

Sports

Stanford shoots down Ducks

By John Healy
Of the Emerald

The question Saturday night at McArthur Court was of the "What came first, the chicken or the egg?" variety.

Was Stanford that good on offense? Or was Oregon that bad on defense?

And did Stanford's "goodness" cause Oregon's "badness", or did the Duck's ineptness leave the door open for Stanford's to offer the 5,960 assembled at Mac Court a graduate seminar in basketball offense?

Oregon forward Jerry Adams dropped his vote in the latter category after watching Stanford dismantle the Ducks 80-74.

"It was a case of our not playing well," observed Adams.

Jim Haney, Oregon's coach, agreed. "It was at the defensive end of the court where we lost," said Haney, whose Ducks had been ranked second nationally in defense after giving up just 50 points per game before the Pac-10 season opened this weekend. "We didn't complete any of our defensive concepts.

We were very one-dimensional tonight."

So was Stanford's offense, as the box score proved. The Cardinal's gave a clinic on why the two-foot bankshot and the one-foot jumper will almost always be a better percentage shot than the free throw line jumper.

Just check Stanford's percentages from the field and the charity line. They were .769 and .741, respectively.

The Cardinal's toyed early on with the idea of having a perfect night from the field, as they built a 16-4 lead with on the strength of a six-for-six field goal streak.

They missed their first field goal with 13:44 left in the first half, but wouldn't you know that Stanford forward David Nussbaum was there to tip in the rebound.

Stanford posted its largest lead of the night at 20-4, and by then, Mac Court's legions were wondering aloud if Oregon would ever break the Cards full-court press or give Stanford anything other than a layin.

The Ducks cut Stanford's lead to 10 at 34-24 with 5:30 left in the first half, thanks to the efforts of guard Gary Gatewood — who finished the night with a career-high 23 points — but that was as close as Oregon could claw back until forward David Brantley's seven-foot jump shot managed to elude Stanford center John Revelli for a second half field goal.

Revelli couldn't elude Brantley at the end of the play, though, and the Oregon junior canned the free throw to cut Stanford's lead to 63-60 with 7:36 remaining.

But back came Revelli, as he put in a layin at the other end of the court — he finished the night with 20 points — and after Paul Bain missed a 15-foot jumper from the baseline for Oregon, Stanford guard Keith Jones drove down the middle of the key for a layin.

