

Miner stops major Oregon upset

By Dave Charbonneau
Emerald Sports Reporter

An upset that is major comes only if you stop Miner.

That is the lesson the Oregon men's basketball team learned Thursday as USC guard Harold Miner scored 32 points and hit a clutch basket in the closing seconds, leading the 13th-ranked Trojans over the Ducks, 69-68 at McArthur Court.

Miner, who had been relatively quiet much of the second half, hit a tough, off-balance, one-handed jumper with 1:07 left that virtually sealed the victory for USC.

The shot gave the Trojans a 67-62 lead and left the Ducks in shock.

"When he made the shot, I thought, 'What do you have to do to stop this guy?'" Oregon freshman Jeff Potter said. "That kind of took the wind out of our sails."

But Oregon wouldn't say die.

Guard Antoine Stoudamire came right back and nailed a three-pointer to cut the Trojan lead down to two points with 51 seconds remaining.

USC ran the clock down to 17 seconds when Duck guard Orlando Williams fouled Rodney Chatman, leaving many fans wondering if that was what coach Don Monson wanted Williams to do.

"I wanted a foul," Monson said. "There was only a three-second difference between the game and shot clocks. If there would've been more time I wouldn't have had him foul."

Chatman calmly sank both free throws to make the score 69-65.

Forward Clyde Jordan hit a three-pointer with only a second remaining, but it was not enough.

Stoudamire scored 32 points in another remarkable performance for the Ducks. But while Stoudamire kept Oregon close, it was Potter who gave them a spark.

After a scoreless first half, Potter scored 10 points in the second half and played like a true power forward. His first hoop came five minutes into the second half as he went around the USC defenders for a tough bucket.

The hoop brought the Ducks within six at 48-42 and seemed to wake up the Oregon crowd.

Potter's next hoop cut the lead to four points, his next brought the Ducks within two and his fourth basket tied the game at 54.

"I felt I had to score," the 6-foot-9 freshman said.

The Ducks played a solid game for the second game in a row, but they will need more than just a solid performance when they face UCLA at 3:00 at Mac Court.



Oregon's Chuck Patterson (right) and Clyde Jordan block a shot by USC guard Dwayne Hackett. Photo by Jeff Passay

Ducks can't finish Huskies

The Oregon women's basketball team scored only two points in the final five minutes at Washington, losing to the Huskies, 69-66.

Oregon fell to 4-6 in the Pacific-10 Conference and 12-8 overall, and the Huskies improved to 6-4 and 14-6.

Washington trailed the Ducks 64-58 with five minutes remaining, but Vanessa Selden's jumper was Oregon's final basket, tying the game at 66.

The Huskies' winning score came after Washington guard Tara Davis fouled and sent to the free throw line by Oregon's Peggy Swadener with only four seconds remaining. Davis made her first shot, and the second free throw was rebounded by the Huskies for a score.

Staci Wallenborn scored a game-high 17 points on 7 of 11 shooting, and Selden nearly had a triple double, finishing with 12 points, nine rebounds and nine assists.

Rugby team heads for tough tournament

By Steve Mims
Emerald Contributor

An undermanned yet confident Oregon rugby team will face its toughest test of the season on Saturday, when it competes in the Collegiate Ruggers Fest in Portland.

This tournament, sponsored by the Oregon Sports Rugby Union, will host 16 teams, including league rivals Washington, Western Washington and Washington State. The following day an all-star team from Seattle will take on an all-star team comprised of other players from the Northwest, with as many as six Ducks participat-

ing. The Ducks fall season ended with a disappointing loss to Oregon State, but their spring season got off to a winning start with a 22-14 victory over Reed College last weekend.

This year's Duck squad is built around the forwards, where Dick Dunn, Bob Pierce and Ian Williams lead an experienced front line.

"The strength is our front row," assistant coach Clive Smith said. "We are building the team around the forwards."

The loss of seniors Jason Waterman, Richard Miller, Seth Neiderberger and others have left the team thin on the back

line, and not enough new players have joined the team to make up for this loss.

Pierce, who is from England and grew up playing rugby, believes that the low player turnout results from the lack of coverage of the sport in America.

The spring season will continue until the beginning of June, and any players interested in participating are encouraged to call Oregon Club Sports for information.

For those wishing to attend a rugby game, Oregon's next home match is February 29 against Western Washington at the South Bank field.

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