

NCAA

Oregon vs. Iowa 6 p.m., Saturday, March 17 in Salt Lake City, Utah, TV: KEZI

## TOURNAMENT PREVIEW

Seniors  
LAST DANCE

Oregon endured a rough season,  
but the Ducks are finally playing at their best

By Adam Jude  
Oregon Daily Emerald

If it was bad, it happened to the Oregon women's basketball team this season.

From a September injury of Shaquala Williams, the 2000 Pacific-10 Conference Player of the Year, to the surprising team meeting last week with Athletic Director Bill Moos regarding Jody Runge's coaching techniques, Oregon has been through it all.

But in this tumultuous season of ups, downs, flips and spin cycles, Oregon's current four-game winning streak comes as the team prepares for its eighth straight NCAA Tournament appearance, this time in Salt Lake City to face Iowa at 6 p.m. Saturday.

Oregon's Williams-less leadership core, with the experience of consecutive Pac-10 titles, had no doubts about the team's potential this season.

"I think we're going to be OK, we're just going to have to work harder, that's what it comes down to," senior center Jenny Mowe said prior to the season. "I think there's going to be people stepping up, and that's never a problem. We've got five seniors on this team, and that's going to help a lot.

"It's going to be a great year."

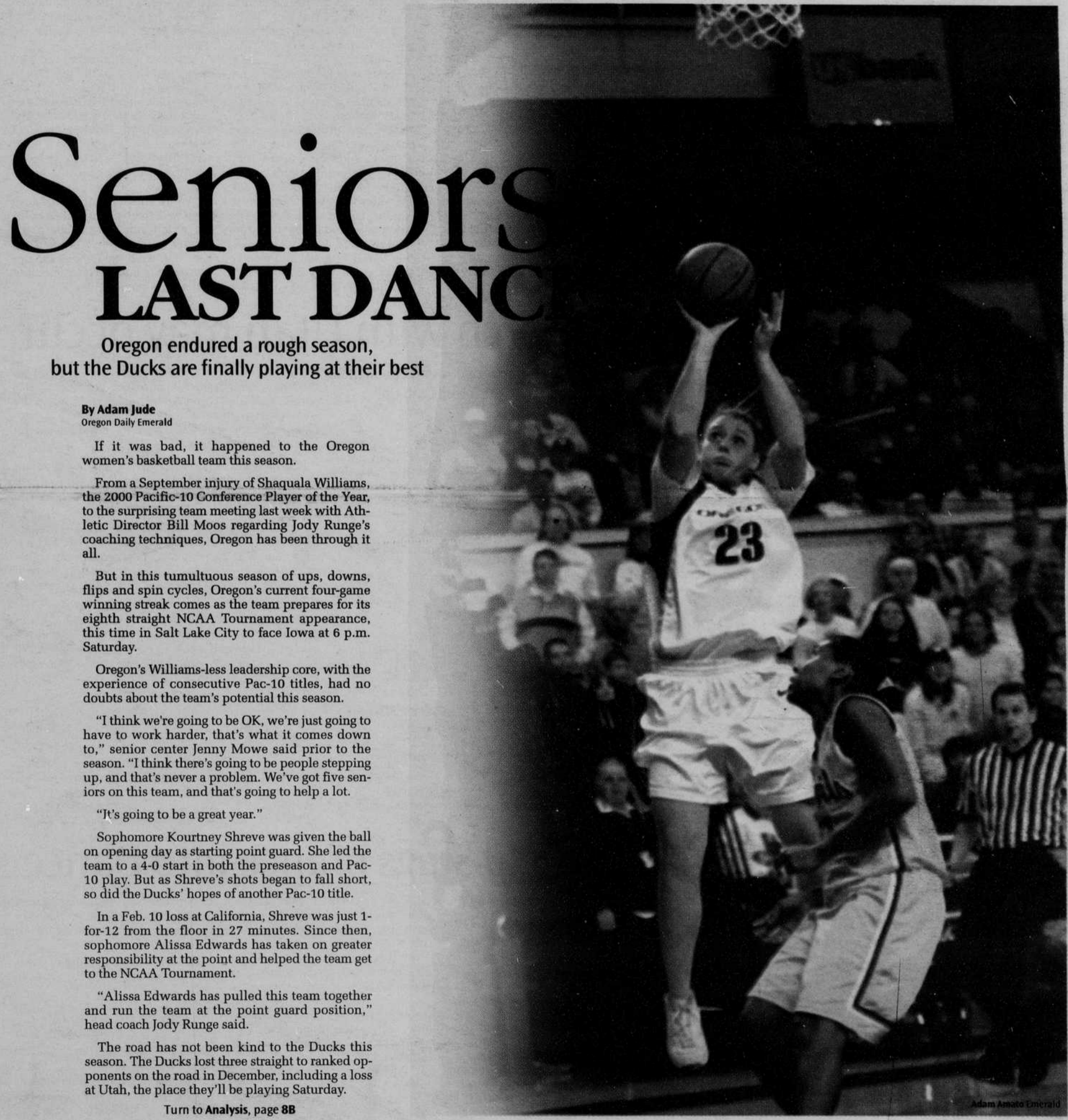
Sophomore Kourtney Shreve was given the ball on opening day as starting point guard. She led the team to a 4-0 start in both the preseason and Pac-10 play. But as Shreve's shots began to fall short, so did the Ducks' hopes of another Pac-10 title.

In a Feb. 10 loss at California, Shreve was just 1-for-12 from the floor in 27 minutes. Since then, sophomore Alissa Edwards has taken on greater responsibility at the point and helped the team get to the NCAA Tournament.

"Alissa Edwards has pulled this team together and run the team at the point guard position," head coach Jody Runge said.

The road has not been kind to the Ducks this season. The Ducks lost three straight to ranked opponents on the road in December, including a loss at Utah, the place they'll be playing Saturday.

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Adam Amato Emerald

### Map of Bracketville

Your dance schedule,  
to see who's playing who and where  
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### Men's NCAA tourney

Five Pac-10 teams have high hopes  
for a lengthy run in the Big Dance  
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