

Ducks still looking for Pac-10 win

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL: Oregon looks to rebound from its loss to Washington State with a win against the Huskies

By Pete Schneider
Sports Reporter

The Oregon women's basketball team dropped its second Pacific-10 Conference basketball game of the season with a 72-59 loss to Washington State in Pullman Thursday night.

The Ducks trailed the Cougars by only three (25-22) at the end of the second half, but Washington State outscored Oregon 47-37 to cruise to a comfortable win. The Ducks shot only 38.3 percent from the field on the night, pushing their overall record to 8-4 and making their Pac-10 record 0-2. The Cougars improved to 10-3, 2-1 in conference play.

Junior Arianne Boyer turned in a double-double, scoring 21 points and grabbing 10 boards to lead the way for Oregon. Senior center Renae Fegent missed a double-double of her own by one rebound as she complimented Boyer with 16 points and nine rebounds. It was three-point shooting that killed the Ducks' comeback chances down the stretch as the team shot only nine percent (1-11) from beyond the arc.

Washington State had three players in double figures, with senior Jenni Ruff leading all scorers with 27 points. Yvonne Kunze was solid for the Cougars, pouring in 17 points with 11 rebounds.

The Ducks will try to rebound from the loss tomorrow as they travel across the state of Washington to battle the Huskies in Seattle. Washington is coming off a loss of their own, 69-66, to Oregon State on Thursday night.

The young season has been a roller coaster of sorts for Washington. After dropping the first four games of their schedule — including three losses to teams ranked in the top 15 — the Huskies rebounded to win their next five contests, including a sweep of the Los Angeles schools to open their league schedule. The Beavers put the brakes on Washington's winning streak Thursday, to push the Huskies' record to 8-6, 2-1 in the Pac-10.

Last season, Oregon renewed its rivalry with the Huskies, blowing out Washington at home, 83-61, and losing a closely contested rematch, 85-78, in Seattle. The win was the 20th for Washington, marking its first 20-win season, en route to a NCAA tournament bid.

"I think it's a heated rivalry because we've had players from up there and a lot of Oregon players go to play in the state of Washington," Runge said. "It's also become a heated battle because Washington has never really had to contend with Oregon in the past few years. Now we are competing for the same things."

This year's Husky squad is more youthful than the one that won 20 games last year, as Washington lost four starters from last year's team.

After experimenting with six different starting lineups in the first 13 games, Husky head coach Chris Gobrecht ironed out a three-guard offense, with junior Laure Savasta, freshman Jamie Redd and senior Shannon Kelly playing at the same time during the team's five game winning streak.

Redd leads Washington in scoring with 14.4 points per game after averaging more than 17 in Huskies' first seven contests. After tallying 22 and 15

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL



Saturday, Jan. 13, 7 p.m.
at Hec Ed Pavilion

Probable starters

OREGON

Pos.	Num.	Name	Ppg.
F	#32	Betty Ann Boeving	9.4
F	#42	Arianne Boyer	18.2
C	#43	Renae Fegent	13.1
G	#11	Lisa Bowyer	7.4
G	#21	Cindie Edamura	5.2

WASHINGTON

Pos.	Num.	Name	Ppg.
G	#5	Laure Savasta	12.8
G	#11	Jamie Redd	14.4
G	#32	Shannon Kelly	7.6
F	#34	Malinda Lynch	7.9
C	#22	Gena Pelz	9.1

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points last week against UCLA and USC, the 5-9 shooter is on pace to break the Washington freshman scoring record.

Although the Huskies have been running the three-guard for a good portion of the season, the team has still managed to lead the Pac-10 in rebounding, with a 9.8 rebounding advantage so far. Freshman forward Malinda Lynch tops the squad, crashing the boards for 6.3 rebounds per game.

Runge knows that Seattle is not the friendliest spot for visiting teams and the Ducks need to be on their toes before coming home to play California and No. 7 Stanford next week.

"The last two years, they've played us really tough up there," she said. "So were certainly not looking past them."

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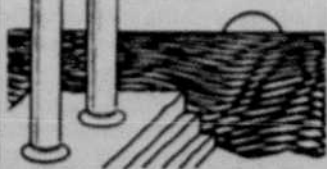
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