

Oregon seeks pitching

Coach Mel Krause hopes his pitching staff can complement his hitters when Oregon hosts Oregon College of Education for a 3 p.m. game at Howe Field today.

"Our pitchers are getting the ball up, and you just can't do that," says Krause.

Dean Hummel (0-3) will get the nod to end Oregon's pitching woes against OCE. Krause is looking for a tough three innings from Hummel, while two other pitchers will divide the remaining six innings.

Oregon State was the latest team to take advantage of the Ducks' less-than-efficient moundmen. Oregon was unable to protect leads in both ends of a Saturday doubleheader and eventually absorbed 7-3 and 7-5 losses.

Particularly disturbing to Krause was the inability of relief

ace Jim Givens to snuff out Beaver rallies.

"Givens has been in a slump," says Krause. "He's mentally fighting it out — trying too hard. I think he's trying to aim the ball."

Oregon's team earned run average now stands at a lofty 5.13, but the team's .292 hitting should be enough to subdue the Wolves, who sport a losing record.

But hitting might not be enough Friday when the Ducks travel to Seattle to face a heavy-hitting Washington squad. The Huskies are hitting over .300 as a team, and outfielder Jeb Best is still hitting over .500 at the season's halfway point.

Dean Kegler will get the unenviable task of shutting down the Huskies. The senior right-hander has won his last three

starts to post a 5-2 record to go with a 3.74 ERA.

However, Washington will also be hard-pressed to stem Oregon's hitting attack. Steve Crum continues to lead Oregon hitters with a .412 average, seven home runs and 19 runs batted in. He has also drawn 23 walks in 21 games. James Nutt's .396 mark backs Crum, and Randy Porter is hitting .360.

The Ducks will be seeking to improve their 12-9 record against OCE, and they put a 1-4 Northern Division record on the line in the four-game series against Washington.

Oregon's scheduled game with the University of Portland Tuesday was rained out and will not be rescheduled. Monday's deadlocked 9-9 game with Willamette will not be replayed.

By Doug Levy

Free throws give winning points to 76ers, 105-104

BOSTON (AP) — Two foul shots just before the end of the fourth quarter were just enough to give the Philadelphia 76ers a 105-104 victory over the Boston Celtics Tuesday night.

Reserve guard Andrew Toney scored 11 of his 26 points in the fourth quarter, including the winning free throws with two seconds left, to lead the 76ers in the opener of their National Basketball Association Eastern Conference playoff.

Boston rallied from a 10-point fourth-quarter deficit and took a 104-103 lead on two free throws by Larry Bird with four seconds to go. But after a timeout, the 76ers inbounded the ball from midcourt to Toney, who was fouled as he drove the right baseline.

The rookie from Southwest-

ern Louisiana calmly sank both foul shots for the winning margin. A desperation heave from the right corner by Bird hit the side of the backboard at the buzzer.

The second game of the best-of-seven conference final will be played here Wednesday night before the series shifts to Philadelphia for games Friday night and Sunday afternoon.

Toney, Philadelphia's number-one draft choice, scored 35 points in the regular season finale when Philadelphia dropped a 98-94 decision at Boston, giving the Celtics the Atlantic Division title. But this time, his big game off the bench took away the home court advantage in this series.

Toney had seven points and three assists in a 19-4 Philadelphia surge that turned a 83-78 deficit into a 97-87 lead with 5:58 to play.

Boston stormed back, scoring eight points in a row and finally pulling even at 101-101 on a basket by Cedric Maxwell with 51 seconds to play.

Julius Erving added 25 points for the 76ers, but the key to the victory was the play of their reserves, who outscored Boston's substitutes 44-16.

Bird, who led the Celtics with 33 points, was brilliant from the start, hitting his first four shots to help Boston to a 15-10 lead after 5½ minutes.

The 1980 Rookie of the Year finished the first quarter with 10 points, while center Robert Parish had seven points, six rebounds and three blocked shots as the Celtics led 32-24.

Philadelphia's reserves, led by Toney and forward Bobby Jones, managed to slow Boston's running game to a walk in the second quarter, when the 76ers outscored the Celtics 31-22 to grab a 55-54 halftime lead.



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