



Best Bet
Monday Night Football
N.Y. Giants at San Francisco
5:20 p.m., ABC

OREGON 63, WYOMING 33

Ducks clinch fourth Pepsi Shoot-out title

Oregon has no problem holding down their leads as it goes on to its 100th victory

By Joel Hood
Oregon Daily Emerald

Heading into last weekend, Jody Runge challenged the Oregon women's basketball team to play better defensively than it had in its first four games this season.

The Ducks responded with two suffocating defensive performances, their fourth straight Pepsi Shoot-out title and a coaching milestone for Runge.

Oregon (5-1) held Wyoming to just 26 percent from the field and scoreless through the first seven minutes, 11 seconds of the second half en route to a dominating 63-33 victory Saturday night in the championship game of the Pepsi Shoot-out in front of 3,443 fans at McArthur Court.

The win was Runge's 100th coaching victory, a feat only matched by one other head coach in Oregon history. However, it was the Ducks' performance, not the milestone, that Runge complimented after the game.

"It feels just like any other game," Runge said. "Overall it was a good performance. We defended the ball well, which is something we've been focusing in on. We're concentrating on the little things defensively."

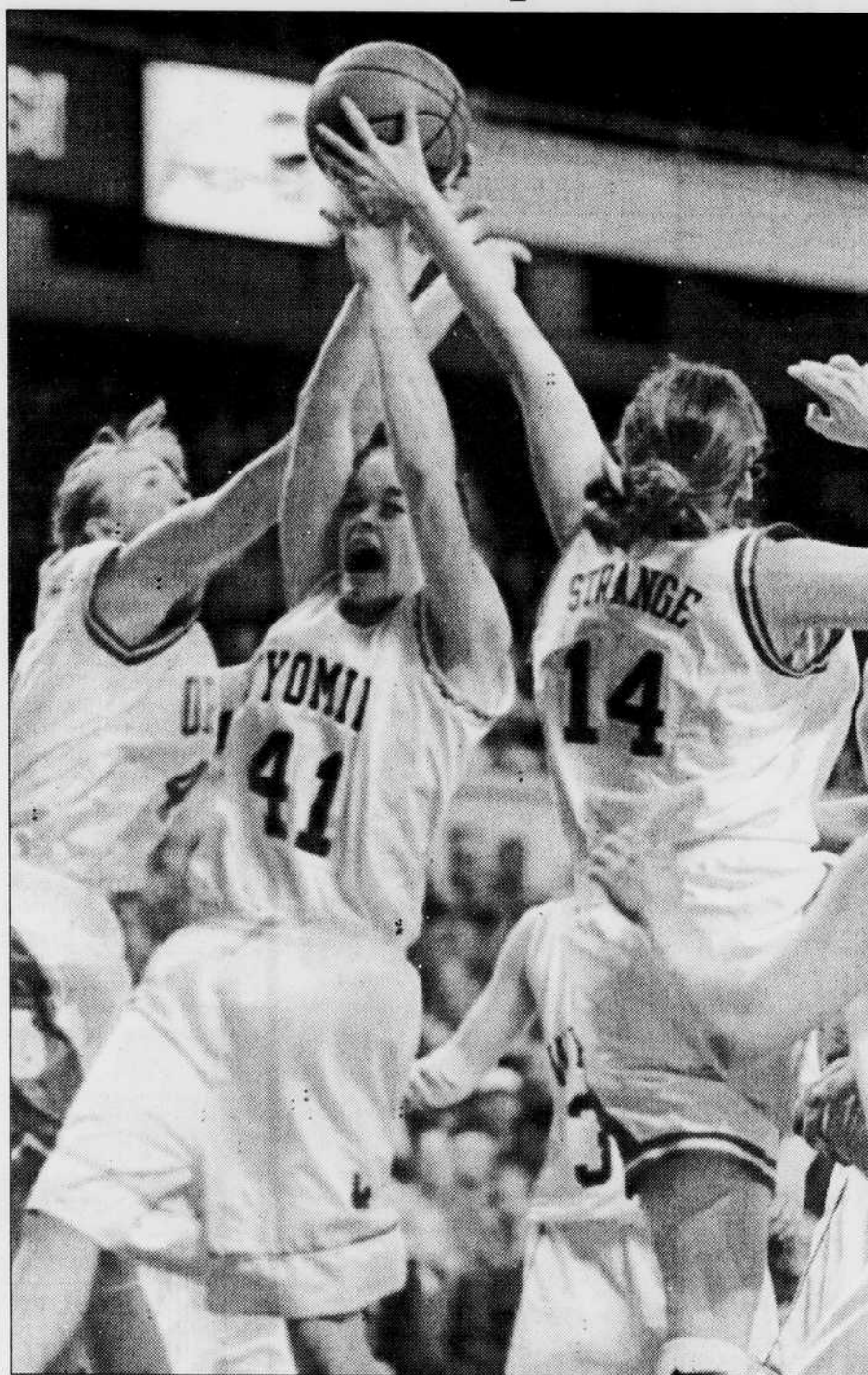
It worked this weekend.

