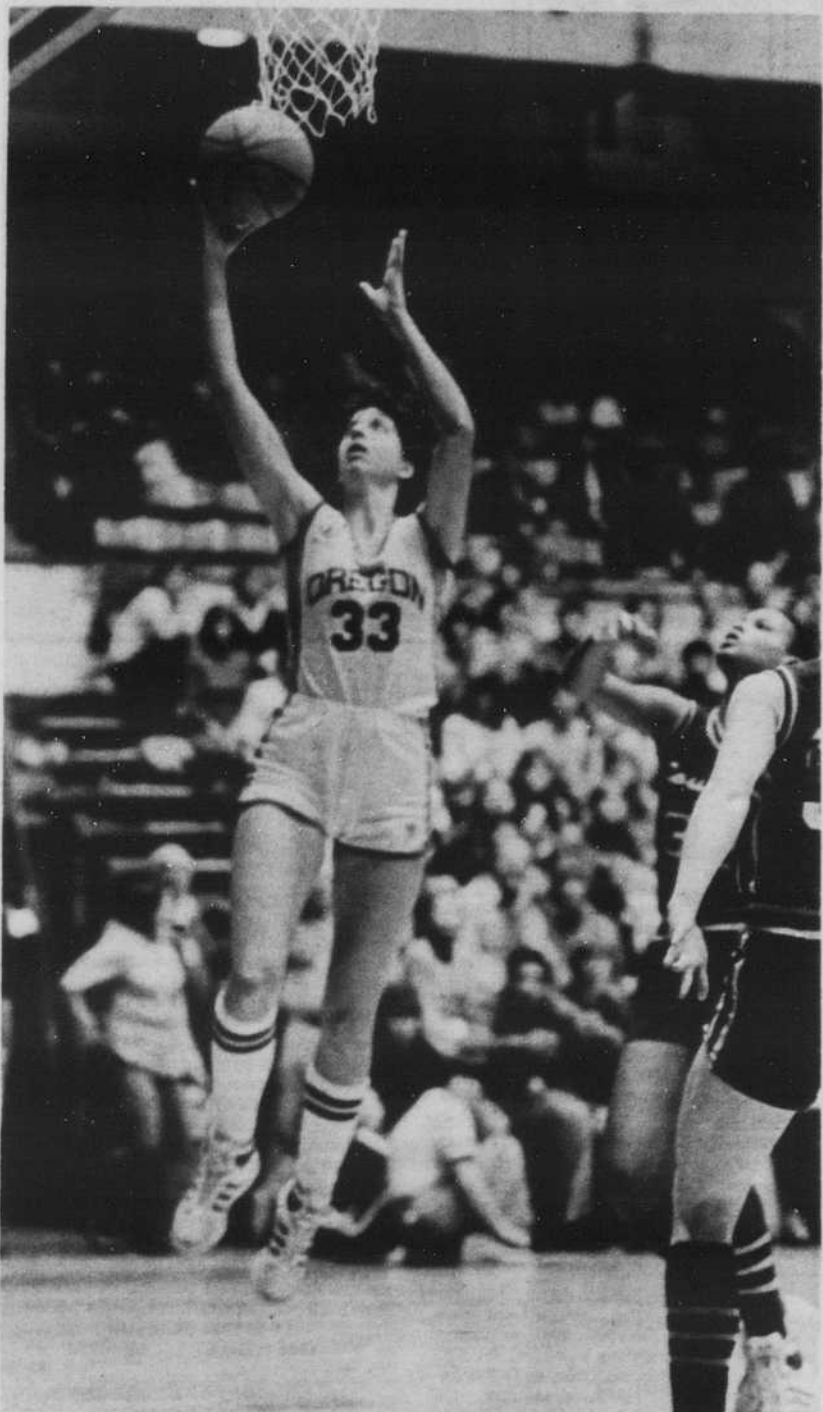


Duck women outclass Utah 65-60

By Mike Riplinger
Of the Emerald



Emerald photo

Mary Ann Stoican and the Ducks battled adversity to drop Utah 65-60 in Salt Lake City Monday.

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah — Class always shows, despite all the adversity.

The Oregon women's basketball team displayed its usual fine form, upending the University of Utah 65-60 Tuesday night.

The Ducks had to fight questionable officiating and injuries to two starters, as well as an inspired Utah team that is always tough at home.

"It was one of our better games, despite all the problems," said Oregon coach Elwin Heiny, whose team was forced to play without Chris Metzger — out with a re-aggravated foot injury — and Alison Lang, who missed a large part of the game when she sprained her ankle in the second half. "We did what we had to do to get the win, and I think that shows we are improving."

Oregon came off a disastrous road trip against UCLA and USC a week ago, where they faced questionable officiating and stiff competition, and ended up being blown out of both games in the process.

Against the Lady Utes, though, the Ducks didn't let the officiating, which Heiny reported as being worse than what they had faced in Los Angeles, get to them.

"It was bad, especially in the first half, but no one complained. I think that showed we learned from our experience in LA. Everyone came together and played above it," said Heiny.

Oregon started out well, building a 10-point lead at one point, but it dwindled down to only two points by half time, with the Ducks ahead 27-25. Utah came on in the second half when Lang was forced to the sideline, pulling ahead with 10 minutes left in the game.

Lang showed some true grit by returning to action with five minutes left. She immediately scored and was fouled, to tally a three point play starting the Ducks' comeback. Oregon went ahead with just a couple minutes left and was able to hold on for the win.

Bev Smith carried the Ducks with Lang out of the game, and, after being cold in the first half, she caught fire in the second half to score 21 points and snag 14 rebounds. Lang, in spite of her ankle, matched Smith's statistics identically.

— sportfolio —

Intermediate cross country ski lessons will be taught February 27 to March 1 by Keep Listening Wilderness Trips for Women. The three-day weekend is aimed toward women who want to improve their cross country downhill techniques.

In addition to instruction, Keep Listening Wilderness Trips for Women will provide meals and lodging in a Mt. Hood cabin Saturday and Sunday nights, Feb. 27 and 28. Participants must furnish their own ski equipment. The cost of the weekend is \$80.

Keep Listening Wilderness Trips for Women is a non-profit, educational organization. It offers year-round outdoor activities for women. Activities include cross-country ski lessons, backpacking, rafting, bicycling, and sailing. For more information write Keep Listening, PO Box 14743, Portland, Oregon 97214, or call (503) 239-6896.

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