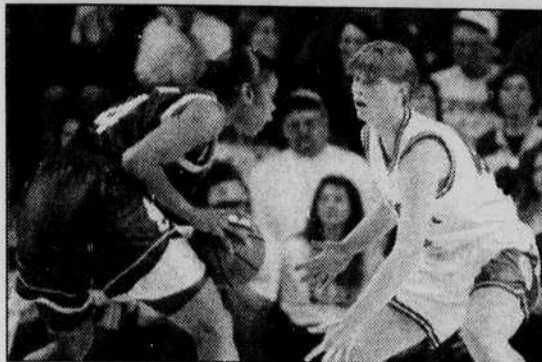




ON THE TUBE
Men's College Basketball
Oregon vs. UCLA,
ABC (10), 2 p.m.

SPORTS

Oregon Daily
Emerald



MATHEW STIFFLER/Emerald

Oregon forward Arianne Boyer forced USC's Tina Thompson into 0-of-8 shooting in the first half.

UO women dominate Trojans, 70-53

■ **WOMEN'S BASKETBALL:** The Ducks shut down the Pac-10's leading scorer to take second place

By Mark McTyre
Sports Editor

The bigger they are, the harder they fall.

The Oregon women's basketball team avenged an earlier loss to Southern California with a 70-53 rout Thursday night

at McArthur Court in front of 4,247 fans.

The Trojans, who were No. 14 in the USA Today Ratings Power Index, dropped from second place in the Pacific-10 Conference, while the Ducks moved into that spot. Entering the game, Oregon was ranked No. 25 in the index.

"I think we came ready to go, and I don't think there was any doubt who was going to win this game from the opening tip," Oregon's Arianne Boyer said. "We seemed to control every aspect

of the game."

With only two minutes, 53 seconds gone by, the Ducks were up 11-0, but more importantly, they were dominating the Trojans on defense. Southern California's Tina Thompson — the conference's leading scorer — was swarmed by Boyer throughout the first half. Thompson finished the half with no points and a 0-for-8 shooting performance, including three missed attempts from beyond

Turn to **WOMEN**, Page 10

Missed shot dooms Ducks to 72-69 loss

■ **MEN:** Rob Ramaker couldn't make the three-point shot that would have tied the game with two seconds to go

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Jaha Wilson came off the bench to score 17 points and grab 11 rebounds Thursday night as Southern California kept its NCAA tournament hopes alive by beating Oregon 72-69.

Wilson's layup with 29.3 seconds left gave the Trojans (15-9, 10-5 Pac-10) a 70-67 lead.

Oregon's Jamal Lawrence then missed a three-point shot, and Gary Johnson made two free throws with 17.2 seconds remaining to give the Trojans a five-point lead.

Terik Brown of Oregon made a layup five seconds later to complete the scoring. However, the Trojans had some anxious moments near the end.

After a 20-second timeout by the Ducks, Jamar Curry stole USC's inbound pass, but Rob Ramaker missed a 3-point shot with two seconds to go.

USC won the game at the foul line, making 24-of-28 to just 5-of-14 for Oregon. The Ducks made 12 shots from beyond the 3-point line to only four for the Trojans.

Also, USC out-rebounded Oregon 58-37.

Rodrick Rhodes, replaced in USC's starting lineup by Johnson, had 16 points, seven rebounds and three assists. David Crouse also had 16 points along with a game-high 12 rebounds for the Trojans.

Lawrence led the Ducks (16-9, 7-9) with 20 points. Oregon's leading scorer on the season, Lawrence played only 21 minutes because of foul trouble.

Wilkins had 17 points and four assists, but scored only two points in the second half.

The game was tied 38-all at halftime. USC scored 10 straight points early in the second half to go ahead 53-45 — the biggest lead of the game for either team. But Oregon scored the next nine points to take a one-point lead. Neither team led by more than five points after that.

The Ducks continue their road trip Saturday as they visit UCLA in an afternoon game. The matchup will be aired live on ABC with tipoff at 2:05.

Oregon is still in a must-win situation in order to keep any postseason hopes alive.



BOEVING



BOYER



EDAMURA



FEGENT



OLIVEIRA

F PARTY OF FIVE

Oregon's five seniors have been instrumental in the program's growth to a Pac-10 power

By Mark McTyre
Sports Editor

Winning — that is all this group knows how to do. Four years ago, the Oregon women's basketball team had its first coaching change in 17 seasons and what could conceivably be called the best recruiting class during the Jody Runge-era. The addition of then-freshmen Betty Ann Boeving, Arianne Boyer and Cindie Edamura helped the Ducks post their first winning season in four years and return to the NCAA Tournament for the first time since the 1986-87 campaign.

Since their first season together, the trio, along with the additions of transfers Renae Fegent and Elsa Oliveira, have propelled Oregon to two more tournament appearances, and most certainly a fourth trip this season.

"When we came in, coach Runge had to basically reteach some of the people who

were already here how to win," Boeving said. "But for us, we came in as freshman and we didn't know any different, so we just acclimated to the situation."

"I think we've come a long way in four years," Boyer said. "From being in last place the year before we got here, to being in the top four of the Pac-10 every year."

While Boyer agrees that her class has gotten the Ducks to where they are now, she says it's up to the program's future players to take Oregon higher.

"I think this program is about to take another turn," she said. "It takes one group of people to get you to the tournament from a consistence basis, but it is probably going to take another group to get you further into the tournament. You have to reach that next level with each group of new players."

According to Fegent, the Ducks should

Turn to **SENIORS**, Page 11

Over the Years

1993-94

In Boeving, Boyer and Edamura's freshman season, the Ducks finished with 11 wins more than the year before (20), and made their first trip to the NCAA Tournament since 1986-87.

1994-95

One year after garnering Pac-10 all-freshman honors, Boyer was named honorable mention all-Pac-10. And in 1994-95, Fegent was named first-team all-Pac-10 in her first year with UO.

1995-96

Boeving started 19 games and led the team in scoring four times. She had a season-high 20 points. Oliveira made her debut at Oregon. She had a season-high 13 points against Arizona State.

1996-97

Boyer and Fegent lead the team in scoring and rebounding. The Ducks could finish with 21 wins if they win their final two games. It would be the most since the 1988-89 campaign.

ON TRACK IN SPORTS

UO Golf

The Oregon women's golf team is No. 9 and the men are No. 35 in the first Rolex Collegiate Rankings of the spring season. Paula Patterson leads the women in individual rankings, at No. 27, and J. J. Astorquia is No. 79 for the men.

UO Softball

The Oregon softball team lost to Oregon State 8-0 Thursday. The Ducks began a game against Loyola Marymount later in the day, but it was rained out in the fifth inning with Oregon up 4-2. The game will be continued Saturday.

UO Wrestling

The Oregon wrestling team is headed for the Pacific-10 Conference championships in Arizona this weekend. Eight Duck wrestlers are ranked, with Scott Norton looking to try for his third straight conference title at 150 pounds/12

UO Tennis

The Oregon women's tennis team travels south to take on Pacific-10 Conference foes Arizona and Arizona State this weekend. The Wildcats and Sun Devils are both nationally ranked, but the Ducks are coming off a defeat of Ohio State last Saturday/12

Club Rugby

The Oregon Club rugby team competes in the UC Davis Tournament this weekend. The Ducks will compete against some of the better rugby teams around, including Santa Clara and Colorado. Oregon lost 24-7 to Portland last weekend/12