# Ducks capture regional basketball title

By JOHN SELIX and TAMARA SWENSON Of the Emerald

Women's basketball at Oregon came of age Saturday.

After ending last season in frustration and disappointment, the Ducks were not about to let it happen again.

When the game was over and the final score posted, the Oregon women rushed onto the court, surrounding each other, laughing and chearing. Everything up to this point seemed unimportant.

The Ducks had downed Seattle University 108-73, captured their first Region 9 championship and earned a berth in the national tournament.

"It's the one we've set as our a goal and we've finally reached it," said coach Elwin Heiny.

"We were ready for this game," said Debbie Adams. "We had to wait a long time and weren't about to blow it.

"We won," a Duck fan yelled at Adams, "You deserved it."

The Oregon women had a lot to celebrate. Last season the Ducks were a disappointed group, losing the championship and the possibility of national recognition to Oregon State.

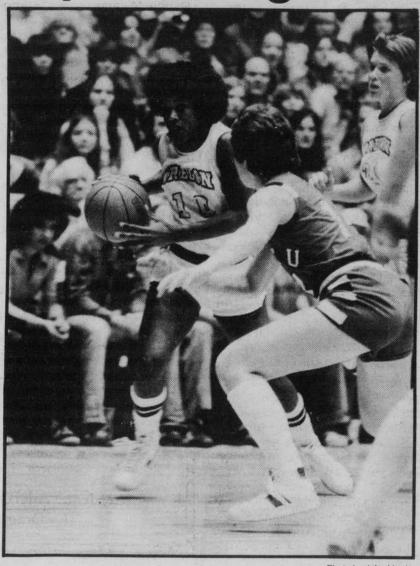


Photo by John Harris

Throughout the Saturday game, appropriately played on International Women's Day, the Ducks controlled the boards, the floor and the ball.

The Oregon women never gave Seattle a chance, sweeping the Chieftains aside as the Ducks stormed to a 29 point halftime lead, 59-30.

The Ducks showed their mastery of the fast break, firing length-of-the-court passes with pinpoint accuracy. Fifteen of the teams 20 first half field goals were layups or rebound baskets.

Debbie Adams, Oregon's 5-11 forward, drove for record 38 points, scoring 21 points in the first half. Adams game high 38 points set a new Oregon record.

The Ducks added to their first half total by hitting 19 of 22 free throws and tallying a 30-14 rebound advantage, 12 of them. coming from Bev Smith, Oregon's 6-0 forward who ended the game with 24 points, 21 rebounds, nine assists and four steals.

"It seemed that they were not to be denied," said Seattle coach Cathy Benedetto. "They should have won last year."

Smith was named the tournament's Most Valuable player, while Adams recorded 38 points  breaking Julie Cushing's old record of 36 — and pulled down 14 rebounds.

"Debbie played a super game," Smith said. "She was there, ready to get the ball and put it in."

Throughout the two-day tournament the entire team was ready. In Friday's 77-41 victory over Eastern Washington University, Cushing tallied 18 points, shooting consistently from the outside, while Washington added 19 points to the Duck total.\*

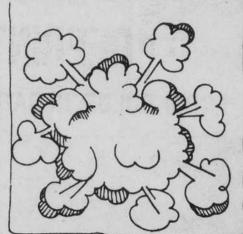
If there was any doubt about Oregon's domination of the northwest region, the naming of the all-tournament team provided clarity — besides MVP Smith, three other Ducks were named by the coaches — Washington, Cushing and Adams, followed by Seattle's point guard C.J. Sealey and Eastern Washington's Teresa Willard.

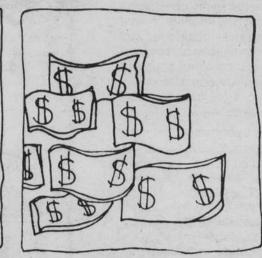
When it was over, the entire team charged onto the court to receive the championship trophy. Cushing held it high over her head, displaying it the more than 4,000 fans who chanted "We're number one."

"We're a family and we play together," Cushing said after the game. "Tonight we showed how well we can play together."

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#### Bruins down DePaul, 77-71

TEMPE, Ariz. (AP) — Guard Rod Foster and forward Mike Sanders combined for 33 points to give UCLA a 77-71 upset victory over No. 1-ranked DePaul in the second round of the NCAA Far West Regional basketball tournament Sunday.

In the second game of the doubleheader, center Herb Williams and guard Kelvin Ransey teamed for 50 points to lead Ohio State over Arizona State 89-75.

The Buckeyes, 21-7, will meet UCLA, 19-9, in Tucson in the third round Thursday.



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