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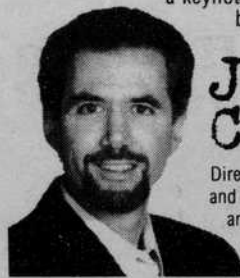
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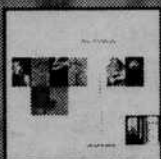
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RAZOR & TIE

Women

continued from page 7A

things together, and Saturday will be the opportunity to get things started and get some wins again."

Runge agreed that despite the loss, her team is on the right track to improving.

"I thought we played better," Runge said. "We played better at

Arizona State than we played at Arizona, and we played better tonight than we played at Arizona State. But it's tough to come back out on the road again."

Despite the loss, one Duck hit an important milestone. Forward Brianna Meharry scored her 1,001st career point when she put back a missed trey by Edwards.

Forward Angelina Wolvert led the Ducks with 11 points and sev-

en rebounds. Wolvert, who recently recovered from an injured right knee, went down early in the game when she sprained her right ankle. She returned to the court minutes later.

Center Jenny Mowe had a strong game with nine points and eight rebounds, and forward Lindsey Dion also scored nine.

Next up, Oregon takes on the Golden Bears at 7:30 p.m. Saturday.

Men

continued from page 7A

one that got embarrassed last Sunday in a 27-point loss to Arizona State. The Ducks more resembled the team that upset then-No. 7 Arizona on Feb. 1.

"I know a lot of people were waiting to see how this team was

going to bounce back after we played so poorly, and I have to say that I'm extremely proud of the way they did," Kent said.

It was still tough for the players to find positives from a close loss, even it did come against one of the best teams in the country.

"I don't believe in moral victories," freshman Luke Ridnour said.

Hockaday

continued from page 7A

Miracles need a little help, and the Cardinal wouldn't budge. Stanford was too deep, too experienced and just too No. 2 in the nation for Oregon. As big man after big man went to the Duck bench with foul trouble, Stanford went on a 13-0 run as if to make sure the crowd knew it was 20-1 for a reason.

"We just wanted to take it possession by possession," Stanford guard Casey Jacobsen said. "We worried about the next 30 seconds."

Before the Stanford run, before the foul trouble, the Ducks were on top. They played the Cardinal exactly the way UCLA did last Saturday: without fear. They tossed out history and just played good basketball. They played with a confidence that escaped them last Sunday against Arizona State.

Most importantly, Oregon seemed to come together on the floor Thurs-

day night. Freddie Jones made big plays, Luke Ridnour drained threes, Bryan Bracey did everything but mop the floor after falling down, and Chris Christoffersen once again sparked the team off the bench.

It's hard to be as positive as Oregon head coach Ernie Kent, but the Ducks seemed to look deep within themselves and pull out a little magic against Stanford.

"We played 34 or 35 minutes of just great basketball," Kent said. "We executed our game plan, played well defensively and did what we wanted to do."

It's easy to think that if a few more things had gone their way, the Ducks might have won Thursday's game and made the first five minutes of SportsCenter. If they had taken a few more free throws — they took only seven — or if Christoffersen hadn't picked up two cheap fouls late, perhaps they could've pulled off their second top-10 upset in a week.

"That game was ours to win and we gave it to them."

It's clear that the Ducks know how to get up for the big-time opponents. With every game gaining importance down the stretch, the Ducks said now they must learn to treat every game as though it's against a Stanford or an Arizona, starting with Saturday's 3 p.m. tilt with California.

"When it gets rough, we always find a way to win," Jacobsen said.

The Cardinal is now 7-0 on the road this season, and 21-1 overall.

As the Ducks walked off the court after Thursday's game, the remaining crowd applauded them for their efforts against a very good Stanford team. The round was deserved for a Duck team that, for just a few minutes, played like champions.

Peter Hockaday is a sports reporter for the Emerald. He can be reached at phockaday@yahoo.com.**WAREHOUSE SALE**Feb. 14-17
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