

SCOREBOARD

MEN'S BASKETBALL		1	2	FINAL
Oregon		37	34	71
UCLA		33	44	77
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL		1	2	FINAL
Oregon		31	36	67
UCLA		23	30	53



OUTSTANDING

UCLA's Kris Johnson converted on 8-of-8 free throws down the stretch to help the Bruins win.

HIGH SCORERS

O'Bannon (UCLA)	17
Bailey (UCLA)	16
Lawrence (UO)	15
Wilkins (UO)	14
Johnson (UCLA)	14
Milling (UO)	12

STATS

FIELD GOAL PERCENTAGE	
Oregon	46
UCLA	51
FREE THROW PERCENTAGE	
Oregon	80
UCLA	76



UP NEXT

Oregon takes on Oregon State

SPORTS

Sideline

TODAY IN SPORTS

Two Ducks advance to conference finals

Scott Norton and Kevin Roberts advanced to Sunday's finals of their respective weight classes with victories during the first round of the Pacific-10 Conference wrestling championships Saturday afternoon. By advancing to the finals, Roberts (118-pound weight class) and Norton (150-pounds), assured themselves spots on the NCAA Championship roster.

Elbow to head sends Gretzky to the ice

EDMONTON, Alberta (AP) — Wayne Gretzky, playing in just his second game with the St. Louis Blues, was elbowed in the head Sunday and left the ice clinging to the shoulders of his new teammates. St. Louis trainers said hockey's scoring king had a severe headache and would not return to the game. Doctors were trying to determine the seriousness of the injury.



