

There's some ridiculous things in the Pac-10

With only six games left in the Pacific-10 Conference basketball season, it seems like an appropriate time to take a look back at some of the most ridiculous things in the conference this season.

Here we go:

• The crybaby attitudes of Oregon State's Teo Alibegovic, UCLA's Don MacLean and Tracy Murray and California's Roy Fisher.

Alibegovic has got to be the worst whiner in the conference. In a recent feature on him in *The Oregonian*, it seemed like half the article was spent on Alibegovic complaining about teammates, officials and Oregon State students. With this kind of attitude is it any wonder that Alibegovic spent his first two years in Corvallis in and out of Ralph Miller and Jim Anderson's doghouses?

It's too bad to see Alibegovic still hasn't grown up. In a year that you would like to root for a young man that has suffered through so much personal tragedy and is playing so well, Alibegovic makes it impossible to do so.

Fisher, like Alibegovic, is a senior and should be more grown up than he is. Early in the season, when Coach Lou Campanelli was looking for a leader on his young team, he needed Fisher to stand up and be one. Instead, Fisher continues his hot-head act and is probably the most despised player in the league.

Then there is MacLean and Murray. Earlier in the season, I actually thought that maybe MacLean should be the conference MVP instead of Oregon's Terrell Brandon, largely because he was playing not only much better than before, but was acting more mature.



From the Sidelines
by
ASHLEY CONKLIN

That is until the Arizona game at Pauley Pavilion when MacLean cost the Bruins the game when he drew a technical foul for throwing the ball at Arizona's Brian Williams. A class act.

Maybe Murray's attitude is understandable since he is only a sophomore. After he hits one 25-foot jumper though, he keeps putting them up because he thinks he's Bob Cousy. Then, if Murray doesn't get the ball, he starts complaining to teammates. Maybe Murray should start using his 6-foot-8 frame to start posting people up if he wants the ball more.

• The actions of MacLean and Murray lead us to something even more ridiculous — UCLA's conference record.

The Bruins, despite being 18-7 overall and beating such non-conference foes as Virginia and Pittsburgh, are tied for fifth in the conference at 6-6.

Granted, the Pac-10 is much tougher this season, but with easily the most talented team in the conference, there is no reason UCLA should be tied for fifth.

• It's incredible how bad the officials are in the Pac-10 and the only place where you'll see worse refs is in the NBA. If Larry, Moe and Curly are the Three Stooges, I

don't know what you would call Booker Turner, Richie Ballesteros and Tom Harrington except for maybe the Three Boobs. But those three aren't the only culprits — they're all bad.

• Home attendance at Washington State's Friel Court.

The Cougars were in second place in the conference standings before getting swept by Oregon and Oregon State last week. Yet you wouldn't know it by the home attendance. Washington State is averaging only 3,877 fans per game. Consider how bad that figure would be if there hadn't been 10,365 on hand for the Jan. 26 game against Washington.

That's hard to believe. I mean really, what else is there to do in Pullman? Go to the Hard Rock Cafe? Go to Bloomingdale's? Go to the local amusement park?

• Players fouling Oregon guard Kevin Mixon and sending him to the free throw line.

After hitting both of his free throws against Washington, Mixon is 49 of 51 at the line this season, a .961 percentage. Mixon, however, doesn't lead the nation in free throw percentage because he needs 2.5 made attempts per game, or 55 made free throws, to qualify for the NCAA statistics.

Mixon is on track, with two made attempts per game, to break UCLA's Rod Foster's Pac-10 record of .950 set in 1982.

I can't understand why coaches or players would send Mixon to the line. It's an automatic two points.

Duck tennis team shuts out PSU

By Ashley Conklin
Emerald Sports Editor

The Oregon women's tennis team continued its dominance of Portland State last Friday, winning 9-0 despite leaving four of its top players behind.

The Ducks always have an easy time against the Vikings, so Coach Tom Greider used the match to get some of his other players match experience.

"We still win, and it's a strategy session where we can practice the things that will make us a better team, such as not staying back and coming to the net more," Greider said.

Freshman Katie Glynn, Oregon's top singles player, did make the trip to Portland, and beat Tomo Ichiyama 6-0, 6-0.

Sophomore Jackie DeFord stepped in at No. 2 singles and won 6-1, 6-1 over Jenn Cordon, while Cynthia Armstrong topped Shelley Smith 6-0, 6-0 at third singles. Armstrong also teamed with Glynn to win at No. 1 doubles, 6-2, 6-1.

Tracy Miller, Margaret Fraleigh and Melissa

Erion also won their matches in straight sets, and only Fraleigh, a 7-5, 6-0 winner, lost more than three games.

DeFord-Miller and Fraleigh-Erion also had easy wins at No. 2 and No. 3 doubles, respectively.

Oregon will be back in action the next two weeks with extended trips through California.

On Friday, the Ducks will face one of the nation's top three teams in UCLA, and will meet UC-Irvine and Cal-State Northridge the following days.

While Greider isn't expecting the Ducks to pull off an upset of the Bruins, he is looking at the road trip to give the Ducks — who have five freshmen and sophomores in their top six — some much-needed experience.

"Our No. 1 probably couldn't even make their top 10, but my feeling is, 'Why don't you come and play No. 1 for us than No. 10 for them,'" Greider said.

"We have all these freshman in 1991 and then we'll turn around and make this same trip in two years when they're juniors," he said.

UCLA ousts Ducks from Arizona Softball Classic

Oregon's softball team was eliminated from the Arizona Softball Classic in Tucson, Ariz., Sunday when the 18th-ranked Ducks fell 5-1 to top-ranked UCLA.

Oregon went 4-4 in the tournament, and despite losing to the Bruins in the quarterfinals, were the only team to get a run off UCLA pitching ace DeDe Weimann in the tournament.

The Ducks took a 1-0 lead in the bottom of the first inning when Kim Manning hit her third home run of the tournament. Manning's homer leaves her only one away from the season school-record after only eight games.

UCLA came back with four runs in the next two innings off Oregon pitcher Katie Wiese (1-4) to take a 4-1 lead. The capping blow was a three-run home run by Yvonne Gutierrez in the top of the third inning.

The Bruins, who later won the tournament with a 6-0 victory over No. 12 Arizona State, had six all-tournament selections, while Manning was Oregon's only all-tournament selection.

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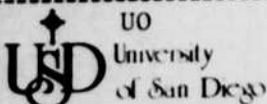
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