

Men's basketball: Ducks host UA next

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the game with one more point on the scoreboard.

With 45 seconds to go, the Ducks were ahead 71-70. The Sun Devils scored two on a jump shot by senior guard Ron Riley, but Oregon countered with a drive through the key by junior guard Kenya Wilkins who laid in the ball for an easy basket.

With only nine seconds to go, the game seemed to be in the hands of the Ducks. But after an Arizona State timeout, the Sun Devils threw up a shot that looked to be an air ball, but was caught and put through the hoop by junior forward Rodger Farrington for the lead at 74-73.

Oregon still had three ticks of the clock to play with. Oh is second attempt to inbound the ball. Ramaker launched the ball toward the Ducks' end of the court, where it was tipped out of bounds by a Sun Devil and possession was given to Oregon with one second left.

Standing under the Oregon basket, Curry inbounded the ball directly to junior forward Kyle Milling, who caught it and immediately tried to lay it in the hoop. But the ball wouldn't go through and the buzzer sounded as the Ducks lost the game.

After the game, Milling, who recorded his fifth double-double of the season with 14 points and 10 rebounds, was upset about the final shot.

"The shot at the end, I should have made it," Milling said. "It was there, but I just missed it. We should have won that one."

Once again, turnovers and missed free throws hurt Oregon throughout the game. The team committed 23 turnovers and was only 15-28 from the line.

Head coach Jerry Green said that was a reason for the loss.

"A couple of things just stick out so strongly: the lackadaisical turnovers, the free-throw shooting," Green said. "We had several chances to win it down the line, but we just didn't do it."

"I feel for our kids because I thought that they played hard enough to win, but they just didn't play good enough to win."

The Ducks will have another try against a team from the land of the sun when the Arizona Wildcats come into Mac Court on Saturday night.

Arizona's starters all average more than nine points per game. Senior center Ben Davis averages 8.9 rebounds per game and was named Pac-10 Player of the Week last week after tallying back-to-

MEN'S BASKETBALL



Saturday
McArthur Court 7:05 p.m.

Probable starters

OREGON

Pos.	Num.	Name	Ppg.
F	#11	Kyle Milling	14.1
F	#23	Jamar Curry	9.4
C	#33	Rob Ramaker	5.1
G	#10	Kenya Wilkins	14.6
G	#15	Jamal Lawrence	12.2

ARIZONA

Pos.	Num.	Name	Ppg.
F	#23	Michael Dickerson	12.0
F	#33	Corey Williams	9.8
C	#04	Ben Davis	13.8
G	#34	Miles Simon	14.4
G	#44	Reggie Geary	9.8

EMERALD

back double-doubles in games against USC and UCLA.

The Wildcats, ranked No. 13 in the country by the Associated Press, are 14-3 overall and 4-2 in the Pac-10, and beat the defending NCAA champion Bruins back on Jan. 20.

Kearney: United Airlines helps ASU win

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have worked together."

Earlier in the week Frieder admitted that his team just plain wasn't very good.

"We are not a very good team," he said. "Our talent level, for whatever reason, is just near the bottom of the league."

And in the first half of Thursday night's game, the Sun Devils showed it. Arizona State coughed the ball up 14 times and shot a paltry .367 from the field. They took ugly shot after ugly shot and played ugly defense possession after possession.

They were lucky to be down by only six points at halftime.

For the game, Arizona State boasted 20 turnovers and a field goal percentage just over 40 percent, but somehow they still managed an ugly win, thanks in

part to 23 Oregon turnovers.

The flight carrying the Sun Devils was delayed five hours coming into Eugene this year. Frieder then checked into the very same hotel he had his belongings stolen from last year — but this time he shackled up on the third floor.

"I thank United Airlines for the five hour delay. It gave the thief less time to get me," Frieder joked. But really, it gave his confused team time to think and bond as a team.

"We had five hours in the airport in delays," Frieder said. "We just went, picked a spot — a quiet area — sat in a circle on the floor and met as a team."

"You can't help it if shots don't go down, but you can do other things. It's only one victory, but an important one for us."

And after the year the Sun Devils have had, they needed this win just to keep their sanity.

"We needed this one," Frieder said. "If they had lost this one I don't know if we could have kept them playing."

Last year, the Sun Devils didn't need the Ducks to turn the ball over 23 times — they beat Oregon using sheer talent.

But the Sun Devils' 20 turnover win this year is sort of like highway robbery.

"It is kind of fitting the way we won this game," Frieder said. "I got robbed last year, and the way we won this game was kind of fitting."

Trevor Kearney, a junior majoring in journalism, is the sports editor for the Emerald.

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