

Stars shine in California victory

By Steve Mims
Oregon Daily Emerald

California brought its two superstars into McArthur Court Saturday and they lived up to their billing, leading the Golden Bears to a 81-61 win over Oregon.

Cal forward Lamond Murray scorched the Ducks early, scoring 21 points in the first half, and guard Jason Kidd put them away late, spearheading a 20-4 run with a trio of three-pointers that finished the Ducks for good.

"They've got two future multimillionaires in uniform," Oregon head coach Jerry Green said afterwards. "If (Kidd and Murray) were here, I'd insure them with Lloyd's of London."

Murray, who made only seven of 26 shots Thursday night against Oregon State, got off to a quick start, hitting a three-pointer on the first possession of the game. He scored from almost everywhere in the opening half, hitting a pair of three-pointers, scoring down low on the baseline and throwing down a pair of ferocious dunks following pretty feeds from Kidd.

"I just concentrated on the first shot and knew right then I'd be OK," said Murray, who leads the Pacific-10 Conference in scoring.

Kidd was the man of attention Saturday and the main reason 8,975 people (Oregon's biggest crowd in three years) showed up. Kidd was scorned by the crowd before the game, but wowed them throughout with his no-look passes and perfect lobbs into the hands of teammates, who usually followed with powerful dunks.

Kidd finished the game with 17 points, 11 assists and seven rebounds but had a few scary

moments along the way. With 6:05 left to play and the game safely in California's hands, Kidd went down with an injured right ankle. He was in a lot of pain initially, but returned to the game three minutes later.

"It feels all right," Kidd said afterwards. "I went to plant my foot and I thought I broke it. It's just a bruise and I felt fine putting pressure on it."

As Kidd ran off the court at the end of the game, a fan ran to greet him with a handshake but Kidd hesitated, unsure of the fan's intentions. With all the recent publicity concerning athletes' safety, Kidd was shaken up.

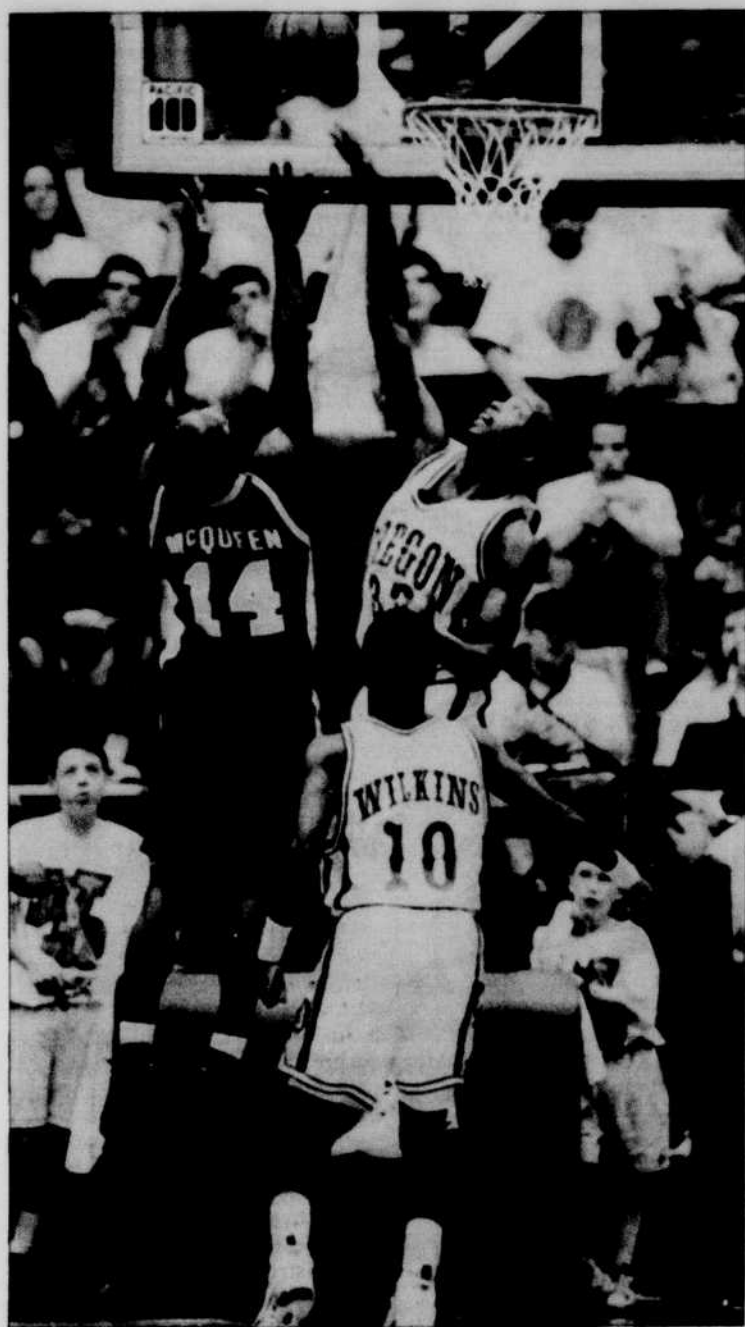
"I looked around for security," Kidd said. "(The fan) could have

