

High-scoring game a close, disappointing loss

By Gary Henley
Emerald Sports Editor

Whatever the score was — 96-93, 95-92, 97-93 — whatever, Arizona State had more than Oregon did.

For the record, the Sun Devils had 98 and the Ducks 94 in Saturday afternoon's high-scoring affair at McArthur Court.

The 192 combined points were the most The Pit has seen since Oregon (97) and Washington (96) put up 193 back on Feb. 28, 1975.

"When you score 92 points you're doing something well offensively," said Oregon center Richard Lucas. "But we also gave up 97 or whatever points."

"I can't ever remember scoring ... what'd we have ... 93, 94 — and losing it," Oregon

Head Coach Don Monson added. "We give up 97 points, we're gonna lose."

And it was a heart-breaking loss for the Ducks no matter how much they gave up, not only because it dropped them into eighth place in the Pacific-10 Conference (8-14 overall, 3-9 in league play), but because of the way they lost it.

Oregon's Keith Reynolds used the baseline runway for a high-flying, two-hand jam with 4:19 remaining, giving the Webfoots an 87-80 lead. But an 18-7 run by the Sun Devils down the stretch was more than the Ducks could handle, and ASU rode into the sunset with the win, upping its record to 4-9 in the Pac-10, 11-11 overall.

The game was close the whole way, with 12 lead

changes and seven ties.

The first lead change of the second half however came with 2:35 remaining in the game, when ASU's Emory Lewis hit a

forth a little bit," said Oregon guard Frank Johnson. "They just came back and got some key boards and some key baskets to put them ahead. We missed some easy baskets and they capitalized on it."

Johnson did his part in keeping the Ducks close, and didn't miss many shots, scoring a team-high 24 points on nine of 15 from the floor, including six of 10 from 3-point territory.

As a team, the Ducks hit 50 percent of their shots (34-68), but the Sun Devils were a little hotter, hitting 35-54 for a .648 percentage.

"We didn't play intense enough or hard enough on the defensive end of the floor," Monson said. "We're trying to break out of our slump and shoot better, and we did that. We just didn't play hard

enough on the other end."

After Lewis' fall-away basket gave ASU the 88-87 lead, Oregon's Randy Grant, playing with four fouls, came back with a rebound basket of his own for an 89-88 Oregon lead.

Sun Devil forward Torin Williams stuck a 12-footer as ASU regained the lead at the 1:48 mark, and with 37 seconds remaining and the score tied 92-92, it was Williams who hit two free throws after being fouled by Grant.

Minutes earlier, Grant had held Williams' foot after going down, as Williams was going for the ball. "He held my foot!" Williams said. "That would have been an easy dunk." Grant got away with that one, but was whistled for his fifth foul as Williams tried to get the shot off in the waning seconds of the game.

"Grant had four fouls," Williams said. "Either I was going to make the bucket or he was going to foul me. I leaned in a little bit, and he's only about 6-6. He wasn't going to get up there with me. I didn't know what the score was."

Williams may not have had a clue about the score, but never had a doubt about the free

Pac-10 Men			
	Conf W-L	Overall W-L	
Arizona	12-1	18-3	
UCLA	10-2	16-5	
Stanford	10-3	19-5	
Oregon St.	8-4	16-5	
California	8-5	17-7	
Washington	5-8	9-13	
Arizona St.	4-9	11-11	
Oregon	3-9	8-14	
Washington St.	2-10	7-14	
Southern Cal	0-11	7-16	

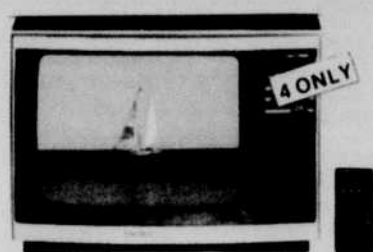
short, fall-away jumper in the lane to give the Sun Devils an 88-87 lead.

"We had the lead the whole game, except for at the end when it was going back and

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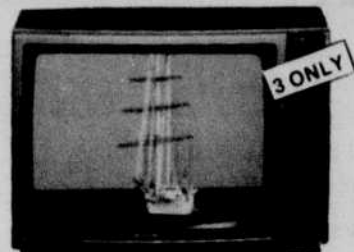
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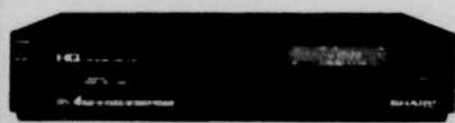
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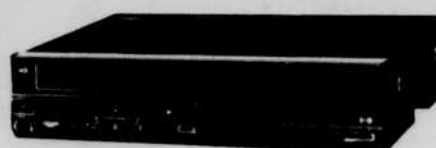
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