

Oregon women left out in cold

The Oregon women's basketball team was snubbed Sunday morning when the NCAA announced its 40-team tournament and the Ducks were not included.

Oregon finished the season 21-7, and 10-2 in the NorPac Conference. Their conference mark tied them with the University of Washington for the top spot in the league. Washington got the NorPac's only automatic bid when because they finished with a 2-0 record against the conference's third place team — Fresno State University, while the Ducks split with the Bulldogs.

Oregon coach Elwin Heiny expressed his surprise when his team was omitted from the field.

"I'm more than a little bit surprised," Heiny said. "We certainly thought that 21-7 would be good enough to get in (to the tournament)."

The Ducks could have won the league title outright with a victory at FSU on March 1st when Washington lost to the California Bears, but Oregon dropped a 71-68 decision to the Bulldogs.

Heiny pointed out that NCAA officials just ran out of room for at-large teams of the Ducks caliber because of many upsets in conference tournaments that sent unheralded teams to the NCAA tourney by way of a conference championship automatic bid.

Las Vegas got in with a win over (nationally ranked) Long

Beach (State University), and Maryland got in with 12 losses," Heiny said.

Shorts

The Oregon women's tennis team escaped with a 5-4 win against the University of Idaho Saturday at the covered courts, while the Oregon men beat the Vandals 9-0.

Capt. Lynn, of the Oregon softball team, rapped three singles, including the game-winning hit in the fifth inning to lead the Ducks to a 3-2 win over Mesa College in their second game of the Las Vegas women's softball tournament Saturday. Earlier, the Ducks lost to the host Rebels, 3-0.

UCLA Continued from Page 10

staff, before the game started because of Miller and the rest of the UCLA arsenal.

The Ducks controlled Miller effectively all game long, but they almost let another guy named Montel Hatcher kill them. Hatcher was sensational as he hit the outside jumper and then drove inside, giving the Ducks fits all night and finishing with a team-high 22 points on 11 of 16 shooting for the Bruins.

"We did a good job on Miller," Monson said. "Then Hatcher started killing us."

Oregon fell behind early, 14-4, but rallied behind Taylor and Adams, who had 13 and 12 first-half points, respectively, to open a 40-33 halftime lead. The Ducks had Miller in check as the nation's fourth-leading scorer, did have 12 points but was only three of nine from the field in the first half.

In the second half, Balderston came to life and joined the Oregon hit parade as he made six of his seven second-half shots.

UCLA outscored the Ducks 8-4 to open the second half and cut the margin to 44-41 with 17:38 to play, but then Mouton hit a jumper from the corner and Balderston followed with a three-point play as he was fouled by UCLA's Craig Jackson.

That gave the Ducks a 49-41 lead with 16:04 to play, and the lead stayed between six and eight until the clock ticked down toward the eight-minute mark with the Ducks still clinging to a 62-55 advantage.

A television timeout gave the Bruins time to design a play for Miller, but Mouton's tight defense denied him the ball, and UCLA was forced to settle for Rod Plamer's off-balance jumper. The shot was off the mark, and Balderston hit two straight shots to put Ducks up, 66-55, with 6:37 left.

UCLA promptly called timeout and replaced Palmer with Corey Gaines and readied themselves for one final push at the surprising guys in white and yellow.

Gaines hit a shot from the corner to pull the Bruins to within 66-57 with 6:12 to go, but that was as close as the Westwood boys would get as Oregon went back inside to Balderston for a layin and then to Adams who was fouled by Jack Haley. Adams' two free throws put the Ducks ahead 70-57 with 5:24 to go.

UCLA coach Walt Hazzard was certainly not pleased with the officials after the game as his team was whistled for 31 fouls compared to 16 for the Ducks.

"Our manpower was cut short (by foul trouble)," Hazzard said. "Everyone knows our bench is not that deep."

The Bruin head coach saw nothing special in the defensive effort of Mouton on Miller for much of the game. "He played him OK. I don't think he did anything special. We're not a one-man team," Hazzard said.

Miller also refused to credit Mouton or the Ducks with an outstanding defensive effort. "I got the ball. (But) I guess they must have talked to the refs before the game. Most of the time when I went up, I got touched on the arm and nothing was called," Miller said.

Hazzard declined to criticize his players' effort — "I didn't think our team looked that bad." However, he did offer begrudging credit to several Duck players.

"Adams played an outstanding game... so did Taylor. He's (Adams) one of those blue-collar workers."

The Bruin coach did disclose that his team would accept an NIT berth to defend the championship they won last year. On Saturday, at least for one shining afternoon, the Ducks were the ones that looked like they were the team headed for a post-season tournament.

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A FEW NOTES ABOUT THIS SPECIES...

The range of this majestic seabird includes most of Antarctica and eastern Argentina, although they have been known to hop a cab and slip up to Iowa for a wild weekend.


The food of the Hefty-nosed Penguin includes her- ring, halibut, young sardines, small assorted South Atlan- tic schooling fish and POP TARTS.

Nesting season is early June. Mating behavior is, as yet, still a mystery since the Hefty-nosed Penguin is a discreet, if not easily embarrassed animal.

Being fairly liberal minded, the Hefty-nosed Penguin would, as a group, all be driving used Volvos if they could reach the pedals.

Their taste in television, by the way, is atrocious and merits no further elaboration here.

In conclusion, the Hefty-nosed Penguin is a gentle bird... easily influenced and overly sensitive. With their pleasant disposition and generally optimistic nature, the species is a welcome member of the WILD KINGDOM, even if they do eat crackers in bed.



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