

Club hockey out-skated by Rams

By Doug Carter
Emerald Contributor



A fast start and a furious finish weren't enough for the Oregon club hockey team this weekend, who lost two games, 6-1 and 6-3, to perennial club hockey power Colorado State at Lane County Ice.

The Rams out-skated Oregon and controlled the puck in the Ducks' defensive zone for the majority of both games, getting almost three times as many shots on goal as the Ducks.

Down 5-0 entering the third period Sunday, things looked bleak for the Ducks, but nobody would have known by the way they played. Oregon finished strong, outscoring the Rams 3-1 in the final period.

The effort gives the Ducks something to build on during a two-month vacation.

"The way we came out and won the third period will make a huge difference when we play our league games in January," Oregon coach Mike Sobol said. "Colorado State has a terrific hockey team. Our performance showed me that we're on the verge of being a very good team."

Following ten minutes of scoreless hockey on Sunday, Colorado State scored two goals in a 34-second span and never let the Ducks get any closer. With three seconds remaining in the second period, center Darin Varzali set the tone for the Ducks' flurry by drawing a game misconduct for fighting.

"We were pretty flat in the second," Sobol said. "It was important for us to win the third, and we did so solidly."

The Ducks were much more aggressive as center Paul Paquin repeatedly made hard checks, including one that knocked a Colorado State player over the boards and onto the bench. Wing Mike McHugh scored a power-play goal, cutting the lead to four, but a break-away goal 27 seconds later by the Rams put the game out of reach.

Saturday night the Ducks found the net just 37 seconds into the game for their only lead of the weekend. Wing Mike Rousell's unassisted goal stood as the only score of the period. The Ducks walked with confidence to the locker room for intermission as nearly 1,000 fans cheered them on.

But second period penalties hurt the Ducks, and the Rams were finally able to beat goalie John O'Donnell, who made 16 saves in the first period and finished with 33 for the game.

Colorado State tied the game two-and-a-half minutes into the period and took the lead on a penalty shot with 7:22 left. The shot was awarded on a delay of game call when a Duck defender fell on the puck in front of the net.

Oregon lost its composure a little in the third and the Rams scored twice in 24 seconds. The first came during a two-man advantage, and the second on a power play. With 5:49 left in the game, center Richard Tucker drew a five-minute major for charging and a 10-minute misconduct for flattening a Colorado State player.

Ducks make too many mistakes to beat Bruins

By Jake Berg
Emerald Sports Editor

Saturday was as close as the Oregon football team is going to get to the Rose Bowl this year.

The Ducks got run over by the UCLA rushing attack Saturday afternoon at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, losing their sixth consecutive Pacific-10 Conference game, 16-7.

The Bruins ran up 236 yards of rushing, sending the Ducks to their seventh loss in their last eight games. Kevin Williams did almost all of the damage, accumulating 215 yards against a beat-up Oregon defense.

Oregon's webbed foot was battered and bloody after the Ducks shot themselves there three times, missing out on prime opportunities to score.

In the first quarter, the Ducks moved to a first-and-goal situation at the 5-yard line after Anthony Jones, who finished with game-highs of five receptions for 125 yards, caught Brett Salisbury's 37-yard strike, but Oregon failed to score.

The Ducks gained only three yards on the first three downs, and Gregg McCallum could

have tied the game with his 20-yard field goal attempt, but his kick went far left.

UCLA kicker Louis Perez gave the Bruins three more points and a 6-0 lead by the end of the first period.

The second quarter again saw the Duck offense backfire. Oregon drove all the way to the UCLA 21-yard line on a 17-yard Salisbury pass to Brian Brown, but the following play resulted in an interception when Salisbury threw up a wobbler that was picked off by the Bruins' Carlton Gray.

Equally as frustrating was the next almost-scoring drive for the Ducks late in the fourth quarter. After a bad snap allowed Oregon's Muhammad Oliver to tackle the UCLA punter and give the Ducks the ball at the Bruin 38, Salisbury passed Oregon to a first-and-goal at the 8.

Again, mistakes shot down the Ducks. Salisbury was sacked on the first play, a delay of game call moved Oregon farther back, and Salisbury's attempted pass to the end zone was picked off again by Gray, this time at the goal line.

Despite the mistakes, Salisbury provided a spark to the offense, hitting on 21 of his 46 passes for 285 yards. The one time the Ducks did punch the ball into the end zone came on a fourth-down, 1-yard rush by Donovan Moore. Moore's touchdown came after James Bautista recovered a Bruin fumble, only the third time this season the Ducks have picked up a fumble.

The Oregon score was set up by a Salisbury pass to Brown at the 2-yard line after Moore lateraled to Salisbury in the pocket.

UCLA's star quarterback Tommy Maddox, a third-team All-American last year, was unimpressive Saturday, passing for only 166 yards and two interceptions.

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The Ducks played a full-squad Mt. Hood two weeks ago, beating them 3-2. Oregon coach Mike King was quick to say his team was not playing a tough opponent, and thus the score was deceiving.

"(We were) doing a light workout today. It's hard to tell how well we're playing," King said. "Our competition is just giving us too much time."

Oregon finishes the season with a 8-2-3 record, not losing any of its final nine games. The Ducks now move indoor for the winter season, where they will host a tournament in December.

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