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An Evening in Beckett's Shorts

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January 17,
18, 23, 24, 25,
31, and
February 1
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Benefit
matinee
White Bird
Clinic
Sunday,
January 26th
2:00 p.m.

"If there is one play you must see this year it is AN
EVENING IN BECKETT'S SHORTS"
Eugene Critic-at-Large, *Guardian*, 4/8/97, p. 33
"Beckett's Shorts surprises, pleases... a full and
satisfying evening..."
Dorothy Velasco
Eugene Register-Guard
Theatre Production

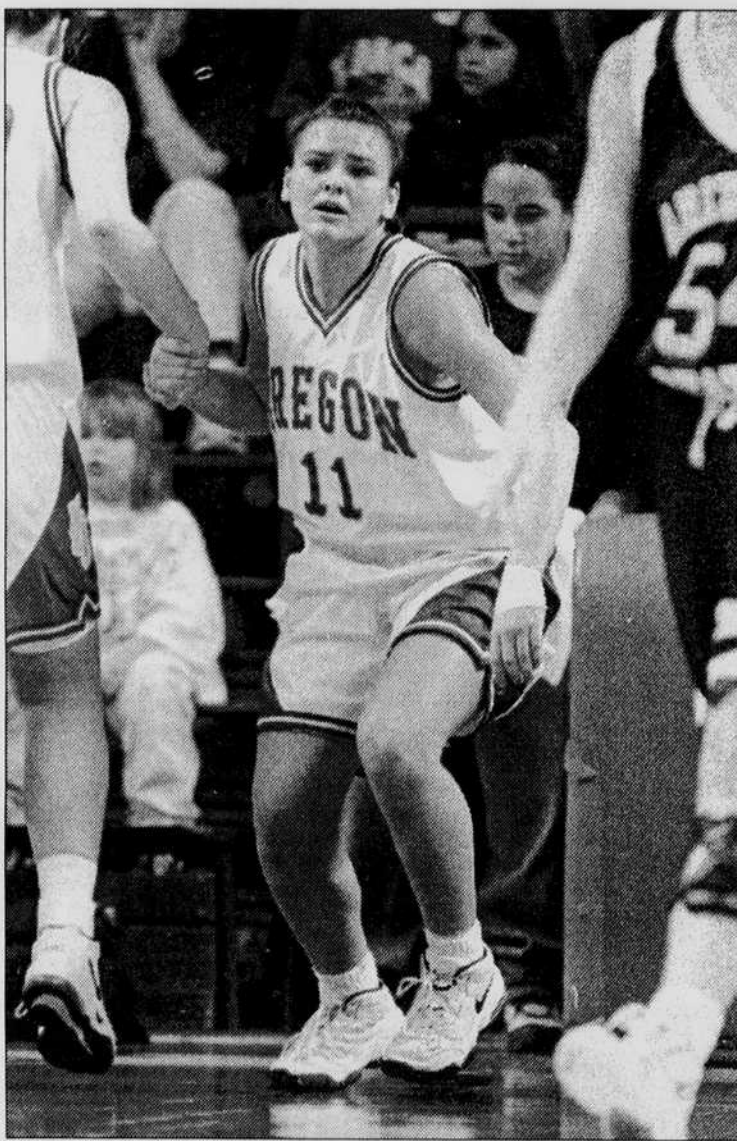
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Oregon guard Lisa Bowyer had nine points, nine rebounds and six assists in the Ducks' win on Thursday night.

Women: Second-half change was key to victory

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We're trying to get her ready to handle [not starting] on occasion. It's a hard decision, but I think she handled it well."

Boyer handled the change to the tune of 14 points, eight rebounds and three blocked shots for the game. The senior's play in the second half was part of a team-wide effort to overcome a rough beginning.

In the first half, the Ducks looked to starters Renae Fegent and Mowe for the bulk of the offensive output. The forward and center combined for 19 of Oregon's 31 points in the half, allowing the Ducks to keep pace with the Sun Devils, who used the scoring of nine players to accumulate their 28 points.

After the game, Fegent felt her team didn't lead by more early on because Arizona State took Oregon out of its game plan with a pressure defense.

"In the first half, we found it very hard to run an offense because they kept forcing us out of it," Fegent said. "In the second half, I think we handled [the pressure] a lot better and I think we picked up the intensity a little bit too."

According to Runge, her players countered the Sun Devils' pressure, which she thought resembled the Washington Huskies'

style of play, by going to an offense in the second half that they had not prepared to run.

"Some how I thought we had gotten away from that kind of defense, but I guess it's back," Runge said. "We had not prepared for running the offense that we ran in the second half, so I think our kids did a really good job with adjusting to just writing up a new offense and running it."

The change of offense allowed the Ducks to improve their shooting percentage from 43.5 in the first half to 59.3 in the second. Oregon recorded 43 points in the final 20 minutes.

With game tied at 44, and 11 minutes, 46 seconds remaining, the Ducks went on a 13-2 scoring run that put them ahead to stay. Free throws by Lisa Bowyer and Boyer assured the Oregon win.

"Oregon is a very good team and we knew we had to play a very good game to beat them," Arizona State head coach Charli Turner Thorne said. "We played a descent game and that's not good enough to beat Oregon on their home court. They know how to win and they know when to crank it up, which they did."

In the win, Oregon had four players with 14 or more points. Boyer (14), Fegent (14), Mowe (15) and Hughes (15) combined for 58 of the Ducks' 74 points.

Guard: ASU's pressure defense allowed Hughes to score

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make some things happen offensively."

Hughes said she decided to take the game into her own hands after the Ducks fell behind in the second half.

"I thought I better try and do something. We weren't really scoring so I had to look to score," she said. "I was looking for assists, but they weren't there."

The Sun Devils' pressure defense, which forced them into 31 team fouls and the Ducks into 25 turnovers, took away Hughes' opportunities to pass, but also created opportunities to score.

"They were denying [the ball] and they were right up on us. It was hard to even look for a pass," Hughes said. "But their defense helped me score because they were up on us. If we set a screen, I could go right to the basket."

While Hughes finished with a season-high

15 points on 6-of-11 shooting from the field and three assists against Arizona State, she was not limiting herself to one side of the floor. The offensive-minded guard recorded a season-high five steals to go along with her offensive numbers, which pleased Runge.

"I think Natalie's defense really is improving," Runge said. "She got real tired in the game tonight, but that's just not having played a lot of games, a lot of minutes."

Against Arizona State, the Ducks often used a three-guard line-up of Cindie Edamura at point and Lisa Bowyer and Hughes at off guard. Having Edamura and Hughes, both natural point guards, on the floor at the same time is something that Runge likes.

"Eddie and Natalie are a good complement because Eddie plays very well defensively, and Natalie is much more creative offensively," Runge said.

“

I thought I better try and do something. We weren't really scoring so I had to look to score.

— Natalie Hughes

”

"If we could put them both together we would have a pretty great point guard."

Runge liked the three-guard line-up so much that she said that is what Arizona will see to start the game on Saturday, which is fine with Hughes.

"I like playing the two [guard] because then I don't have to worry about running the team," Hughes said. "You can look to do what you can on the wing and score. And you can be in the post instead of wearing yourself out running the ball up the court."

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