After holding explosive Brigham Young to just 25 second-half points in a 74-56 victory on Friday, Oregon stymied the Wyoming attack on Saturday, limiting the Cowgirls to just six-of-25 shooting and forcing 13 turnovers in the final 20 minutes.

Jenny Mowe led the Ducks' defense with four rebounds and two blocked shots in 16 minutes of action. The sophomore center also scored 10 points, while converting all five of her shots from the field.

"[Runge] told us that we needed to deny their post players the ball, and I think we did a pretty good job of that," Mowe said. "This game was a real confi-

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Oregon's Sonja Curtis and Nicole Strange fight with Wyoming's Carrie Bacon for a rebound in the Ducks' 63 to 33 victory Saturday night.

Wolvert key figure in victory

By Allison Ross
Oregon Daily Emerald

To say she dominated the 1998 Pepsi Shoot-out would be an understatement, but that is exactly what Angelina Wolvert did.

The Ducks walked away champions for the fourth time in five years, and this time, sophomore Angelina Wolvert was named the tournament's most valuable player.

Oregon jumped out to a 12-2 lead against Wyoming on Saturday with four of its first six buckets belonging to Wolvert. She was seven of nine shooting from the field against the Cowgirls, leading the team with 15 points.

But that was only the tip of the iceberg.

It was Wolvert's ability to get better as the game progressed that put her ahead of the pack, storming into the second half against Wyoming, as she did against Brigham Young the day before, forcing steals, blocking shots and totally disrupting the opposition.

Wolvert's three steals and one blocked shot against Wyoming were the primary reason for the Cowgirls' second-half woes, in which they failed to score for more than seven minutes after halftime.

"Coach Litzenberger always says the first 10 minutes of the second half are the most important," Wolvert said. "It's important to build momentum, and that's what we tried to do."

But Wolvert and company did more than try. They shut Wyoming's offense down and exploited its defense, widening the gap to 44-17 on a full court pass from Natasha O'Brien to Wolvert with



WOLVERT

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Oregon comes home from Mat-Town with fifth place

The Ducks performed well at the Invitational, and three wrestlers bring back third place trophies

By Scott Pesznecker
Oregon Daily Emerald

Seven Oregon wrestlers placed in their respective weight classes last Saturday as the Oregon wrestling team placed fifth at the Mat-Town Invitational in Lockhaven, Pa.

However, no championship titles went to Oregon at the tournament.

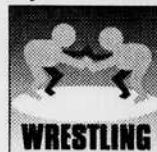
But head coach Chuck Kearney was pleased with his team's performance.

"Last year we finished sixth at this tournament, and this year we placed fifth," Kearney said in a released statement. "We're a step ahead of where we were last year."

The Ducks were led by three wrestlers who placed third in their respective weight classes, 165-pound Sean Morgan, 184-pound Doug Lee and

197-pound Chael Sonnen.

Morgan, ranked ninth in the nation at 165 pounds, won a 9-2 decision over seventh-ranked Chad Liott of Rider. Lee, ranked No. 10 in the nation, won by forfeit over ninth-ranked Dave Murray of Lock Haven.



Fourth-ranked Chael Sonnen also placed third at Mat-Town, but that was more of a disappointment for the Ducks. Sonnen lost a 6-2 decision to Lock Haven's unranked Ken Haines. The only other ranked wrestler in Sonnen's weight class had been No. 18 Shawn Scannell of Rider.

"I told our kids afterwards that these tournaments are part of the learning process," Kearney said. "We wrestled extremely hard and we gained a lot of experience today. We are learning how to compete."

Freshman David Watson, wrestling at 141 pounds, again showed his potential to be a major

part of Oregon wrestling in the future by finishing in fourth place. In his Oregon debut on Nov. 21 at the Southern Oregon Open, Watson finished second.

"Watson wrestled hard and with the intelligence of a fifth-year senior," Kearney said. "He's still young, but overall I'm very pleased with the way he wrestled."

Heavyweight Kevin Keeney finished in fourth place after being pinned by Lehigh's Shawn Laughlin. Keeney is wrestling at heavyweight this season after making the transition from the 167-pound weight class he wrestled in last year.

Also placing for Oregon was eighth-ranked, 157-pound Daryl Christian, who lost the decision to Cornell's Leo Urbinelli to finish sixth. Sean O'Rourke, finished in seventh place at 174 pounds by beating Old Dominion's Josh Fannon 7-4.

The Ducks will have a week off before wrestling in their first dual meet of the season at McArthur Court against UC Davis on Dec. 12.

"Last year we finished sixth at this tournament, and this year we placed fifth. We're a step ahead of where we were last year."

Chuck Kearney
Oregon head coach