

Duck basketball's new dilemma: crowd control

First the good news: Fans are coming to McArthur Court in droves to watch the Duck basketball team.

Now the bad news: Some Duck fans feel that they have to resort to throwing paper and ice and cursing visiting players. It's just as bad before the game — as onrushing fans nearly trample one another to get a seat.

inside 'n' out steve turcotte

Oregon basketball fans are a rare commodity. Since they are seated so close to the playing floor, they almost have direct input on the game itself.

Some 8,700 fans are spinning the turnstiles to watch Oregon play each game. But amongst those 8,700 are a select few who make the others look bad with childish stunts.

It's one thing to stand, cheer and yell at opposing players. That's great. I love it. It's another to throw things on the floor, disrupt play and possibly cause injury to players or officials.

Things were so bad at the

Oregon State game that the officials called time out to clear the floor of debris. That prompted Oregon coach Don Monson to ramble up the bleachers and plead with fans not to throw things.

"I think our place lends itself to people getting involved with the game because they are so close," Monson says. "But if they start throwing things when athletes are performing, I don't want any part of it."

Against Washington last Saturday, things once again got out of hand.

First, Reggie Rogers hit Oregon's Reggie Wallace in the eye with an elbow. That prompted end-zone onlookers to taunt Rogers, and one fan went too far by nearly going on the court.

"Something like that shouldn't happen," says Oregon guard Gary Gatewood.

After the game was another story. People began hurling ice and paper on the floor and at the Oregon bench. Gatewood was hit with a piece of paper in the leg. It might have been a piece of ice, or a bottle.

"It makes you wonder who the people are throwing things

at," Gatewood says. "Things like throwing paper and ice are dangerous to everyone out on the floor. When it gets on the floor, it is slippery."

"I remember my sophomore year I slipped on a wet spot and broke my wrist. I was out for the year."

For opposing coaches, fans' antics are part of the game. But for Washington coach Marv Harshman, today's Oregon fans are nothing compared to fans of the past.

"Things are not nearly as bad as when (former Oregon coach Dick) Harter was here," Harshman says. "I remember one time my wife was sitting in the stands and got hit by a golf ball."

It's great when a crowd can get into a game. For three years at Oregon I witnessed dwindling crowds and a general lack of enthusiasm for the basketball program. But enter Monson and a winning attitude, and the fans are back.

But it's not without incident.

As Monson says, "I would like to be treated the same way on the road I get treated at home."

Getting hit by paper and ice is not Monson's idea of hospitable treatment.

"We still have some of the best fans in the league," Monson says. "But sometimes people throw things and it needs to be corrected."

"I think a lot of people don't like it — it's just not a class thing to do."

Well said.



Photo by Ken Kromer

Wins and attendance are up this year at McArthur Court, but a few fans have gotten out of hand in the process.

et al.

MEETINGS

MARKETING CLUB presents Liz Cawood of Cawood Communications in Room 337 EMU at 6 p.m. tonight.

MORTAR BOARD meets today, 5 p.m. in Room 111 EMU. All members please attend.

THE IFC will meet today in Room 337 EMU. The agenda is expected to include budget hearings: 1. 5 p.m. ESCAPE. 2. 6 p.m. Asian Studies Society. 3. 6:40 p.m. Women In Transition. 4. 7:10 p.m. Panhellenic. 5. 7:50 p.m. OSL.

ALLIANCE TO COUNTER MILITARISM, formerly CORD, will be holding its first volunteer meeting tonight at 7 p.m. at 372 W. 10th. to further develop our community and high school outreach, the meeting will also be Students Opposing Registration and the Draft's weekly meeting.

THE GAY AND LESBIAN ALLIANCE will hold its weekly business meeting today at 4:30 in Room 318 EMU. The Dyketones concert, Born In Flames movie and Gay Pride Week will be discussed. For more information call GALA at 3360.

LECTURES

ALPHA LAMBDA DELTA AND PHI ETA SIGMA are

sponsoring an evening with Professor Hyman of the psychology department today at 8 p.m. in the International Lounge. He will be speaking on psychics and scientists. Refreshments will be served, all are welcome.

AN AMERICAN STUDIES SAMPLER Part 2 will take place today from 3:30 to 5 p.m. at Gerlinger Lounge. Program: three short presentations from different disciplines on "The West" followed by a discussion of American studies and the study of the West.

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE will be holding a Group Information Seminar on Thursday, Feb. 23 from 1:30 to 3 p.m. in Room 109 at the EMU. Immediate openings are available in Oregon, Washington and California for Accounting majors who will be receiving their degrees by June 15.

INTERVIEWS

LIBERAL ARTS UNDERGRADUATES — SPRING TERM INTERNSHIP OPENINGS: Eugene Hilton, Oregon Pacific Economic Development Corp. and Eugene/Springfield Visitor's and Convention Bureau. Sign up this week in 244 Hendricks Hall. Only five students will be interviewed for each opening. Intern-

ship descriptions available in Room 221 Hendricks Hall.

CAMPUS INTERVIEWS: SIGN UP AT 7:30 A.M. ON WEDNESDAY in Room 244 Hendricks Hall for the following recruiters:

FEB. 27 Willamette University, Atkinson Graduate School of Management — Group Meeting only — 10 to 12 a.m., Room 108 EMU (Minorities especially encouraged to attend).

FEB. 28 Economics Lab (For Sales Representative).

FEB. 28,29 John H. Harland Company (For Sales Associate).

FEB. 28,29 Livingston & Company (For Assistant Account Executive).

FEB. 28,29 Johnson Wax (For Area Sales Rep).

FEB. 29 A&R Freight System.

MAR. 1 Ford Motor Credit Company (For Assistant Customer Accounts Rep).

MAR. 1 Great West Life Assurance Company (For Group Accounts Rep).

MAR. 1 U.S. Air Force (For Pilot/Navigator/Meteorology/Communication Electronics).

MAR. 2 American International School, Dhaka, Bangladesh (For Teachers).

MAR. 2 ORE-IDA Foods, Inc. (For Financial Accounting).

MAR. 2 Pacific Gas & Electric (For Computer Related positions).

MAR. 1,2 Tektronix, Inc. (For Accounting positions).

MAR. 2 Wells Fargo Bank (For Financial positions).

PLEASE SIGN UP IMMEDIATELY if interested in interviewing with the following recruiters:

FEB. 21,22 Electronic Data Systems Corporation (For Systems Engineer Development Program).

FEB. 21,22 Intel Corporation (2 Production/Materials Planner or Production Supervisor).

FEB. 21 NCR Corporation (2 Sales Rep for General Business Forms Products).

FEB. 21 Maricopa Community Colleges (For Community College Teachers) Group Meeting: 8 to 9 a.m., Room 108, EMU.

FEB. 23 Volume Shoe Company (For Operations Management Trainee).

FEB. 23 Radcliffe College (For Publishing Procedures Course) Group Meeting: 1 to 2 p.m. Room 108 EMU

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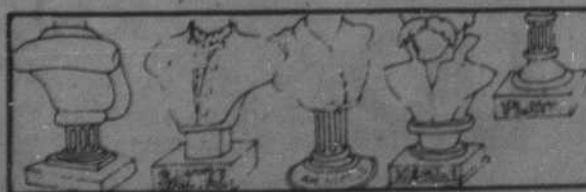
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