

# Ducks resurrect themselves, blast Bears

By JOHN HEALY  
Of the Emerald

Mike Clark found the center of his dreams Monday night in the form of California's Mark McNamara and poured in 22 points to power Oregon to an 87-80 victory over the Golden Bears.

And in the process of notching their first conference win after three straight defeats, the Ducks welcomed back wayward Ray Whiting to the Oregon lineup.

"Usually I'm a power player but tonight I relied on finesse. I felt confident I could take the hole and when he took that away from me I figured I could hit my jumpshot," said Clark, who hit on nine of 14 shots from the field on a variety of inside drives and short jumpers.

"I thought we played well at both ends of the court," said Oregon coach Jim Haney. "Offensively, I thought we played good throughout. Defensively, we played a good 40 minutes, although we weren't much of a factor on the boards in the first 10 minutes."

Although the highlight of the night — if fan noise was an indicator — was Whiting's return to Mac Court, this wasn't a game where he did much — he played only 17 minutes and scored four points.

Rather, the spotlight belonged to the Ducks' defense and the individual performances of Clark, freshman guard Fred Cofield and junior forward John Greig.

The Ducks held Cal scoreless for the first one-and-a-half minutes of the game after the Bears won the opening tip-off, a far cry from their lackluster defensive performance against Stanford Saturday night.

But the Bears converted on that possession — and their next nine — as they bolted to a quick 25-14 lead in the first nine minutes, including four baskets on offensive rebounds.

"We got our first defensive rebound with nine minutes to go in the first half," recalled Haney. "But I honestly believe sometimes things can happen too easily. When we were down by 11 against Stanford I felt like we were in trouble. Tonight against Cal we were down by 11 and I wasn't worried."

Oregon managed to neutralize the Bear's height — they measured 6-7, 6-11 and 6-10 across the front line and started a 6-6 guard — in the first half once they got their zone press in gear and Greig got the ball.

Greig managed 12 first-half points on a six-for-seven effort from the field, while the Ducks forced eight Cal turnovers (and four steals) to tightrope to a 42-41 halftime lead.

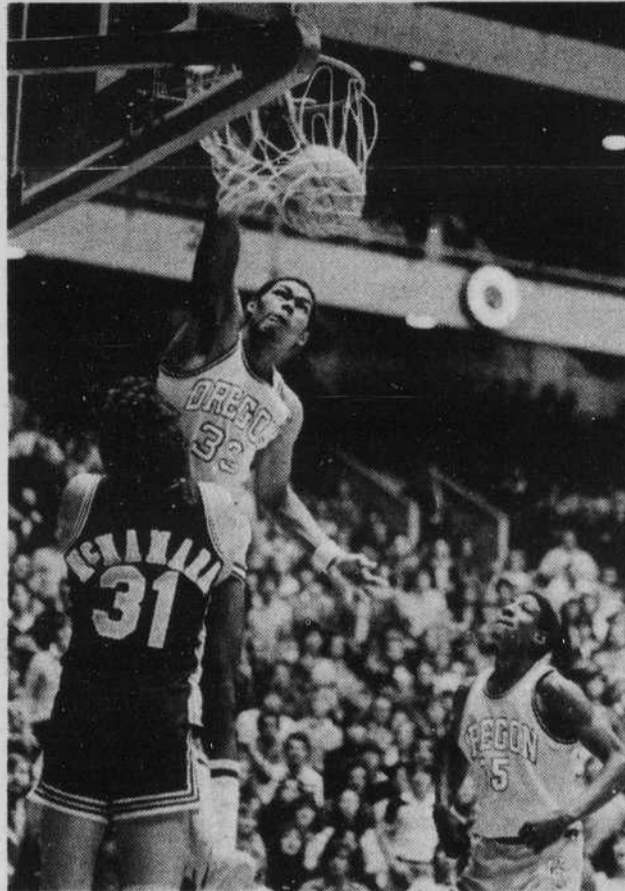
Opening the second half with a 10-2 surge, led by forward Felton Sealey's six points, Oregon staved off a late Cal challenge to raise their season record to 8-5 and conference mark to 1-3.

The first half of Monday's game will probably go down in the memories of Oregon fans as the night of "Ray's Return." Haney, obviously waiting for an appropriate moment to insert Whiting into the Oregon lineup, sent in his most valuable player from last season with 11:38 left in the half.

Whiting, subdued but obviously happy, explained that he came back because of his "love for the game, the team and the program."

And what of his knee problems and personal troubles? An icepack on Whiting's right knee was all the information needed on the former topic, but of his personal problems and general health Whiting remained true to his form over the last month — noncommittal.

**Oregon 42-45 87**  
**California 41-39 80**  
Oregon — Clark 9 4-5 22, Cofield 7 4-5 18, Greig 7 1-1 15, Sealey 3 4-4 10, Bain 3 2-2 8, Brantley 2 2-2 6, Cheatham 2 4, Whiting 2 4.  
Total — 35 17-20 87.  
Cal — McNamara 8 4-5 20, Potter 8 1-2 17, Singleton 7 2-4 16, Hays 3 3-3 9, Chavez 4 8.  
Total — 34 12-17 80.  
Total fouls — Oregon 18, Cal 20. Attendance — 8,774.



Mac Court fans were wowed by the return of Ray Whiting and he answered with a second-half dunk (left). Meanwhile, Mike Clark (right) was steady with 22 points.

Photos by Steve Dykes

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