

OREGON (67)

	Min	FG	FT	R	A	P
Smith	34	6-14	2-2	8	2	17
Scales	34	6-14	2-2	8	4	16
Carson	31	3-9	0-4	6	1	6
Wright	38	4-8	0-0	4	3	9
Brown	21	2-11	2-2	2	1	7
Harker	4	0-0	1-4	1	0	1
Rosemond	6	0-1	0-0	2	1	0
Jones	21	2-4	3-4	5	3	7
Christ	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Hartenstein	9	1-2	2-4	2	0	4
Totals	200	24-63	12-22	40	15	67

Shooting: 38.1 3-point: 7-17 (Smith 3-6, Scales 2-6, Wright 1-1, Brown 1-3, Rosemond 0-1) *includes two team rebounds

OREGON DUCKS VS. GEORGIA TECH YELLOW JACKETS

Player of the Game

Forward A.D. Smith scored a team-high 17 points, which included three three-pointers. Smith also hit two key free-throws with less than 1 1/2 minutes to play to give the Ducks a one-point lead.



Quote of the Game

"I tell you what — I know we battled and fought really hard, but it was this crowd that really pulled us through. This is a great win for Eugene and a great chance for the nation to see what the Pit is all about."

— Ernie Kent, UO head coach

Georgia Tech (64)

	Min	FG	FT	R	A	P
Babula	23	2-4	0-0	3	2	4
Collier	34	4-13	0-0	13	2	9
Jones	37	11-17	5-8	11	1	27
Akins	35	3-12	2-3	5	3	8
Floyd	35	4-9	0-0	3	1	11
Vines	26	1-2	2-2	0	2	5
LaBarrie	10	0-2	0-0	1	0	0
Totals	200	25-59	9-13	39	11	64

Shooting: 42.4 3-point: 5-17 (Collier 1-4, Akins 0-4, Floyd 3-7, Vines 1-1, LaBarrie 0-1)

*includes three team rebounds

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SPORTS

Oregon Emerald

Free throws sink Jackets

Oregon won its first postseason game since 1988 and advanced to the second round of the NIT

By Rob Moseley
Oregon Daily Emerald

After so many close games in the regular season, would the Ducks have had it any other way once they reached the National Invitation Tournament?

A.D. Smith made two free throws with 1 minute, 20 seconds left and the Ducks survived three Georgia Tech possessions to beat the Yellow Jackets 67-64 in front of 6,666 fans at McArthur Court on Wednesday.

Next up

The Ducks will host Wyoming on Monday at McArthur Court. The time and television station will be announced today. Tickets go on sale to season ticket holders today and to the general public and students on Friday. For ticket information, call the Duck ticket office at 346-4461.

The win sets up a second-round NIT game against Wyoming at McArthur Court on Monday. The game time and TV coverage will be determined today.

The Ducks (17-11) led for all but four minutes of the game until Alvin Jones tipped in a Tony Akins miss to give Georgia Tech a 64-63 lead with less than two minutes to play.

Jones finished with 27 points on 11-for-17

shooting but was held to four points in the final 13:15.

"Our game plan was to take one of those big guys out of the game," Oregon head coach Ernie Kent said of the 6-foot-11 Jones and the 7-foot Jason Collier.

Collier, an All-Atlantic Coast Conference selection after averaging more than 17 points this season, was held to nine points and 13 rebounds.

Following the Smith free throws that gave the Ducks the 65-64 lead, Georgia Tech's T.J. Vines was called for traveling after slipping to the floor. Mike Carson misfired for Oregon on the other end, and the Yellow Jackets (15-16) regained possession with 20 seconds left.

Akins drove to the left side of the floor and released a floater that rolled around the back of the rim and out, and although Jones got the chance for a tip, his attempt rolled back to the other end. Terik Brown grabbed the rebound for Oregon and was fouled, setting up two free throws with 13 seconds left.

"That was the most focused I think I've ever been," said Brown, who nailed both attempts, the second coming after a five-minute delay because half the lights in McArthur Court were turned off by an automatic timer.

The Ducks trailed briefly midway through the second half before taking a 55-50 lead on an 11-2 run.

The two teams stayed within striking distance of each other, and Smith's layup gave Oregon a six-point lead with 4:40 left. Vines

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Ducks wing Freddie Jones draws a first-half foul from Georgia Tech's Alvin Jones during Oregon's NIT win.

Smith saves best for last

By Tim Pyle
Oregon Daily Emerald

A.D. Smith could not have asked for a better start.

Just more than half a minute into Wednesday night's first-round matchup of the National Invitation Tournament at McArthur Court, Smith buried a three-pointer for the first points both of the game and his postseason collegiate career.

But then Smith's shooting touch went sour for the Oregon men's basketball team.

All five of Smith's other first-half shots went astray, and he finished the half with just those first three points and five rebounds.

Georgia Tech's Jason Collier, a rarity as a forward who stands 7 feet tall, seemed to be too big for Smith to shoot over. And Collier accumulated seven points, 10 rebounds and two blocks in his one-on-one matchup with Smith in the first half.

Still, the Ducks clung to a 33-28 lead over the Yellow Jackets on the strength of Alex Scales' 12 points.

"Coach [Ernie Kent] wasn't really happy with the way I was playing," said Smith, a 6-foot-8, 233-pound junior.

In the second half, Smith more than made amends.

He hit another triple 1 minute, 35 seconds into the half to boost Oregon to a 36-32 lead.

But after a Mike Carson layup gave the Ducks a 38-32 lead, Georgia Tech embarked on a 16-6 run that earned the Yellow Jackets their largest edge of the game at 48-44 with 12:19 remaining.

After Georgia Tech forward Jon Babul hit a jump shot to give his team a 50-47 lead, Smith began his stellar stretch play with a layup at the 10:24 mark to cut the deficit to one.

"He shot the ball well from the perimeter [in the second half]," Kent said, "and then used the shot fake to get to the hole."

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Oregon senior puts Georgia Tech in the dark

Who would have thought that on a night when Mike Carson sprung a leak under his right eye, and A.D. Smith had to pick himself up off the court a half-dozen times, and the Ducks shot just 38 percent from the field, and Oregon's defense allowed Georgia Tech to score 27 points, and the combination of Flo Hartenstein, Carson and Smith neutralized one of the premiere centers in college basketball, and Oregon head coach Ernie Kent spoke after the game of dancing in New York's

Times Square wearing green and yellow jumpsuits, and Georgia Tech head coach Bobby Cremins told the media afterward how impressed he was with Colorado's effort and crowd — not once, but three times he called Oregon "Colorado" — and McArthur Court's paid attendance was 6,666, and Oregon's entire student body rushed center court after the final buzzer, and Oregon was given the right to host the second round of the National Invitation Tournament because of 53 drunken fans — that it was a simple free throw that won

Oregon the game? Terik Brown — who had struggled throughout the first and second halves shooting just two for 11 from the field and one for three from three-point range — stepped to the line in the final minute of the game and sank what might have been the two biggest shots of his career.

After grabbing a rebound off a Georgia Tech miss down at their end of the court, Brown was fouled in midair by forward Jon Babul. As the green-and-yellow-clad fans erupted

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Opinion



Joel Hood