Jones' drive effectively snuffed Oregon's hopes of

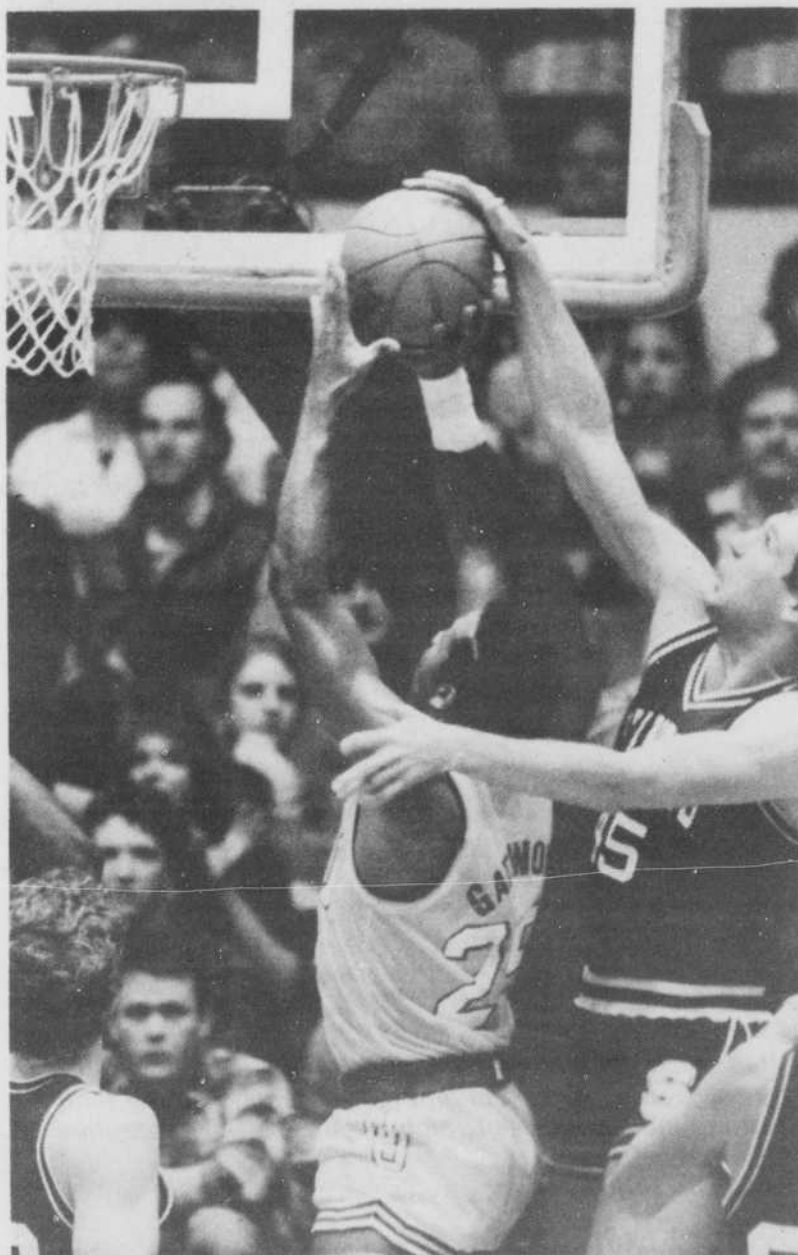


Photo by Bob Baker
Stanford forward Hans Wichary rejects Gary Gatewood's attempted shot in Saturday's Pac-10 contest at McArthur Court. Just like Wichary, the Cardinal came out on top, 80-74.

repeating Thursday night's come-from-behind 69-67 win over California.

"We never made it difficult for them as far as putting them in a tight position," said Haney, whose team fell to 1-1 in the Pac 10 and 5-6 overall. "The team defensive concept that we were doing earlier, we aren't executing now."

"You have to assume when

you have young players, they won't get out of the blocks quickly on the offensive end because they don't see much offense in practice. But on defense, they should be doing the things they do in practice, because they do it everyday."

After the loss to Stanford, Oregon may have to find more hours in the day to practice defense.

Jets dump Cincy, 44-17

From Associated Press Reports

Freeman McNeil rushed for 211 yards and Darrol Ray returned an interception 98 yards for a touchdown Sunday, both National Football League playoff records, as the New York Jets smashed the Cincinnati Bengals 44-17 in the first round of postseason play.

McNeil, the NFL's leading rusher, also ran 20 yards for a touchdown and threw a 14-yard scoring strike to Derrick Gaffney as the Jets won their first playoff game since Joe Namath led them to victory in Super Bowl III in 1969.

In other games Sunday, San Diego rallied past Pittsburgh 31-28, Dallas trimmed Tampa Bay 30-17 and Minnesota outlasted Atlanta 30-24.

In Saturday's games, Washington whipped Detroit 31-7, Green Bay beat St. Louis 41-16, the Los Angeles Raiders topped Cleveland 27-10 and Miami defeated New England 28-13.

The Jets' Richard Todd completed 20 of 28 passes for 269 yards, with wide receiver Wesley Walker catching eight for a career-high 145. New York also got a 1-yard TD run from rookie Wayne Crutchfield and three field goals by Pat Leahy.

Ken Anderson staked the defending AFC champion Bengals to a 14-3 lead with two first-quarter touchdown passes, but New York rallied for a 20-14 halftime lead. The Jets advance with a 7-3 record while the Bengals close at 7-3.

Dan Fouts' 12-yard touchdown pass to Kellen Winslow with one minute left in the game provided the winning margin for San Diego. Fouts, who completed 27 of 42 passes for 333 yards, also had scoring strikes of 10 yards to Eric Sievers in the second quarter and eight yards to Winslow early in the final period.

San Diego's Chuck Muncie gained 126 yards on 25 carries

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