

Oregon women win the war over the Beavers



Oregon forward Kris Glidden scores two key points down the stretch against the OSU Beavers.

By Dennis Fernandes
Of the Emerald

This game will go down as one of the great battles in the Civil War.

The Oregon women's basketball team turned back Oregon State University for their seventh straight win in a 65-63 nailbiter Friday night in front of 2,306 boisterous fans at McArthur Court.

The intensity of the matchup was evident after the clock expired, as the Ducks gathered at midcourt in celebration — and to lean on each other due to fatigue.

"Dave (Oregon assistant coach Dave Lipp) commented during the game that this was more like a war. It was a very physical game, and fortunately we came out on top," said Oregon coach Elwin Heiny.

"I'm proud of what we did, and I think the people in the stands are the ones we need to thank the most because they're the ones that pushed us on," commented a beaming Heiny.

"The whole atmosphere was great," added Oregon center Gabi Neumann. "Mac Court is just crazy."

The Ducks needed every decibel. They led 37-29 after dominating the first half with a smooth half-court offense and superior height, but the second half belonged to OSU's reputable pressing defense.

"We've been playing good pressure basketball all year, and for some reason we came out and sat on our hands a bit in the first half. In the second half, we came out and played them 94 feet," said Beaver assistant coach Alan Lambert.

"We feel if we do that, we have a pretty good chance of winning most games," he added.

The Beavers almost did win. They completely shut down Oregon's inside game and capitalized on Oregon turnovers to scratch and claw their way back into this one. It was Brenda Arbuckle's steal and breakaway layin that finally drew the Beavers even at 49 with 9:50 left to play.

It was cat-and-mouse from then on. OSU guard Monica Raspberry, the game-high scorer with 19 points, hit her second straight jumper to give the Beavers their four-point bulge, and it looked like curtains for the Ducks.

Instead it was a curtain call. Center Stefanie Kasperski got an inside bucket on the feed from Carol Drouet to close the gap to two, and with 4:15 to go, Lauri

Landerholm stole the ball and won the footrace to the basket, and the score was tied 59 apiece.

Raspberry hit another 18-footer and then fouled Landerholm, who made both ends of the one-on-one to knot the score again at 61.

The Ducks went up by two when Kasperski layed it in and increased the lead to four after two Neumann free throws at the 1:32 mark.

The Beavers came back again with two free throws of their own, and Oregon's lead was just two points with 36 seconds left. Arbuckle stole the ball with 17 seconds left but missed the easy layin that would have tied

the score.

Arbuckle did get another chance when the Beavers got the ball back, but the 19-footer at the buzzer was wide, and the Ducks had their victory celebration.

When asked about the missed layin, Lambert just shrugged.

"Anytime you're in the heat of the battle, there's going to be plays made and plays missed. That one stood out because it was at the end of the game. We're just proud of the way the kids came back," he said.

Heiny, on the other hand, was not pleased with the second half.

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Ducks win one match, lose two in Virginia

The Oregon wrestling team's dual meet record dropped to 6-6 Friday after winning one and losing two matches at the Virginia Duals wrestling tournament over the weekend.

The Ducks narrowly defeated William and Mary University 25-22, but were upended by fifth-ranked University of North Carolina 27-9, and West Virginia University, 34-9.

In the William and Mary battle Oregon went to the wire, needing a win or draw from Joe Rissone (190 pounds). Rissone, who was put on his back, recovered and settled for a 3-3 draw that captured the victory for the Ducks.

Against the Tar Heels, the

Ducks' success stories were Tim Ige (134), Chuck Kearney (167) and Dan Martin (177). Oregon's Shon Lewis (126) put on an inspirational performance against Chip McArdle, the country's third-ranked wrestler in that weight bracket, but lost his first match of the dual meet season, 3-2, on a penalty point for stalling late in the match.

Ige trounced Tar Heel John Welsh 11-4, while Kearney bettered Rob Koll 8-7 and Martin eked out a point more than Joe Siler, 2-1.

Lewis rebounded against West Virginia by pinning his opponent, and Rissone was the only other Duck victor in that matchup.

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