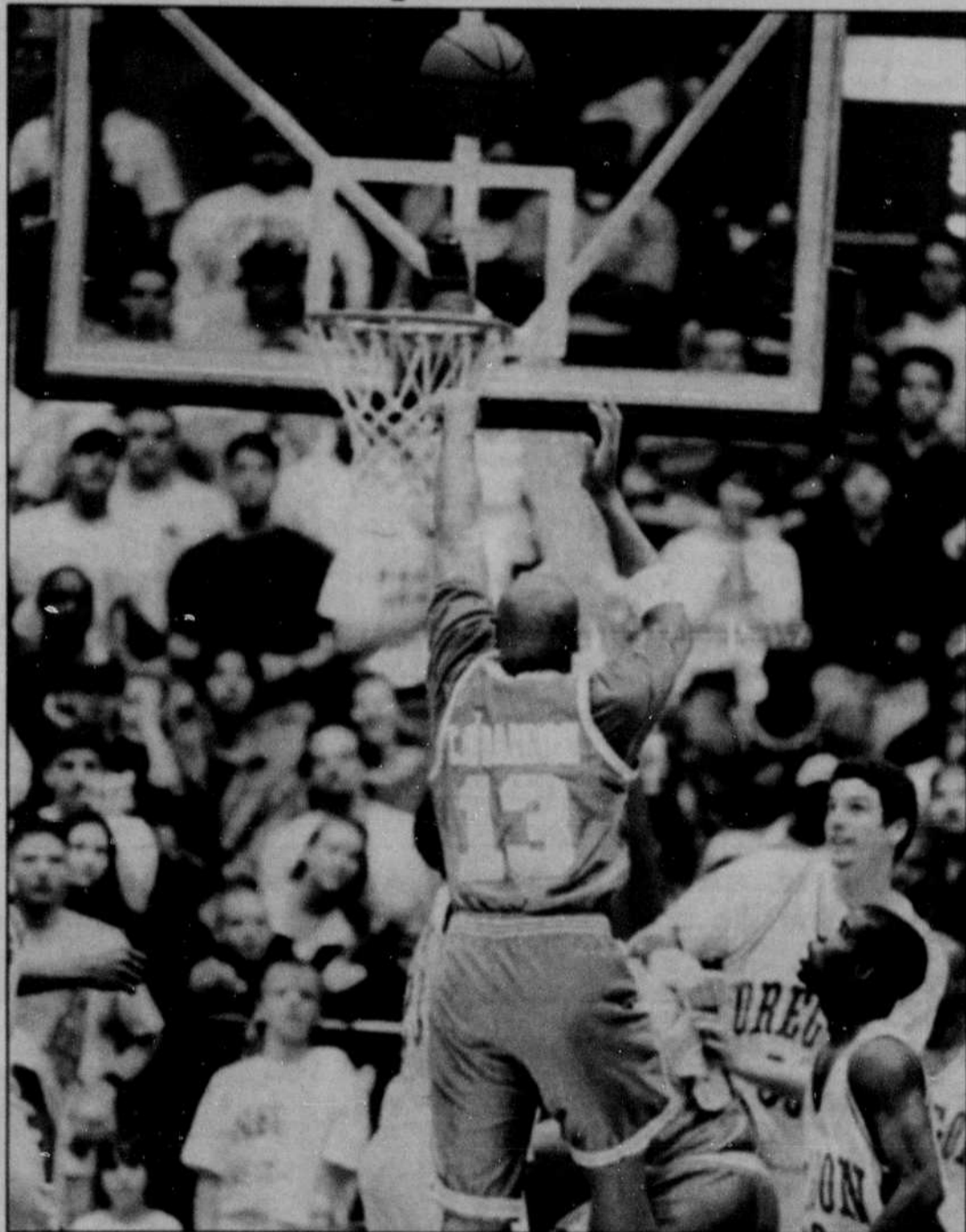
ON THE TUBE

MARCH 4

- 7:30 p.m. ESPN NCAA Basketball, Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference championship, at Albany, N.Y.
- 5 p.m. PRIME Women's NCAA Basketball, Big Eight Conference championship, at Salinas, Kan.
- 6:30 p.m. ESPN NCAA Basketball, Missouri Valley Conference championship, at St. Louis
- 8 p.m. PRIME Boxing, card TBA, at Inglewood, Calif.
- 9 p.m. ESPN NCAA Basketball, West Coast Conference championship, at Santa Clara, Calif.

EMERALD

Bruins escape Mac Court with 77-71 win



Junior forward Charles O'Bannon hit three three-pointers in the second half of the game and scored a game-high 17 points in the Bruins' 77-71 win on Saturday.

■ **MEN'S BASKETBALL:** The Ducks hand the Bruins their first win in Eugene since 1993

By Andrea De Young
Assistant Sports Editor

A sign in the crowd at McArthur Court read "Another Bruin Collapse," and for the first 30 minutes of the game, it looked like it would be true. But the Oregon men's basketball team couldn't hold on and lost to UCLA 77-71.

For the past two seasons, the Bruins have come into Eugene and lost to the Ducks. Oregon looked to continue this streak on Saturday, but UCLA was in need of a win to capture at least a tie for the 1996 Pacific-10 Conference title.

INSIDE

The Bruins scored first and took a quick 5-0 lead. The Ducks stayed close to UCLA, but didn't take the lead until about seven minutes to go in the half.

■ Saturday's victory at McArthur Court gave UCLA a much needed lift/12

Oregon went on a 15-point run, holding the Bruins scoreless for more than four minutes. The Ducks were up by as many as nine points, but saw their lead diminish right before the half as UCLA went on a 11-2 run and came within four points when the buzzer sounded.

Oregon came out of the locker room and scored a quick nine points before the Bruins could manage a basket. The Ducks were up by as many as 14 points midway through the second half, and it looked like they had a good chance of beating the Bruins at home a third-straight time.

But UCLA wasn't about to go down without a fight. Oregon saw its lead dwindle down to single digits thanks to a couple of three-point shots from Charles O'Bannon and two lay-ins by Toby Bailey. While the Ducks could only manage 10 points in the last nine minutes of the game, the Bruins thundered back to score 26 points. UCLA's

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Strong UCLA shooting downs defenseless Ducks

■ **WOMEN'S BASKETBALL:** The Ducks end road trip with a split and now face the Civil War on Friday

By Pete Schneider
Sports Reporter

The Oregon women's basketball team took a step backwards Saturday in its quest to return to the NCAA Championship Tournament with a 83-64 loss at UCLA.

Going into the two-game road swing through Southern California, the Ducks (17-10 overall, 9-8 Pacific-10 Conference) were hoping for at least a split with USC and UCLA to keep post-season hopes alive. On paper, it

looked as if a win against the Bruins and a loss against the Trojans was likely, but it turned out to be the other way around.

A bid to the NCAA tournament will most likely hinge on the Civil War match up with 14th-ranked Oregon State at McArthur Court on Friday. Although the Beavers were swept by USC and UCLA this past weekend, an Oregon win over its intrastate

rival will surely impress the tournament selection committee. After cruising to an easy 67-53 victory at USC on Thursday night, Oregon was shocked by a hot-shooting UCLA team that ended up hitting 57 percent of its shots during the contest. The Ducks' Pac-10 leading defense deserted them as the Bruins (13-12 overall, 8-8 Pac-10) rolled up 83 points, the most by an Oregon opponent since Washington scored 82 in mid-January.

The Ducks came into the game leading the league in scoring defense, allowing teams to only score a little better than 58 points per game. UCLA's 83 points was more than 25 points

higher than the season average. The Bruins were also only the second team to shoot better than 50 percent against the Ducks, who had been limiting opponents to around 37 percent.

UCLA cranked up their own version of pressure defense as the Bruins tallied 20 steals on the game. The 20 steals accounted for all but two of Oregon's turnovers. Four UCLA players scored in double figures to lead the Bruins on the wire-to-wire win. Senior center Kisa Hughes led the group with a game-high 19 points, while junior Nicky Hilbert, senior Zrinka Kristich

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HUGHES