

Best Bet
NCAA Basketball: Tennessee at
Kentucky
6 p.m., ESPN



SPORTS EDITOR: JEFF SMITH Smittside@aol.com

UO hands loss to Stanford

■ Guards Jamie Craighead and Courtney Shreve were on fire from behind the arc in Oregon's win

By Scott Pesznecker
Oregon Daily Emerald

Who did the Ducks beat Saturday night?

The sign outside McArthur Court indicated Oregon versus Stanford, and sure enough, the opposing players running up and down the court were clad in Cardinal red.

But was that really the Cardinal? Could a team such as Stanford — the Pacific-10 Conference's traditional "measuring stick," as Oregon State head coach Judy Spoelstra said Thursday night — really be held to just 30.9 percent shooting and lose by 18 points?

Especially after losing 81-65 two nights earlier to the Beavers?

The official box scores confirm it: Yes, that was the Cardinal.

And the No. 18 Oregon women's basketball team (10-3 overall, 3-0 Pac-10) dominated Stanford (7-7, 1-3) in every facet of the game except for rebounding, rolling to a 72-54 win in front of 7,602 fans at The Pit.

The Ducks were up 44-27 by half-time and never looked back. Their 3-0 conference record is second only to Arizona's (4-0).

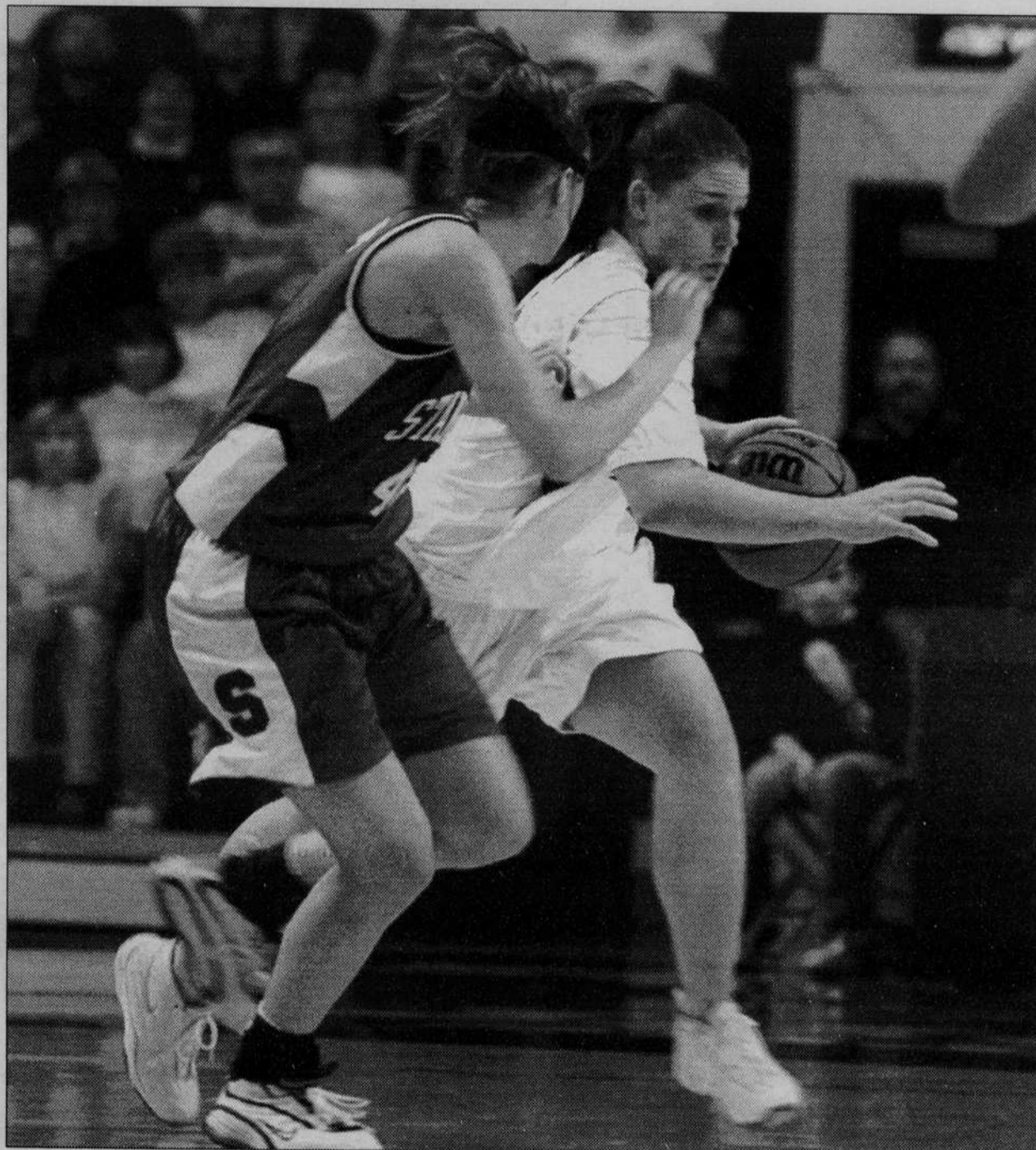
"It was a big game, so we wanted to come out and establish ourselves early," shooting guard Jamie Craighead said. "I think we did that in all phases of the game. We just pretty much blew them away tonight."

