

Bad week means bad night for Ducks

Ooh Boy...er!!! Those were the words that came to mind as one Arienne Boyer shot after another went up and then came down — somewhere besides the bottom of the net.

The Oregon women's basketball team's leading scorer

OPINION



Mark McTyre

did not look like herself — a player that had been averaging 18 points and eight rebounds per game prior to Thursday

night's contest against fifth-ranked Stanford.

The junior, who was allowed to return to the team by head coach Jody Runge on Wednesday after a suspension, took to the floor for the Ducks with 1:31 gone by.

As I watched I thought to myself, "Finally, maybe the Ducks will get back to winning. Maybe this is the spark the team needed. Maybe the 'difference of opinion' between Boyer and Runge would be a kick in the pants for the whole team, and not just something that kept the fans and the media in the dark all week."

Boyer backed my thoughts even further when she registered a steal and then a jumper shortly after entering the game. As a whole, the Ducks had me thinking upset as they hung tough on defense and were only down by five points, 25-20, going into the second half.

That was shattered shortly after, however.

After hitting 2-of-4 field goals in the opening half, Boyer was only able to hit 1-of-8 attempts in the final 20 minutes. As a team, the Ducks shot a lowly 8-of-29 during the second half.

So my hopes of Oregon pulling off the biggest triumph during the Runge era were gone.

Who do I point the finger at?

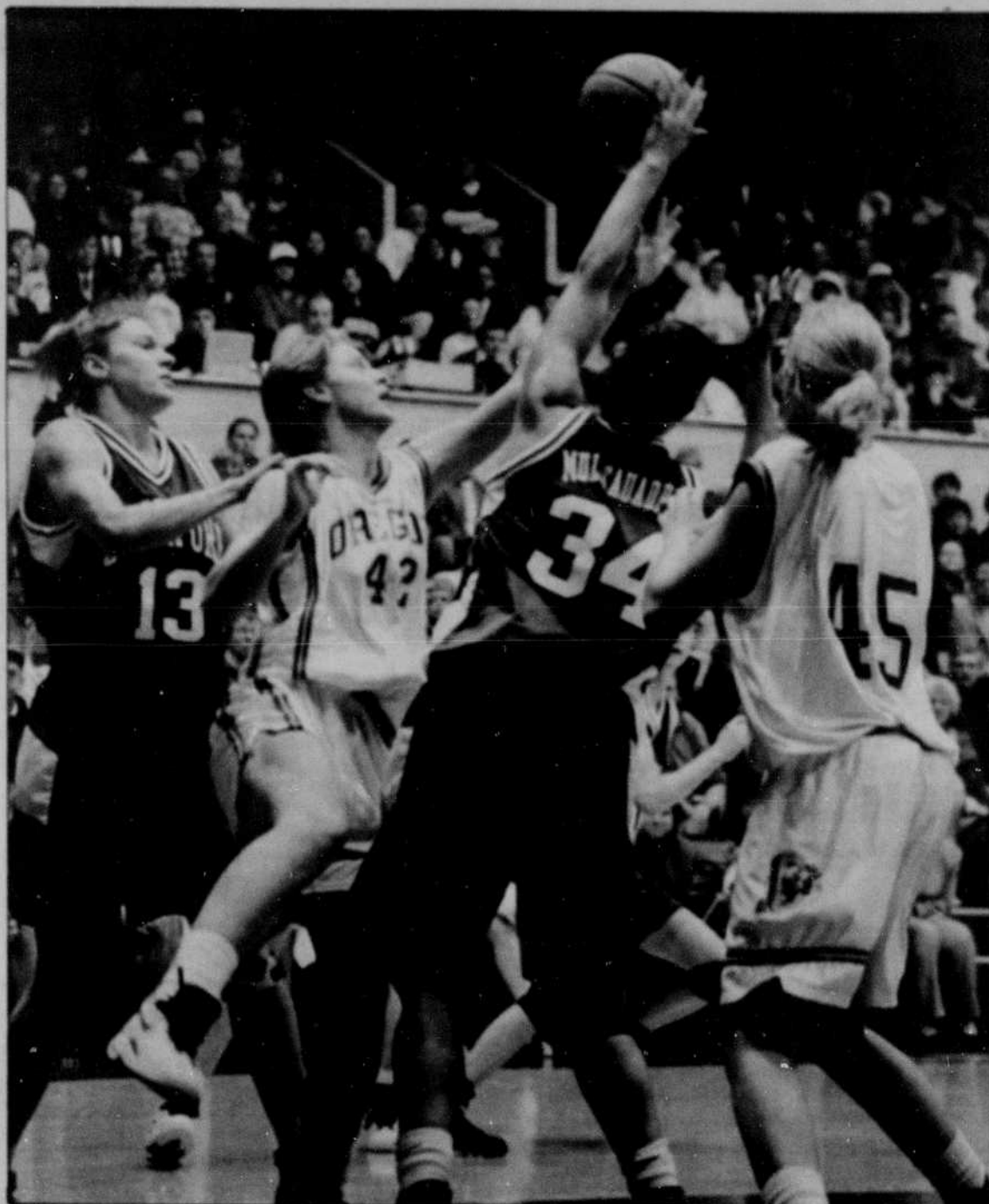
Runge all the way.

