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## UNIVERSITY of OREGON BOOKSTORE

# UO bows down to Huskies

■ The Huskies complete their four-game sweep of Oregon after two weekend wins

By Inge Scheve  
For the Emerald

In the inaugural I-5 Cup between the Washington and Oregon club hockey teams, Washington walked away with the trophy and bragging rights. The Huskies swept the Ducks in four games this season.

Somebody let those Dawgs out, and did so in front of a huge Oregon

home crowd at the Lane County Ice Arena.

"It was rough," said Oregon captain Tyler Shaffar of the weekend on home ice. "They're a good team. They've beat us four times."

Although the Ducks are demoralized and frustrated, there were things about the weekend to be content about. Larry Platzke netted four over the weekend.

"He played some solid hockey," said Shaffar about Platzke. Shaffar scored his 100th career point and had a hat trick on Saturday.

On Friday, the Ducks stood a chance, Shaffar said. Oregon was up 4-1 before Washington came back and made it 4-4, then 7-4. The Ducks brought the score back to 7-

6 but let the Huskies net a short-handed goal that resulted in the final score of 8-6.

"On Saturday, we just didn't have the touch," Shaffar said of the game that ended in a 6-1 loss. "We self-destructed and just couldn't hold."

Additionally, the Ducks sustained numerous injuries, among them goalie Josh Hardin and Shaffar, which contributed to the nature of the loss, Shaffar said. However, they expect to be back soon — Hardin for the next games against Western Washington in Bellingham, Wash., this weekend and Shaffar by the championships in two weeks.



# Illinois takes first with victory

The Associated Press

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. — Cory Bradford got tired of being kicked around by Michigan State. On Tuesday night, he kicked back.

After struggling all season to find his shot while playing with a gimpy knee, the preseason conference player of the year scored 22 points in helping Illinois (No. 6 ESPN/USA Today, No. 7 AP) beat the fourth-ranked Spartans 77-66 Tuesday night to take over first place in the Big Ten.

Bradford made six three-pointers and the Illini finished with 10 for their first victory over the Spartans since 1998.

"These guys have been kicking our butts the last couple years," Bradford said. "They've been the team to beat in the Big Ten. We felt it was our time to take over."

Michigan State (18-3, 7-3) is not ready to concede the conference championship even though coach Tom Izzo did concede Illinois (18-5, 8-2) outplayed the Spartans on Tuesday.

"We're going to try to win the next six," Izzo said. "We've been in this position before. I don't think the Big Ten is won in one game.

This team has some young players, and they have to grow and realize one, two or three mistakes can cost you a game."

Michigan State was 3-for-18 from three-point range, most of the misses coming during two lengthy runs by the Illini to finish both halves. But Izzo said the Spartans lost because of "complete mental breakdowns" on defense, especially against Bradford.

"We had some defensive lapses, and you can't leave him open," Spartans guard Charlie Bell said. "It takes a lot out of you. He was knocking down every shot he took, even with a hand in his face."

Illinois also got 14 points from Frank Williams and 12 from Brian Cook. Jason Richardson led Michigan State with 19 points, and Bell added 14.

Illinois coach Bill Self deemed rebounding a key to the game. The Spartans lead the nation in that stat. Illinois lost at East Lansing last year mostly because it got out-rebounded 41-16. On Tuesday, Michigan State's advantage on the boards was just 35-29.

The Spartans could not be as aggressive inside because their big men were in foul trouble most of the second half and Illinois' big men can shoot the three, Izzo said.

Michigan State had an even harder time dealing with Illinois' depth and versatility because the Spartans played on Sunday and had just one day to prepare, Izzo said.

Midway through the first half, Illinois' pressure defense became a factor. Bradford hit a three-pointer, the Illinois press forced Michigan State into a turnover in the backcourt, and Williams hit another three.

That started a 22-8 run that ended with another three-pointer by Lucas Johnson, giving Illinois a 34-27 lead with 1:37 left in the first half. Zach Randolph hit two free throws to make it 34-29 at the half.

The second half started much

like the first, with Illinois sloppy and Michigan State taking advantage by scoring the first 10 points to regain a 39-34 lead with 17:14 to go.

"We felt good, but we knew that wasn't the end of the game," Bell said.

The Illini began driving inside, and Michigan State's Richardson and Andre Hutson each picked up their third fouls.

With Richardson and Hutson on the bench, the Illini began what would be the decisive run. Damir Krupalija made two free throws to give Illinois the lead for good, 51-50 with 9:35 remaining.

Bradford followed with another three-pointer as the Illini went on a 22-9 run that ended with Illinois ahead 73-59 with less than two minutes left.

The orange-clad Illinois students began gathering along the sidelines before the final buzzer, and stormed the court afterward.

A giddy Bradford, flashing a rare smile, declared the Illini contenders for the national championship. If so, Williams said it will be because of Bradford.

"This will be the starting point where you see a whole new Cory," Williams said.

Before Tuesday, Bradford had not scored more than 20 points in a game yet this season.

"He's drug his leg around a good portion of the games so far and never once complained," Self said. "Tonight, he had a different bounce. He was awesome. He got those threes against one of the best defensive teams in the country."

Izzo said Bradford should not have been left open as often as he was.

"He reminded me more of how he's played the last couple years," Izzo said. "I don't think he's had that kind of game yet this year. We gave him some wide-open looks. We made some mistakes and he made us pay."

## Column

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team needs the Pit Crew more than ever.

"The Pit Crew this weekend needs to be as fired up as they've ever been," Kent said. "We're going to need that energy. We need both of these games to be as loud and as raucous as they can make this place here this weekend.

"We need the Pit Crew to be extra fired up, so Joey Harrington needs to really look at his wig se-

lection and come out fired up this weekend."

Harrington, Oregon football's starting quarterback, and the rest of the Pit Crew will need to reach jet engine status once again this weekend if the Ducks want to beat No. 2 Stanford and California.

If you would like to sign up for the Pit Crew's e-mail list, send a message to [pitcrew@lists.uoregon.edu](mailto:pitcrew@lists.uoregon.edu).

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