

Loss: Mowe questionable for Saints

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Bowyer did what the frontcourt couldn't.

The two guards set new career records for points — Hughes with 30 and Bowyer with 19 — while combining to score more than half of the Ducks' points.

Hughes hit 12 of 22 field-goal attempts and five of 11 three-point attempts, and Bowyer made seven of 12 free-throw shots and was four for nine from the field.

Starting center Jenny Mowe, Oregon's only true center, fouled out less than nine minutes into the second half and was still hampered by tendinitis in her knee. Oregon head coach Jody Runge said Mowe will have at least three days off to rest her

knee and her status for the Ducks' next game is questionable.

Runge said she was pleased with the Ducks' performance, especially for a team so young in what she called a hostile environment.

"They never quit playing," she said. "The kids just never ever looked like they had a doubt."

But she said she would have liked the message a win would have sent.

Western Kentucky's Leslie Johnson doubled her scoring average with a game-high 34 points, hitting 14 of 21 attempts from the field, and grabbed 10 rebounds. Shea Lunsford scored 15 points and had 12 rebounds.

The Lady Toppers' starting five scored 87 of the team's 92 points.

Oregon next plays the Portland Saints in an exhibition game Friday at McArthur Court. It will be the second time the Ducks have faced the Saints this season. In the first round of the Pepsi Shootout, the Ducks beat the Saints 76-60.

The Ducks' next non-exhibition game will come in Kona, Hawaii, when they compete in the Kona Classic from Dec. 19 to 21. They will play Mississippi State, Washington State and Nevada in a span of three days.

Their next home action comes when they play Kansas on Dec. 29, their final game before the Pacific-10 season kicks off Jan. 2 at California.

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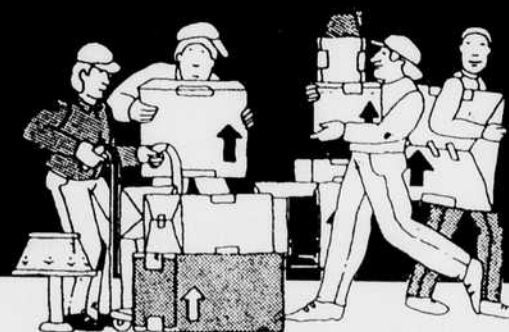
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