

A weekend to forget

USC, UCLA blast defense-less Oregon men

By Donald Coulter
Of the Emerald

Just how bad was this weekend for the Oregon men's basketball team?

Well, think about this:

The Ducks gave up a total of 191 points in their two losses to Southern Cal and UCLA. That sets a new record for weekend ineptitude by Oregon, eclipsing the old mark of 188 points surrendered to the Bay Area teams just three weeks ago.

Oregon has played 1,740 games in its basketball history, dating back to the year 1910. Only TWICE in those 71 years has a team scored more points than Southern Cal tallied against the Ducks (1-7) Friday night.

The next night at Pauley Pavillion, UCLA scored the

game's first 10 points, and led by scores of 16-2 and 30-10 in the first half on way to a 84-61 rout over Oregon.

In other words, it was a weekend the Ducks would rather forget about.

It started out auspiciously enough for the Ducks, as Oregon kept pace with the third-place Trojans Friday night for most of the early going. Trailing by six at halftime, the Ducks outscored USC 10-2 at the start of the second half to take a 56-54 lead.

But the flood gates soon opened up, as Southern Cal outscored Oregon 32-12 over the next 12 minutes to break the game open. With the game virtually over, both coaches let their subs flow on to the floor in the last five minutes of the game, and the score ballooned to a final count of 107-91.

USC guard Dwight Anderson was the game's leading scorer with 32 points, and four other Trojans were in double figures. Jerome Williams scored a career-high 31 points for Oregon, and John Greig added 21 points and 10 rebounds.

On Saturday night, UCLA pounced to a 20-point lead with just under nine minutes remaining in the first half. But Oregon started asserting itself on the backboards, and, combined with lackadaisical play by the Bruins, Oregon was able to close to within 38-29 at the half.

Three minutes into the second half, the Ducks crawled to within four points (42-38) before UCLA decided to start playing again. Shortly afterward, the Bruins outscored Oregon 16-4 to take a 16-point lead, and the outcome was well in hand.

UCLA shot 54 percent from the field for the game, but the Ducks could only hit one-third of their shots (21-63). UCLA won the game with balanced scoring, as four players finished in the mid-teens. Greig was the game's leading scorer with 20 points, and Williams added 14 rebounds.

The two losses leave the Ducks tied for sixth in the Pac-10 with a 3-6 record, 8-10 overall. The game was Oregon's fifth straight road loss, and the 16th in its last 18 games dating back over the last two seasons.

DUCK NOTES — With his 41 points this weekend, John Greig is now third in Pac-10 scoring midway through the conference schedule. After nine games, Greig is averaging 17.6 points, trailing only Mark McNamara of Cal (21.8) and USC's Dwight Anderson (20.4). . . . Jerome Williams is second in the Pac-10 in rebounding, pulling down an average of 10.4 after nine games. McNamara is also first in that department. . . . Since jumping out to a 2-0 record with conference-opening wins over Arizona and Arizona State, Oregon has dropped six of its last seven games, the only victory in that string coming against Washington State in McArthur Court.

DIZZY GILLESPIE

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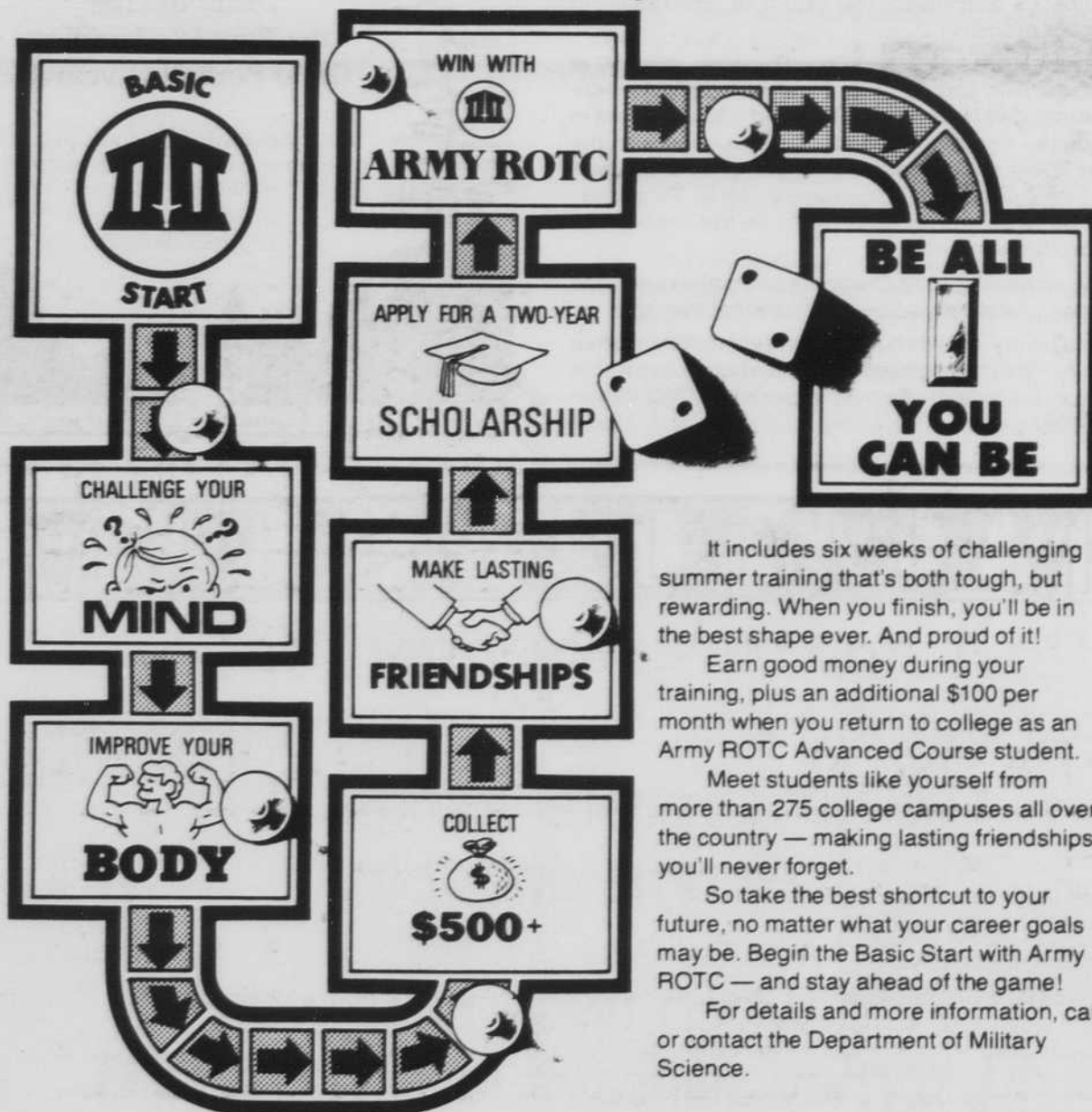
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