

# 'Cats go wild in 104-56 win

By Jayson Jacoby  
Emerald Sports Reporter

The third time definitely wasn't the charm for the Oregon men's basketball team Thursday night, as the Ducks saw their bid for a third straight McArthur Court upset of Arizona crushed by an overpowering Wildcat run in the first half.

Chris Mills led seven Arizona players in double figures with his 21 points, as the Wildcats rolled to a 104-56 Pacific-10 Conference win.

Only 5,769 fans were on hand to see Oregon (6-17 overall and 2-12 in the Pac-10) stay with the fifth-ranked Wildcats (21-4, 10-3) for about nine minutes.

When Johnnie Reece hit a three-pointer with 10:51 left in the first half, Oregon was only down 27-20.

At that point Oregon shifted into neutral, and Arizona found its high gear.

The Wildcats went on a 24-1 run over an eight-minute span and took a 58-24 halftime lead.

The Ducks went almost four minutes without a point, while Arizona was making just about everything it threw up.

Arizona shot a sizzling 25 of 33 (76 percent) in the first 20 minutes. That's 16 more field goals than the Ducks — who made just 9 of 30 shots (30 percent) — could total. It's not just hard to win — or even stay close — when you're outshot that bad, it's impossible.

Eight of Arizona's field goals were lay-ins, including four dunks.

The second half was a sloppy affair in which the only question was whether or not Arizona would score 100 points. The

Wildcats did, and only Eric van der Veen's three-pointer with two seconds remaining prevented Oregon's worse loss ever, which also came against Arizona in a 104-53 thrashing Jan. 30.

"Obviously it was kind of a repeat of the last time," Oregon coach Don Monson said. "We hung tough for a while. What was it, 27-20? We just seemed to stay at 20 forever."

It was actually just four minutes, but that was all the time

"Give 'em credit," Monson said. "We just had too many turnovers."

"We had some crucial turning points," said Oregon guard Orlando Williams, who led the Ducks with 18 points. "It was 20-27, then we had two turnovers and that was basically the game right there."



Photo by Jeff Paslay  
Oregon's Antoine Stoudamire was only one of many Duck players sent flying by Arizona in the Wildcats' 104-56 win Thursday night at Mac Court.

# Byrne among top five for Florida's new athletic director

By Dave Charbonneau  
Emerald Sports Reporter

Florida will announce who its new athletic director will be sometime next month, and Oregon athletic director Bill Byrne is one of the five finalists for the position to replace former director Bill Arnsperger, who left in January for the San Diego Chargers.

Byrne has already interviewed for the

job and now waits as the rest of the nominees complete interviews with Florida officials.

The interviews will conclude next Tuesday when the field will be narrowed down to three.

Byrne said the job at Florida is one of the top athletic director positions in the nation.

"There are 10 really super jobs," Byrne said, "and the Florida job is one of

them."

What Byrne said he liked about the job was a strong athletic program and a budget that more than doubles Oregon's. Florida's budget is right around \$26 million, and Oregon's is approximately \$12 million.

It's no secret that Florida is one of the strongest schools, athletically, in the country. Byrne pointed out that of the eight Southeast Conference titles so far

this school year, Florida has won seven.

"They have a plaque at Florida that says if Florida were its own country in the 1984 Summer Olympics," Byrne said, "they would have finished fifth in the medal standings."

However, it's also no secret Florida has not been a textbook case of how to

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