

Duck basketball celebrating gets pretty whacky

What better way to get pumped up for a game than with a solid whack in the ear?

College athletes are a strange bunch, always coming up with new ways to celebrate. Michigan does the chest bumping thing that Dick Vitale just can't get enough of, and then of course there's the famous head-butt with helmets in football.

Now the Oregon men's basketball team has come up with its own form of celebration. It's called kicking the living crap out of each other.

To my knowledge, no other team in the country is so abusive to one another during and before games — that could explain the Ducks' 6-12 record.

Oregon freshman Henry Madden seems to be the one who has started this act of celebration. Madden stands at the end of the introduction tunnel and "roughs up" the Duck starters as they are introduced.

Headlocks, elbows to the stomach and noogies are part of

Knight looks into fan actions

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. (AP) — A kinder, more tolerant Bob Knight?

Maybe not toward the officials, but the Indiana coach may be rethinking his unbending attitude on perfect student decorum at home.

The Assembly Hall crowd, seemingly held in check by Knight's rigid and vocal demands for good behavior, is in marked contrast with the raucous reception, the Hoosiers usually receive on the road.

He's not suggesting Hoosier fans reciprocate with equally rowdy behavior, but Knight admits the dampened enthusiasm at home may be hurting the players.

"I don't think I'm being fair to my team," he said in the *Bloomington Herald-Times* last week after he was ejected with two technical fouls for arguing with officials in a game against Ohio State.

When Knight left the court and retreated to the locker room, the noise level of the crowd rose noticeably, along with a few chants directed at the Buckeyes and some waving behind the basket in an attempt to distract Ohio State foul shooters, all Knight no-nos.

The Indiana coach has often scolded home crowds for such behavior, even going so far as to take the courtside public address microphone to admonish the offending fans. A few daggered stares or even a sideline saunter to the source of his irritation usually are enough to quiet the crowd.

"As long as I'm here, I think that you're the host team, you support your team, you get behind your team, you show everybody that Indiana fans are the most supportive of their team," Knight said on his radio show.

the attack. But the one move that stands out is the whack to the head. The other players for the Ducks have no choice but to protect themselves by whacking Madden occasionally.

Thursday, during introductions of the Stanford game, 5-foot-9 point guard Kenya Wilkins was introduced, and Madden grabbed hold of him when he got to the end of the tunnel. Wilkins then whispered something to Madden and whacked the 6-foot-6 forward right square in the ear ... and pretty hard, too.

The things that will amuse when you're losing.

As brutal as it may sound, there are some people who would better deserve a little whack in the ear once in a while. We'll call these the



DAVE CHARBONNEAU

"Whackies" (or I guess we could call them the "Dave can't think of any other ideas for a column this week").

The Pacific-10 Conference referees — The Pac-10 refs have never been stellar, but this season is as bad as I've seen it in my four years here. I have yet to see a game in the conference this season where the officials haven't totally taken the game out of the players' hands.

It gets to the point where it seems as though the officials are just making a game-long series of makeup calls. They make a bad call at one end of the court and then an equally terrible call at the other end.

The thing is, I'm not complaining about the refs because I think they screw Oregon. That's not the problem. The people getting screwed are the fans who have to sit and watch teams go to the free-throw line for the final 10 minutes of each half because both teams are already in the bonus.

Guys with dumb signs — A bunch of people in the front row at the Cal game Saturday made up signs that ripped Jason Kidd for being ugly. You're cracking some new ground there. It's common knowledge around the

nation that Kidd is one ugly dude. You think he doesn't know his face is enough to knock a buzzard off a crap wagon?

The fact is, the guy schooled Oregon and everyone knew he would. I really don't think Kidd gives a damn who thinks he's cute or ugly — whoever's guarding him is the one who's going to look ugly by the end of the game.

Plus, no station broadcasting the game would even think about putting a sign like that on the tube, which is the point of making a sign anyway, isn't it? I realize what a big deal it would be to get your face on Raycom, but at least think of something intelligent.

Dave Charbonneau is a sports reporter for the Emerald.

UNIDIVERSITY

You are invited to attend a public forum to discuss Multicultural Education and the future of the Race, Gender and Non-European-American requirement.

**When?
Where?**

**Thursday, February 10 from 12-2pm
Walnut Room, EMU (Across from Post Office)**

Please bring ideas, comments, and criticisms.



Sponsored by the Assembly Committee on Multicultural Curriculum