

Hot shooting Ducks scorch Bruins 105-99

By Tracy Sumner
Emerald Sports Editor

The Oregon men's basketball team gave its chances of post-season play a tremendous boost Thursday, taking a 105-99 shootout over UCLA before a McArthur Court crowd of 9,134.

With three games left on the regular season schedule, the Ducks find themselves tied for fourth place in Pacific-10 Conference play with the Bruins at

Pac-10 Men			
	Conf. W.L.	Overall W.L.	Games Behind
Oregon St.	13-2	20-4	—
Arizona	12-3	18-5	1
California	10-5	19-7	3
UCLA	9-6	16-8	4
Oregon	9-6	14-10	4
Stanford	7-7	15-8	5 1/2
Arizona St.	5-9	12-11	7 1/2
Southern Cal.	4-11	9-13	9
Washington	4-11	10-14	9
Washington St.	1-14	7-18	12

9-6. Oregon is 14-10 overall.

"It's a win over UCLA and a win we needed and it surely can't hurt us," Oregon coach Don Monson said.

"We had a jacked-up crowd, and we put one away where the fans go away happy," he said. "We were ready. I thought we played very hard and very consistent throughout the game."

Sophomore guard Terrell Brandon scored a career-high 31 points and handed out eight assists to lead the Ducks to the win, their first over UCLA since an 80-65 triumph in March 1986.

The Ducks took UCLA apart, shooting a white-hot 65 percent from the field for the game. Oregon hit an eye-popping 72.4 percent in the second half and was six-for-10 from three-point

range for the game.

"They just didn't miss," said UCLA coach Jim Harrick. "They just shot the lights out, especially in the second half. I've watched a lot of their games and they don't do that every night."

"Tonight they were very, very good," he said. "We played well enough to win, but not against that kind of shooting."

Monson credited his team for its shooting, but said the Ducks did other things it took to get the win.

"The balls started going in regularly for us midway through the second half and we broke it open," Monson said.

"I think the guys that battled the hardest and fought the hardest won," Monson said. "I'm really proud of my team. They hung in there and fought and did a lot of great things."

"I'm happy for my kids," he said. "They have some goals and they're working hard and improving."

Oregon took the lead for good at 60-57 on Brandon's three-point play with 15:12 left in the game. After Bruin forward Don MacLean hit two free throws, Oregon guard Kevin Mixon hit a rare four-point play to put the Ducks up 64-59 with 14:15 left.

Brandon hit Mixon near the top of the key, where he let fly with the three-point shot that hit nothing but net. Bruin guard Mitchell Butler ran into Mixon on the shot, giving him the free throw.

"That really got me going," Mixon said. "When he (Butler) hit me, I fell back, but I still had the rhythm and had confidence in the shot."

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Photo by Steve Card

UCLA guard Darrick Martin tangles with Oregon's Richard Lucas and Eric Dunn for a loose ball during the Ducks' 105-99 win Thursday night at Mac Court.

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