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Beavers rip Oregon 94-51

By Donald Coulter
Of the Emerald

CORVALLIS — Call it a debacle, call it a fiasco, but the bottom line is this — Oregon has never lost a game in its basketball history by as many points as it did Saturday.

Oregon State pummeled the Ducks by 43 points, 94-51, in a game that undoubtedly sent West Coast television viewers flipping the dial in search of *I Love Lucy* reruns.

Yes, the game was that boring, unless, of course, you were one of the throng of deafening Beaver fans at Gill Coliseum. Or unless you are a fan of pressure defense, which Oregon State played to perfection.

"We wanted to put good pressure defense on them," OSU guard Lester Connor said after the game. "We knew it would take the wind out of their sails."

Indeed. After Blair Rasmussen hit a turn around jumper to tie the score at four, the Beavers put on a dazzling display of full-court pressure. By unofficial count, the Ducks had the ball knocked out of their hands at least once in each of their next seven offensive series.

And when it wasn't having the ball knocked away, Oregon helped the Beavers' cause by throwing the ball in the crowd. Oregon State took advantage of the Duck miscues by running off 10 unanswered points over three minutes to up the score to 14-4.

After that, it was off to the races for OSU. The Beavers capitalized on 17 Oregon turnovers in the first half, while shooting .621 from the floor themselves, to take a 46-18 lead at the half.

The second half didn't get any better for the Ducks. Oregon turned the ball over an additional 14 times, and though they entered the bonus with 14:09 remaining, the Ducks could convert on only 7 of 16 free throw attempts.

Oregon's major nemesis in the game was Connor. The 6-4 senior scored 18 points, pulled down nine rebounds, and added six assists and six steals and a blocked shot in 35 minutes.

Connor stole the ball 11 times in the two games vs. Oregon this

season. To put this accomplishment in proper perspective, it is important to know that only one Oregon player — Jerome Williams — has more steals than that, though it took him 12 conference games to do it.

While Connor was having a stellar game, Oregon's two forwards — Williams and John Greig — weren't. Greig, who came into the game as the Pac-10's third-leading scorer with an 18.1 average, was held to no field goals and just three points. Williams, second in the conference in rebounding with a 9.5 average, could muster only two boards against the Beavers.

OSU had five scorers in double figures — Connor and Danny Evans with 18 each, William Brew, 13, Charlie Sitton, 12, and A.C. Green with 10. The win raises the sixth-ranked Beavers to 18-3 on the season, and 11-1 in the Pac-10. The loss was Oregon's sixth in a row, its longest losing streak in 10 years, to give the Ducks a 3-9 conference record, 8-13 overall.

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Beckes' 18 leads Ducks past Invaders

Oregon women's basketball coach Elwin Heiny wanted a game where he could test his bench without fear of damaging his record.

Against the Amateur Athletic Union Northwest Invaders he got such a game with a victory to go along with it, winning Sunday's non-counting contest 95-63.

Freshman guard Tracy Beckes led all scorers with 18 points. Beckes also pulled down five rebounds in the game that had each member of the Ducks seeing at least 10 minutes of playing time.

Oregon traded scores with the Invaders before jumping in front 6-4 early in the first half. After that, the Ducks scored twice for every single score by the AAU team to build a 33-15 lead with 8:46 remaining in the first half.

Oregon posted a 50-31 half-time lead and built on that lead thanks to several outside jumpers by Beckes.

The next game for Oregon is a Friday contest with Washington in Seattle. The Ducks' next home game is against another AAU team, Bellco, Feb. 28.

OSU wins low weights, wrestling Civil War

Oregon's wrestling team played the perfect host Friday night, giving Oregon State's wrestlers and their fans everything they wanted, including an easy 28-11 dual meet victory over the Ducks.

"There is no question they outwrestled us," said Duck coach Ron Finley. "They really came at us."

Mark Rodriguez opened the match for the Beavers with a 17-9 decision over Duck senior Randy Ohta at 118, and at 126, junior Mike Erb fell to OSU's Cliff Berger.

"We just lost it in the early matches," said Finley. "I was counting on Ohta and Erb to come up with wins for us," he said.

Perhaps Oregon's biggest loss came before the meet ever got under way. Senior all-American Bill Nugent, who had just returned from international competition in Russia, was forced to sit out his final home match after injuring his leg in practice Thursday.

The sometimes-flashy Lorenzo West filled in for Nugent at 142, but lost 16-6 to the Beavers' Curt Berger.

Then, Beaver all-American Brad Swartz ruined the perfect season for Oregon senior Barry Boyles with a takedown just seven seconds from the end of his match. The 8-5 win was the 29th of the season for the defending Pac-10 champ at 150. For Boyles it was a tough way to bow out at home as he fell to 16-1-2 on the year.

The home team put together back-to-back wins by Rick O'Shea (158) and Keith Beutler (167) to open the second half and drew to within three at 14-11, but that was the Ducks' last hurrah.

At 177, OSU's Jim Baumgardner pushed Oregon's Charles Nutter around to the tune of 16-1, sealing the Ducks' fate in the process.

All that remained was for Owen Engleman to round out his Duck career on a sour note, a 9-3 loss to OSU's Chris Bielenberg in the heavyweight match.

Warren, Miller set records

From Associated Press reports

Oregon track stars Leann Warren and Lexie Miller were in the news over the weekend as both established world indoor records Saturday.

Warren, running in the Citizen Indoor games in Ottawa, established the record for the womens indoor 800 meters. Miller set the women's 300-meter indoor mark in the Vandal Indoor in Moscow, Idaho.

Warren's time of 2 minutes, 5.8 seconds in the 800 meters erased the old mark of 2:07.5 set at these games in 1979 by Wendy Knudsen of the United States.

Miller broke her own mark of 43.5 by running a 42.65 in the 300 meters.

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