and every game will be a learning experience."

When does the learning lead to winning?

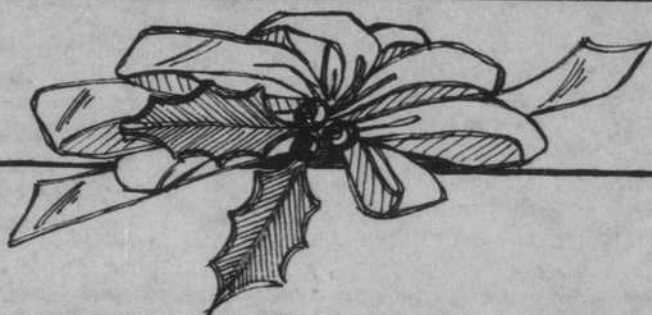
"Only time will tell that," said Haney. But for now, the Ducks will concentrate on their mistakes, and hope that wins

follow, but Haney is cautious. "Regardless, it is up to us to win. We can't expect the game to be given to us."

DETROIT (75)
McCormick 4-9 2-2 10; Cureton 2-3 0-0 4; Niles 5-8 0-0 10; Davis 9-14 2-2 20; Jackson 3-3 2-2 8; Kopicki 2-3 1-3 5; Duerod 8-18 2-2 18.

OREGON (74)
Barnes 6-8 0-0 12; Lyon 2-3 0-0 4; Murray 3-6 0-0 6; Sealy 2-7 3-6 7; Clark 3-6 4-4 10; Cross 2-8 1-2 5; Small 4-7 1-2 9; Hartshorne 10-14 1-1 21.

Halftime — Oregon 39, Detroit 38. Fouled out — none. Total fouls — Detroit 19, Oregon 14. Total rebounds — Detroit 25, Oregon 29. A — 10,000.



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Finley looking for some upsets when wrestlers meet Beavers

Oregon wrestling coach Ron Finley is hoping for a couple of upsets when the Ducks meet arch-rival Oregon State tonight at Gill Coliseum in Corvallis at 7:30 p.m. Both teams are undefeated; Oregon is 2-0, and Oregon State is 6-0.

"There is no question that they are an excellent team and possess a definite edge," says Finley of the Beavers who are ranked fifth nationally. "They've blown out everyone they've wrestled this year, but I think we've got as good a chance as anyone. We need one big upset to be in the match with them."

Finley is not sure exactly where that one upset will come from, but he does know which of his wrest-

lers must win if the Ducks are to emerge victorious. Two of them are freshmen—188-pounder Adam Cuestes and 134-pounder Bill Nugent, who lost to the Beavers' Dan Caballero 5-3 at Saturday's Arizona Invitational.

Finley is also counting on veterans Barry Boyles (142) and Leonard Simon (167).

The biggest match-up of the night, though, is at 150 where Oregon all-American Scott Bliss is scheduled to meet OSU's defending national champion Dan Hicks. Hicks has not lost a match in two years, but in the finals of the Arizona Invitational he was pushed to the limit in beating Bliss 4-3. Bliss is 5-1 on the year.

But against Portland State on Tuesday night Hicks injured a knee, and although he finished the match, it is questionable whether or not he will compete tonight.

Even if Hicks is sidelined, Bliss will face a worthy opponent. Junior 142-pounder Dick Knorr, who placed fifth at the nationals his freshman year, will move up to replace Hicks if he needs to. Knorr missed the Arizona Invitational due to an injury, but Finley calls him "the best wrestler on their team."

The Oregon-OSU rivalry dates back to 1954, and the Beavers have won all but four of the matches. The Ducks' most recent victory came in 1975.

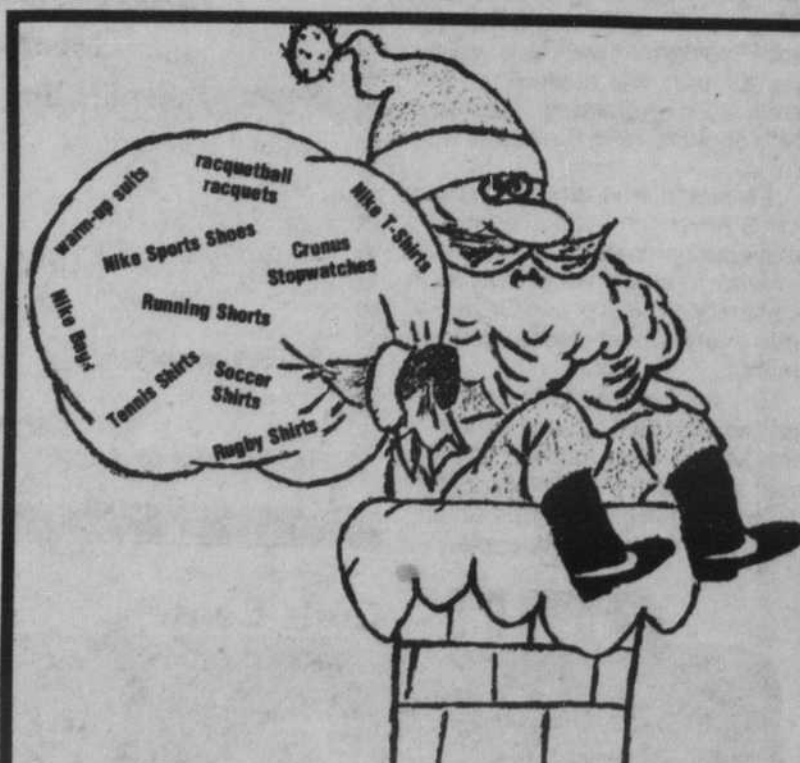
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