"The Oregon State coach said 'I guess Stanford's our measuring stick,' so maybe now we're trying to



“It was a big game, so we wanted to come out and establish ourselves early.”

Jamie Craighead
Oregon shooting guard



Laura Smit Emerald

Oregon forward Lindsey Dion tries to drive around her Stanford opponent. Dion scored 11 points on 5-of-8 shooting in the Ducks' win.

Turn to Women's, page 9

Stanford's woes continue without a pure point guard

Due to injuries, Stanford faces a similar problem that Oregon had at point guard

By Adam Jude
Oregon Daily Emerald

Oregon's 72-54 embarrassment of Stanford Saturday at McArthur Court finished off one of the worst weeks in Cardinal history.

A 16-point loss to the lowly Beavers in Corvallis last Thursday surprised the highly publicized Stanford club, which was projected to finish atop the Pacific-10 Conference this season.

And finishing the road trip in front of 7,602 Duck fans was not the best situation for head coach Tara Van-

Derveer, who has lost her last three games at The Pit and is 0-6 on the road this season.

But that's not even the beginning of Stanford's uncharacteristic start this season (7-7 overall, 1-3 Pac-10). A knee injury to freshman Susan King ended her season on Dec. 27, and recurring concussions to 1999 Freshman of the Year Jamie Carey forced her to retire from basketball, thus leaving the former Pac-10 powerhouse without a true point guard.

"We have a lot of players that take

pride in what they do, so this is very painful for people," VanDerveer said. "This is a challenge for us, but I believe that our players will rally."

Thankfully for Cardinal fans (and those Duck fans who like the rivalry), it can only get better.

Nicole Powell, a 6-foot-2 freshman who has never played the point, was thrown into the role just before the beginning of conference play. She is still adjusting to the position.

"I believe in Nicole," VanDerveer said after Powell's first game at point

guard on Dec. 30. "She has a feel for the game that you can't teach ... I think she's fabulous. I really have tremendous confidence in her as our floor leader."

Powell led Stanford with 12 points and nine rebounds against the Ducks and is considered to be the future of the program.

"Like what happened to me, too, is when you first step into the role you're a little uncomfortable," said

Turn to Basketball, page 9

Oregon no match for the top-ranked team in the nation

The Ducks drop two in the Bay Area, but show improvement against undefeated Stanford

By Jeff Smith
Oregon Daily Emerald

The cardinal rule about facing No. 1 Stanford in its own backyard is to play a near-perfect game.

The Oregon men's basketball team knew that coming in, but it could do nothing to stop the methodical domination of the top-ranked team in the nation.

Stanford blew past the Ducks Saturday afternoon, 100-76, in front of a sold-out crowd of 7,391 at Maples Pavilion, as well as a national

audience watching on ABC.

The loss capped a miserable two-game road swing through the Bay Area that included a defeat at California Thursday. Oregon dropped to 10-3 overall and 1-2 in the Pacific-10 Conference, while the Cardinal improved to 15-0, 4-0.

Oregon has not won a game at Stanford since the 1986 season.

"They're an awesome basketball team, as a lot of people are going to find out," Oregon head coach Ernie Kent told KUGN. "But at the

same time, there's some things that we could have done a lot better tonight, and a lot of that has to do with Stanford because they take you out of a lot of things. They're just so doggone big all over the floor."

On this afternoon, it was the deadly one-two punch of junior center Jason Collins down low and sophomore guard Casey Jacobsen from outside. Collins had his way with the Duck big men, scoring a career-high 24 points and grab-

Turn to Men's, page 12

