

Sports

Freethrows frustrate Huskies

By John Healy
Of the Emerald

Washington met David Brantley, Doctor of Designated Foul Shooting, Monday night.

Unfortunately, the Huskies caught Brantley in the midst of a free throw shooting clinic. By the time he was finished at McArthur Court, he had canned 16 of 18 charity tosses, leading the seemingly lost Oregon Ducks out of the land of frustration and into their second Pac-10 win of the season, a 52-47 victory over Washington.

"They fouled the wrong person at the end," said Brantley after tossing in a career-high 22 points to net Oregon a crucial win Monday. "The way I felt tonight, I wanted the ball."

Washington certainly obliged the 6-6 junior forward, and he hit seven straight free throws in the final 2:32 to keep the Huskies at bay and improve Oregon's conference record to 2-4, moving the Ducks into a tie for seventh with Oregon State.

"It feels good to beat Washington," said sophomore center Blair Rasmussen. "But I think it feels better to win."

This was a win that appeared headed for that great basketball void that Oregon seems to chuck all of its potential wins into. But Monday in front of a sparse crowd of 3,684, the Ducks made the plays down the stretch that they haven't made in previous games.

And they played a stifling, harassing man-to-man defense that took the Huskies out of their inside game and left them to miss 11 of 15 shots from outside of the key in the second half.

"It looked like Oregon wanted to win the game more than we did at the end," said Washington coach Marv Harshman, who watched his Huskies slip to 10-8 overall and 1-4 in the conference.

Rasmussen agreed with Harshman's assessment, but was more specific.

"Defense won it," said Rasmussen, who was saddled with foul problems all night and could manage but eight points in 21 minutes.

"I think everyone played like they were capable of playing."

After trailing 22-21 at the half, Oregon went on a 16-7 tear — thanks to a pair of steals, three Huskie turnovers and two missed Washington field goals — to take a 37-29 lead with 10:41 remaining. Sophomore forward Jerry Adams had six points in that stretch and Brantley added four.

Oregon still held a 43-35 lead with 5:49 remaining — Washington was five of 15 from the field in the second half at that point — before Darrel Tanner and Alvin Vaughn swished perimeter jumpers and 6-6 freshman forward Reggie Rogers put a rebound back in to cut the Duck lead to 43-41 with 3:43 left.

Then with 2:32 remaining and the Huskies holding the ball, Brantley took a charge from Tanner on the left baseline and sank both free throws at the other end.

Brantley hit two more free throws at 1:37, another two with 17 ticks left, and one of two with three seconds remaining, pushing him above his previous career-scoring high of 21. He had recorded that against Northridge State back on Dec. 6, 1980.

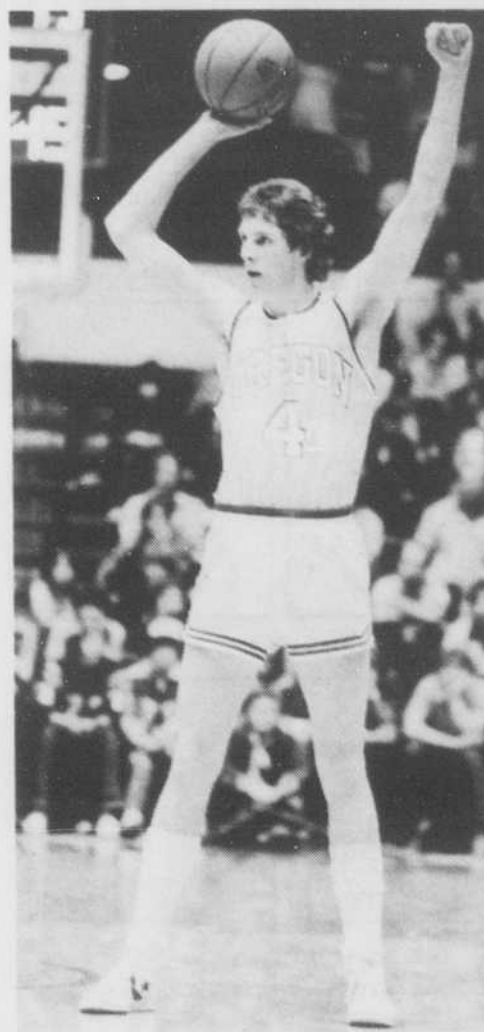


Photo by Mark Pynes

David Brantley scored a career-high 22 points, hitting 16 of 18 free throws, to lead Oregon to a 52-47 Pac-10 win over Washington Monday night at Mac Court.

