

Defense dooms Ducks

Cal, Stanford score wins over Oregon men

By Donald Coulter
Of the Emerald

San Francisco — It may be the flashy scorers who help pack the stands, but since the day Dr. James Naismith invented the sport of basketball, it has been defense that wins games.

And it was *defense*, or the lack of it, which spelled doom for Oregon on its trip to the Bay Area this weekend.

The Ducks gave up a total of 188 points in losses to California (91-81) and Stanford (97-88), in two Pacific 10 Conference league games that often resembled track meets rather than basketball.

That's more points than Cal has scored against Oregon in five years. And it's the most amount of points Oregon has allowed Stanford in a single game. Ever.

Friday night in Berkeley, the Ducks hoped their depth would wear down a Cal team that is basically five deep. Against Oregon, the five Cal starters played at least 33 minutes each, and scored all but nine of the team's 91 points.

But the Ducks could not wear down the referees' whistles. Thirty fouls were called against Oregon, twice as many as against Cal. The Bears won the game from the foul line,

where they outscored the Ducks 27-7.

The final spread is a bit deceiving, as Cal led by only four before scoring six points in the final thirty seconds of the game. Senior center Mark McNamara was the game's high scorer with 27 points, and 5-9 point guard Michael Chavez added 21 for the Bears. Jerome Williams scored a career-high 24 points for the Ducks and added 13 rebounds on 10 of 13 shooting from the field.

Oregon burst to an 11-point lead midway through the first half the next night against Stanford, but defensive lapses and foul trouble allowed the Cardinals to crawl back in the game. The score was tied at 67 with about eight minutes remaining before Stanford blew the game open by outscoring the Ducks 15-5.

Brian Welch led Stanford with 21 points and freshman Johnny Rogers added 18 for the Cards. Oregon captain John Greig was the game's high scorer with 24 points. Greig was one of three Ducks who fouled out, while three other Oregon players ended the game with four fouls each.

The two losses in the Bay Area add to Oregon's woes on the road in recent years. The Ducks (2-2 in the conference, 7-6 overall) have lost all three of their road games this year, and 14 of their last 16.

Women grab third

Free throws, Smith pace win in tournament

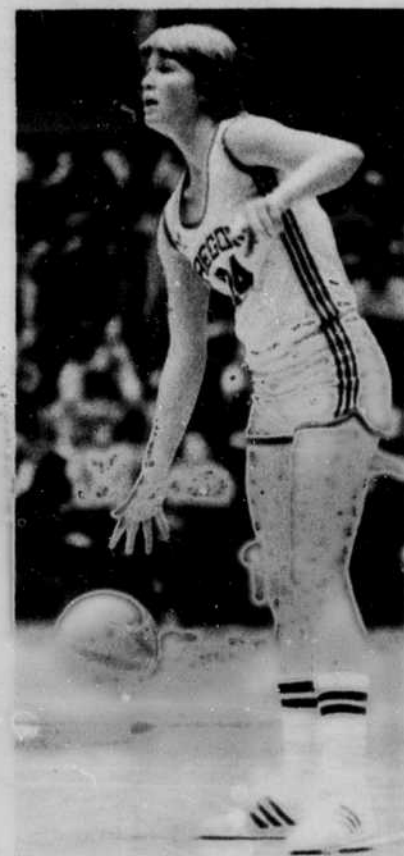
Wichita, Kan — On the strength of six straight free throws in the final four minutes, the Oregon women's basketball team beat Wichita State 68-58 Saturday to gain third place in the Pizza Hut Basketball Classic held in Wichita, Kan.

Bev Smith led Oregon with 21 points and 11 rebounds, and Chris Metzger threw in another 17 points as Oregon fought with foul trouble and a tough 2-3 zone by Wichita to take the win.

Smith and Alison Lang both got into early foul trouble, as the Ducks let an 11-point first half lead dwindle to a one-point deficit by the half.

Oregon came out in a 1-3-1 offense in the second half to combat the taller WSU defense, which enabled the Ducks to take a lead they never relinquished.

"The switch helped," noted Oregon coach Elwin Heiny. "The wings looked for shots better and our movement was quicker. It opened up for Chris Metzger and she started to hit well. Bev was also hot from the outside and Diana Trask made



Bev Smith

some key buckets to pull us ahead."

Oregon, 10-2 on the season, lost Friday night to the University of Texas in the semi-finals, 66-63.

The Ducks outshot the Longhorns — 480 to 400 from the field — and outrebounded Texas 49-34, but a full-court pressure defense forced 26 Oregon turnovers to only nine for Texas. Oregon pulled within one point a number of times in the second half, but repeated turnovers put them out of the game.

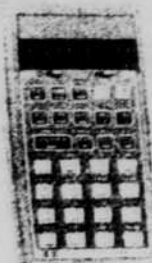
"Texas did a good job playing to our weakness," said Heiny. "They came out pressing and we had trouble handling it. They forced a lot of turnovers early in the game and we had some foolish ones on our own later in the game. Alison and Bev ended up being our key people bringing the ball up. We missed Lisa Vetter (freshman guard out for several weeks with a stress fracture). She could have made a difference."

Lang had 19 points and 12 rebounds and Smith added 18 points and 19 rebounds to lead the Ducks.

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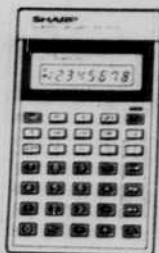


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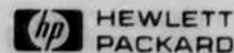
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