

# It's true! Ducks whip Huskies

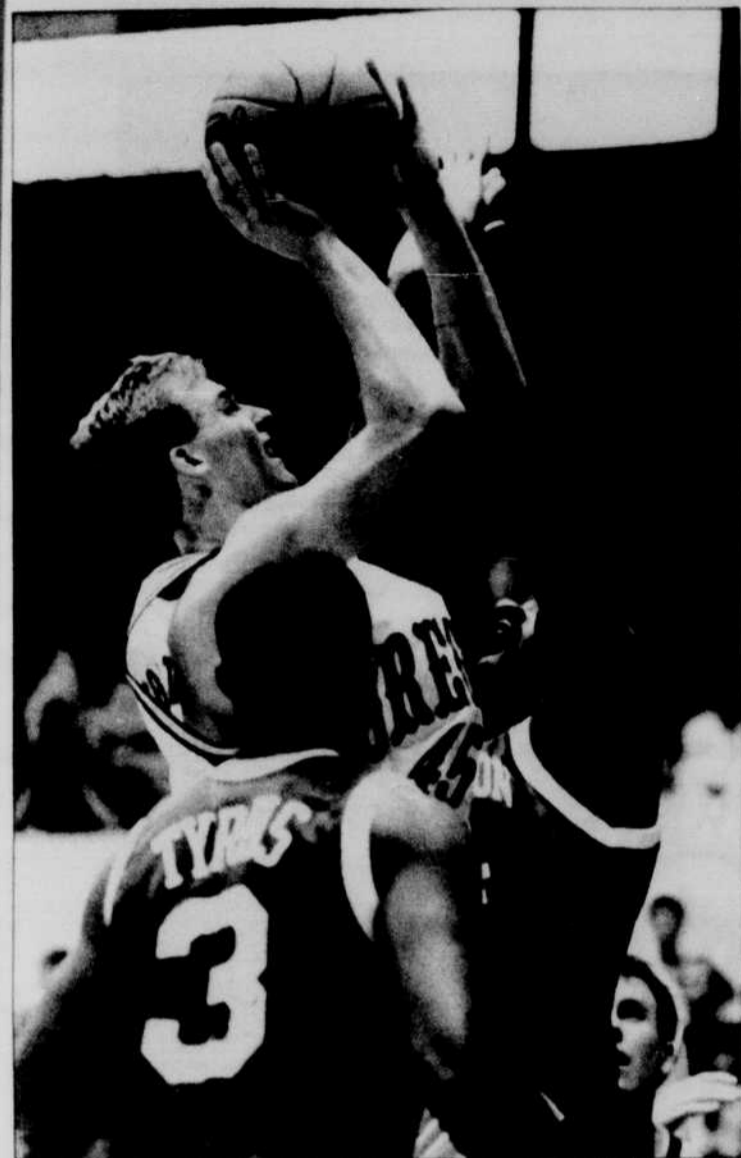


Photo by Jeff Passay

Oregon forward Aaron Johnson tallied 19 points, eight rebounds and five assists in the Ducks' 85-70 win over Washington Thursday.

By Dave Charbonneau  
Emerald Sports Editor

No one would have blamed Jerry Green if he had ditched his crutches and jumped through the McArthur Court roof Thursday night.

But after the Oregon men's basketball team won its first Pacific-10 Conference game of season 85-70 over Washington, the Ducks' head coach played it off as simply a step in the right direction.

"It is one game," he said, "and one game doesn't make a season. We'll celebrate this one til midnight, and then we'll look toward Washington State Saturday night."

Oregon (1-11, 8-16) hit 31 of 34 free throws, and forward Aaron Johnson scored a career-high 19 points as the Ducks ended a 20-game Pac-10 losing streak over two seasons.

"We don't want to blow it out of proportion, it's only a win," Johnson said, "but we worked really hard for this one."

Oregon led at halftime 35-28, and built the lead to 41-30 to start the second half. After Orlando Williams hit a three-pointer, the Ducks led 44-32. Moments later, Husky 6-foot-11, 250-pound center Rich Manning picked up his fourth foul, and it looked as if Oregon would have smooth sailing the rest of the way.

But Washington refused to let the Ducks put the game away. Oregon led by 10 with 13 min-

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# Fife misses game; could get boot

By Dave Charbonneau  
Emerald Sports Editor

Oregon center Bob Fife was nowhere to be found Thursday night in the Ducks' victory over Washington at McArthur Court, and head coach Jerry Green said he may not be returning to the team.

Fife, a 6-foot-11 senior,

returned to his parents' home in California after Oregon's game Sunday against UCLA because of depression, missing two practices and Thursday night's game. Fife did not notify Green or any of his teammates of his departure.

"I drove home after the UCLA game to talk to my parents," Fife said. "I was depressed because I wasn't pleased with the way I have been playing."

Green said after the game Thursday that Fife is no longer on the team.

"We have not seen him (since the UCLA game)," Green said. "Bob will not rejoin our team, and I think we should leave it at that."

Oregon forward Aaron Johnson said no players had heard

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