Looking for perfection

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Ten years ago it was the end of a perfect season. This time it could be the perfect end to an imperfect season.

In 1972, the Miami Dolphins became the first team to post an unbeaten record in a 14-game season. They embellished that record with playoff victories over Cleveland and Pittsburgh and crowned it on Jan. 14, 1973, in Los Angeles with a 14-7 triumph over the Washington Redskins in Super Bowl VII.

Next Sunday, in nearby Pasadena, the Dolphins go gunning for the Redskins again in Super Bowl XVII, the climax to a strike-ravaged season.

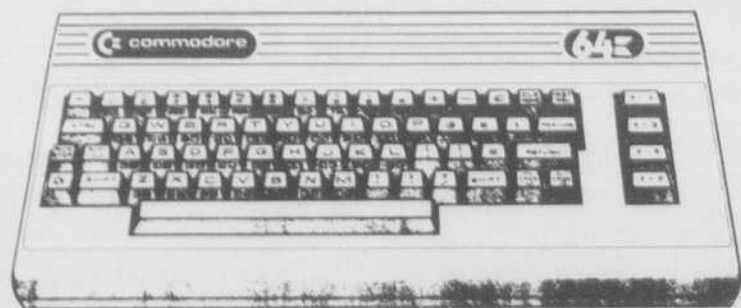
Miami's starting left guard, Bob Kuechenberg, is one of the two remaining active Dolphins from that championship season of a decade ago, the other being reserve defensive end Vern Den Herder.

"We just had the 10-year reunion last month," Kuechenberg said of that Dec. 18 gathering in the Orange Bowl, the day the Dolphins won 20-19 for the second of its three victories over New York this season. "We beat the Jets and then went up and saw all the old-timers. Now we've got a reunion with the Redskins. It's uncanny, when you think about it."

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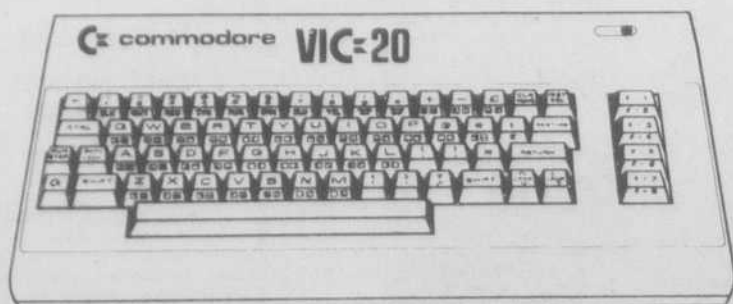
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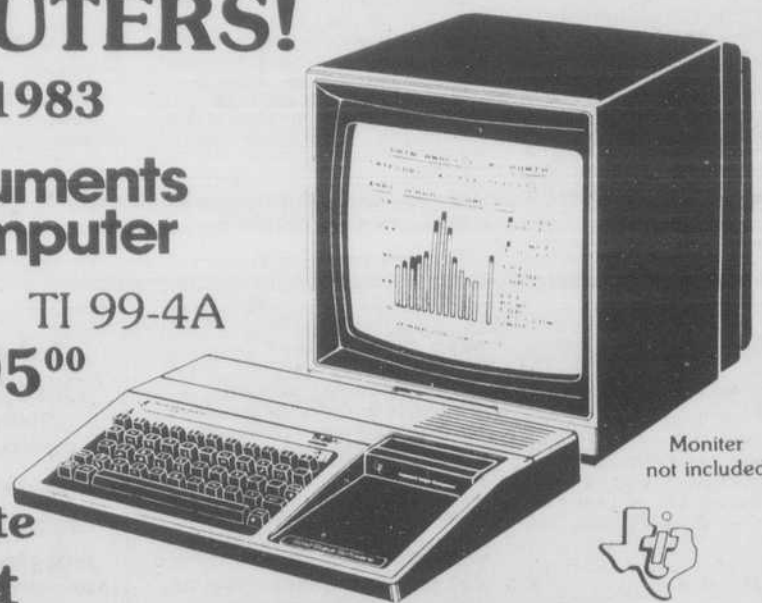
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