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Oregon drops ugly game in desert

The Ducks shot just 36.7 from the field and hit only one of 17 three-point attempts

By Chris Hansen
Assistant Sports Editor

Does somebody always have to win?

The answer, obviously, is yes. But they don't have to look good doing it.

In front of 4,236 at the University Activity Center in Tempe, Oregon lost 67-51 to Arizona State in a contest that more closely resembled a pick-up game at the YMCA than one played at the Pacific-10 Conference basketball level.

The two teams combined for 48 turnovers as each shot poorly from the field.

By the looks of it, the Ducks (7-10 overall, 2-6 Pac-10) desperately need the full week of practice and rest they have before playing against Oregon State next Saturday.

What has happened to Oregon's offense? The Ducks' 51 points beat the previous season-low scoring total of 54 against Portland State in the second game of the season. It comes two days after scoring only 59 points against Arizona on Thursday.

Oregon made only 36.7 percent of its field goals against the Sun Devils, including an astonishing 1 for 17 from three-point range. Terik Brown and Henry Madden, the team's two

leading scorers, combined to score 10 points on 5-of-19 shooting, 0-for-10 from beyond the arc.

The rotating point-guard tandem of Mike McShane and Yasir Rosemond led the turn-over-prone Ducks with four each. Neither scored a point while McShane had five assists and four rebounds.

"I don't know if perplexed is the word for it," said Oregon head coach Ernie Kent during a post-game radio interview. "This is probably the worst weekend of basketball that I've ever been involved with. I really have to look at this team because something is really going on with our mental that is kind of bogging us down."

What was so frustrating, he said, was that Arizona State didn't play any better. The Sun Devils turned the ball over 25 times and shot only 43 percent from the field.

"They weren't a very good basketball team," Kent said. "And for us to lose ... it was just an ugly, ugly game."

After being down for most of the game, Oregon tied it 39-39 midway through the second half and for the first time, the Ducks appeared to have momentum. Instead, Arizona State went on a 26-4 run.

"We've had success this year in two different areas," Kent said, "when guys are mentally locked in and when we play together as a team. We have not had that these last two games, and that's something we have to have to get back on track again."

OREGON (51)

	Min	FG	FT	R	A	P
Madden	35	2-8	0-0	5	2	4
Curry	33	4-9	0-0	2	3	9
Nelson	15	3-8	2-2	1	0	8
Rosemond	15	0-3	0-0	1	1	0
Brown	25	3-11	0-0	5	1	6
Smith	20	4-7	2-4	4	2	10
Quinine	2	0-0	0-0	1	0	0
Christensen	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
McShane	28	0-4	0-0	4	5	0
Olsson	2	1-3	0-0	0	0	2
Hartenstein	23	5-7	2-3	4	0	12
Totals	200	22-60	6-9	32	14	51

Shooting: 36.7. 3-point: 1-17 (Madden 0-3, Curry 1-1, Rosemond 0-2, Brown 0-7, McShane 0-3, Olsson 0-1)

ARIZONA STATE (67)

	Min	FG	FT	R	A	P
Lazor	32	5-11	1-1	10	2	11
Veal	40	9-17	0-0	4	3	20
Batiste	29	7-11	1-4	12	0	16
House	28	2-7	4-4	2	2	8
Lewis	37	1-8	0-1	6	10	2
Jones	2	0-2	0-0	0	0	0
DuBois	2	1-1	0-0	0	0	2
Patton	13	2-3	0-0	4	0	4
Smith	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Kelly	23	2-6	2-3	4	0	12
Totals	200	29-66	6-10	48	17	67

Shooting: 43.9. 3-point: 3-11 (Veal 2-3, Batiste 1-1, House 0-4, Lewis 0-2, Jones 0-1)

Win: Freeman fouled out with 6 points

Continued from Page 7

The win, the Ducks' fourth in a row and sixth straight over the Sun Devils, improves their record to 10-6 overall and 6-2 in the Pacific-10 Conference and keeps them in a second-place tie with Arizona. Arizona State drops to 7-9 and 3-4 in conference play.

It was the first time since beating New Mexico State 114-92 in 1990 that the Ducks had scored 100 points, and it was the largest margin of victory since they beat UNLV by 57 early last season.

They opened up a 10-3 lead Saturday night to start the game before the Sun Devils hit two three-pointers to pull within one, 10-9. From that point on, the game was all Oregon.

Five Ducks scored during a 23-4 run following the two Arizona State three-pointers to lead 33-13 just eight minutes later.

During the game's first 10 minutes, the Sun Devils hit just three shots from the field and went 3:23 midway through the half without attempting a shot.

"I thought they would come out harder," said Hughes, who hit six of 11 shots from the field for 14 points. "But we got going right from the start and played really well. Everything was just going right for us."

Kisha White, who along with Kristine Sand led Arizona State with 12 points, said the Sun Devils lacked a spark.

"It was just a lack of effort," she said. "We just came out and weren't focused."

In their defense, the Sun Devils were missing starting guard Rameeka Lowe to injury, and Rechelle Lan was playing at just 60 percent, said head coach Char Turner Thorne.

"Divine intervention is what we needed today to play with them," she said. "We're just not a team that can sustain that much adversity."

As if the Ducks' 46-27 halftime lead wasn't enough they went on a 16-3 run to start the second half and led 62-30 with 14:55 left to play.

With the help of Wolver's 21 second-half points the Ducks took a 95-51 lead with three minutes to play, which was enough for Runge to put in walk-on Camber Ellingson and ReShawn Lewis.

Coming into this week's action, forward Stephanie Freeman was the Sun Devils' leading scorer with 14 points per game, but the senior had more fouls than points until she hit a three-pointer with just 2:14 left to play. She later fouled out with just six points on a on-for-six performance from the field.

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