

WOMEN'S NCAATOURNAMENT SPECIAL

Women: Stringer fears Australians

Continued from Page 11

have enough wins. We've got to win."

"There was really a lot of pressure, and I think since we finished that chapter that they really have become very resilient about the opportunity, what they can do and being in a position where there's no pressure has really rejuvenated them."

But it's not as if the players don't know when it's time to put on their game faces.

"I think they are really relaxed," Runge said. "They had two really good practices [before leaving Eugene]. They aren't so relaxed that they aren't focused on what they need to do."

And what they need to do is take on a Rutgers team that, much like Oregon, finished the season on a roll. The Scarlet Knights won 12 of their final 14 games to get into the tournament for the first time in head coach Vivian Stringers' three seasons with the team.

Rutgers is young, starting a lineup that includes two freshmen, a sophomore and two juniors. Their first player off the bench, guard Shawnette Stewart, is a sophomore while their second-highest scorer off the bench, center Tammy Sutton-Brown, is a freshman.

They are led in scoring by point guard Natasha Pointer, one of the freshmen starters, who averages 14.2 points a game.

Most of the Scarlet Knights' point production comes from the backcourt, where shooting guard Tomora Young averages 13.2,

and Stewart adds 10.6 a game.

The battle between Hughes, who leads the Ducks with 15.5 points a game, and Pointer promises to be one of the game's more interesting matchups.

"Natalie Hughes is big for Natasha," said Stringer, who is bringing her record third different team to the NCAA Tournament. "She's a big, powerful body, but Natasha is probably quicker. On dribble penetration Natasha will hurt you."

"Natalie Hughes can take it to the hole. She's a strong body, and yet I've seen her step back and knock the open jumper down. She sees the floor very well."

Runge said Oregon's defensive specialist, Lisa Bowyer, will likely draw the assignment of guarding Pointer.

Other than the matchup in the backcourt, a key to the game could be who wins the battle of the boards.

Rutgers averaged 38.3 rebounds per game this season, 2.6 more than their opponent, while Oregon grabbed an average of 33.3 to their opponents' 36.3. The Ducks were 7-2 when outrebounding their opponent and 9-7 when they were outrebounded.

Freshman forward Linda Miles tops the Scarlet Knights with 6.6 rebounds a game, while Angelina Wolvert leads the Ducks with 4.7 a game.

"They crash [the boards] really hard so it's something we're going to have to be focused on," said 6-foot-2 junior Sonja Curtis, one of the Ducks who will take turns trying to keep Miles and

company off the glass.

"It's not so much the Scarlet Knights inside players who make them dangerous on the boards but rather the rebounding ability of their guards," Runge said.

"They're about even with us rebounding-wise," she said. "They're not a great rebounding team, but their guards really rebound and that's going to be a tremendous challenge for our guards because of their speed."

Although the name of the game is to outscore the opponent, both coaches and several players said the outcome will come down to the defensive end.

"It's always defense," Hughes said. "That's the main thing. The guards have a big job Saturday night because their guards are the ones that score. They're the ones that drive it in there and do everything, so we have to do a good job containing them."

While Oregon must stop the penetration of Rutgers' guards, Stringer said she is concerned about Oregon's outside shooting, particularly the three Australians: Bowyer, Hughes and Natasha O'Brien.

"The three Australians have a great sense of where the ball is and they shoot the ball really well," Stringer said.

She, too, said she feels that defense will decide the game.

"The difference is going to be the defensive side, whether or not they're applying real pressure, or how we perceive that pressure and handle it," she said.

STOREWIDE SALE!
20%-70% OFF

Ski Equipment
Downhill • Cross Country
Snowboards • Clothing

ON NOW!

Berg's Ski Shop

Open Mon-Thurs 10-7 • Fri-Sat 10-9
13th & Lawrence • 683-1300

**Make a difference.
Recycle this paper!**

OKATEE GOLF CLUB
Golf at its Finest
College Students - \$18.00
Exp. 5-30-98
1-800-452-6376

Ski and Snowboard Rentals

Downhill \$10 per day
Cross Country... \$7.50 per day
Snowboard \$20 per day

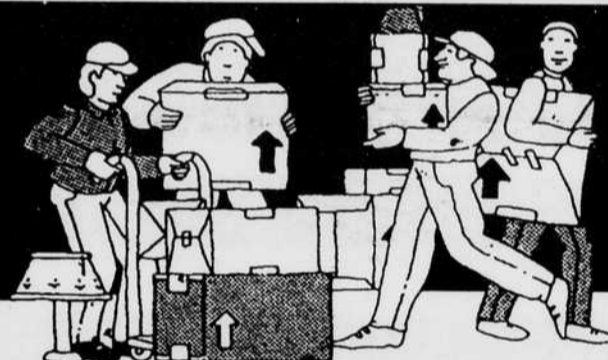
ANDERSON'S SPORTING GOODS
SALMON • ALBANY • CORVALLIS • EUGENE
199 W. 8th Eugene • 484-7344

U of O Hillel invites you to celebrate Shabbat Gadol, the last Shabbat of the term.

Free dinner to follow
services @ 6:00 p.m.

Take a break from studying to sit back and relax with good friends and good music.

1059 Hilyard
Questions? call 343-8920



STUDENTS

We ship your stuff home!

Take advantage of our Student Discounts

Furniture, computers, stereos, TV's
Insured, custom packing • Boxes for sale
UPS, Ocean Freight, Motor Freight



Packaging Store.

2705 Willamette Street • 344-3106
(convenient parking)

LAI LAI 來來飯店
CHINESE RESTAURANT
Mandarin and Hong Kong Cuisine
Beef Noodle Soup \$5.95
Now serving Thai cuisine.
15% Student Discount
on regular dinner menu items with ID

Student Dinner Special \$5.95

343-2828 • 1525 Franklin Blvd.
485-2090 for Delivery

anthropology
art his
gy
history
cliff notes
computers
design
drama
fiction
film
ho
investmen
lan
guage
my
series
orient
philosophy
plays
reference
romance
science
self help
study guides
theatre
universe
westerns
zoology
art
history

Cash

for textbooks, paperbacks,
study aids, magazines

We buy books
at fair prices every day
throughout the year
at both locations . . .

Smith Family Bookstore
A campus alternative since 1974

Text & General Books
(One block from campus)
768 E. 13th Ave.
345-1651



General Books
(across from the Post Office)
525 Willamette St.
343-4717

Recycle • Recycle • Recycle • Recycle