You can't expect your team to be focused, for what was its most important game of the season, with rumors about your top player leaving the team flying around the newspapers and television and radio stations all week. No matter how much your players tell you 'we're focused,' it's not possible.

Furthermore, even if in

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Strong Stanford squad stops Ducks cold



Oregon's leading scorer and rebounder Arianne Boyer returned to action Thursday night, following a one-game suspension. The Ducks were downed by the Stanford Cardinal 61-42 at McArthur Court.

■ WOMEN'S BASKETBALL:

The Ducks shot only 8-of-29 in the second half and dropped to 0-4 in the Pacific-10 Conference

By **Pete Schneider**
Sports Reporter

When Oregon point guard Cindie Edamura headed to the bench with a black eye with nine minutes to go in the Ducks' 61-42 loss to fifth-ranked Stanford Thursday night, it was pretty indicative of how the night went for Oregon.

The Cardinal laid an old-fashioned whipping on the Ducks last night, pushing its record to 12-2 overall, 5-0 in the Pacific-10 Conference and keeping Oregon in the Pac-10 cellar at 8-6, 0-4. The Ducks shot a meager 8-of-29 in the second half and looked over-matched after the break.

"We ran into a lot of problems scoring in the second half," Oregon head coach Jody Runge said. "We kept them from scoring in the first half, but they came out and made a run to start the second and we just couldn't find a way to put the ball in the basket on the other end while they were doing that."

Oregon came out at the beginning of the second half down 25-20 and proceeded to miss its first seven field goal attempts. While the Ducks were unable to put the ball near the rim, Stanford, lead by preseason All-American Kate Starbird, went on a seven-point run to push the score to 32-21 with 15:30 left. The Cardinal never looked back, outscoring Oregon 36-22 in the closing half.

The loss was particularly frustrating for junior forward Arienne Boyer, who returned to the Ducks after a one-game suspension.

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Stanford rolls over Oregon

■ **LOSS:** The 94-74 loss to Stanford is the Ducks second defeat in as many games

STANFORD, Calif. (AP) — After a 94-74 loss to Stanford on Thursday night, the Oregon men's basketball team will try to salvage its Bay Area trip with a nationally televised game against California at the Harmon Arena in Berkeley, Calif., on Saturday.

Brevin Knight won the battle of the point guards by scoring 30 points, including 24 in the second half, as Stanford remained undefeated at

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Ducks dive into Pac-10 competition

■ **WRESTLING:** A young Oregon team hosts Cal Poly San Luis Obispo before meeting Oregon State in Corvallis

By **Trevor Kearney**
Sports Editor

A quick glance at the Oregon wrestling team's starting lineup for its dual meet against Cal Poly San Luis Obispo on Saturday may give the wrong impression.

With only two seniors and two juniors in the regular lineup, one might get the impression that head coach Ron Finley and his staff are in the process of building tomorrow's team.

Not so, however, with this squad.

The young Ducks are very much living in the present, boasting a 2-1 dual meet record and a win over 17th-ranked Oregon State at the Oregon Classic in December. The Ducks also captured second place at the Great Plains Invitational earlier this month, placing behind host Nebraska.

The Ducks are coming off two wins over Division II opponents last weekend going into Saturday's meet against Cal Poly. They travel to Corvallis on Sunday to battle the Beavers in one of their toughest dual meets of the season.

"We've been warming up for this weekend for quite a while," Finley said. "We are going to have to step up a notch from last week and perform to the best of our ability this week. We are going to be tested."

Oregon boasts three nationally ranked wrestlers

in Kevin Roberts, Jeremy Ensrud and Scott Norton, a trio that has combined for a 53-3 record.

Roberts, a 118-pound senior, is undefeated this year and is ranked third in the nation in his weight class, while Ensrud, a sophomore who was moved from the 126-pound weight class to the 134-pound weight class in the off-season, has four wins by fall this year. Norton, who won the 150-pound Pacific-10 Conference title last season as a sophomore, has a 19-1 record and is currently ranked fourth in the nation.

But what has been a pleasant surprise to Finley and his staff is the unexpected success of some of the other wrestlers on the team.

"We are still a little bit young in the upper weights," Finley said. "They are all making some great gains. They have all shown some promise at times. Their youth shows, because they are not all steady performers all the time, but yet they are really stepping up to the plate."

Sophomores Royce Repenn and John Taylor and junior Rob Tanner fit right into that category.

Repenn, who was 8-14 as a true freshman last year, is 10-6 this year in the 177-pound weight class and earned third place at the Great Plains Invitational by winning six straight matches. Taylor has picked up the slack in the 126-pound weight class — a spot that Ensrud occupied last year — by going 13-6 in his first year of considerable college wrestling time.

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