easily gotten hurt as well. Somebody could have stepped up to stop him and hit him."

Kidd struggled with his shooting early in the game, going two for eight in the first half and missing all three of his three-point attempts. Yet, when Oregon rallied to get within 43-39 early in the second half, Kidd turned it up, hitting a trio of three-pointers as the Bears went on a 20-4 run to put the Ducks away.

Until Kidd decided it was time to get serious, Oregon looked like it had a chance for an upset despite shooting only 30 percent from the field in the first half. Cal quieted the big crowd early on as

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MORGAN SMITH for the Emerald

Darryl Parker contests a shot by California's Anwar McQueen in Cal's 81-61 victory over Oregon on Saturday at McArthur Court.

Women's hoops wins at Cal

By Scott Simonson
Oregon Daily Emerald

Missing its starting center Saturday against California, the Oregon women's basketball team looked for someone to supply extra scoring and rebounding — and found a host of volunteers.

Five Oregon players scored in double figures and the Ducks pounded Cal on the boards as Oregon defeated California 91-69 at Berkeley. Oregon center Sara Wilson missed the game with a sprained ankle, but Debbie Sporcich moved from power forward to center and had team highs of 20 points and 12 rebounds.

Oregon improved its record to 12-6 overall and 6-3 in the Pacific-10 Conference. The Ducks are tied with Stanford for third in the conference, one game behind Washington and three games behind USC.

Wilson, who was injured Thursday against Stanford, is listed as having a moderate ankle sprain. She is expected to be practicing by midweek and should play against Oregon State on Friday.

Cal, 7-12 and 1-8 in the Pac-10, was hardly poised to take advantage of Wilson's absence. Having lost starting center Ingrid Dixon to a knee injury earlier in the year, the Bears were without a

dominating presence inside.

Wilson is second among the Ducks in scoring and rebounding, but Oregon had no problem making up for her absence. Forward Cindy Murphy saw increased time in the front-line rotation and Murphy responded with 14 points and five rebounds in 23 minutes.

Forward Arianne Boyer made her first start of the season and had 10 points in a team-high 31 minutes. Forward Jessica Schutt and guard Karen Healea both scored 12.


Oregon didn't need much offense from point guard Missy Croshaw, third on the team in points per game, but Croshaw was everywhere but in the scoring column with nine assists, five rebounds and three steals to accompany seven points.

Oregon shot better than 58 percent for the game, while holding Cal below 37 percent from the field. The Ducks outrebounded the Golden Bears 42-24.

The Ducks shot .629 from the floor in the first half and had a comfortable 47-30 lead at halftime.

Oregon returns home for a Civil War matchup on Friday. The Ducks play Oregon State at 7 p.m. at McArthur Court. The Beavers are 4-5 in the conference and 12-6 overall.

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