

Tuesday, January 15, 2002

McArthur Court's 75th anniversary



Students rush the floor at McArthur **Court on Saturday** after Oregon's victory over Stanford The Ducks, who are 10-0 this year at home, are a combined 613-351 at Mac Court in its 75-year existence. The Ducks host Willamette tonight at 7 p.m. to celebrate the anniversary.

Adam Amato Emeralo

Celebrating 'A grand old place'

Many former Ducks will return for tonight's game against Willamette, including the leading scorer in the 1939 championship game

By Jeff Smith

A chuckle is heard in the raspy voice. Then a

pause. And then a sigh.

John Dick knows that tonight will be special. He knows that the 75th anniversary of McArthur Court will be a memorable event that will gather more than 50 former players and coaches of the Oregon basketball family.

He recognizes the magnitude of bringing back Willamette to face Oregon at 7 p.m. tonight in a rematch of the Jan. 14, 1927, game between the two schools that marked the beginning of what is now the oldest Division I facility in the nation.

He just wishes some of his teammates could be ored 50 years of the tournament.

Dick scored a team-high 13 points to lead Oregon's "Tall Firs" over Ohio State, 46-33, on March 7, 1939, in the first ever NCAA Tournament final.

He loved his teammates. They were his family. Together, they made up a team that will forever be mentioned in McArthur Court lore.

But tonight, when Dick, 83, is among those honored at halftime, he will be the only player present from Oregon basketball's lone championship team.

"I miss all of my teammates," Dick said. "I'm one of the few survivors. Coach is gone. The student manager is gone. The trainer is gone. All of the starters except me are gone.

'That makes it a little less joyous occasion, but it's still nice to know that people care.'

But Dick also knows that tonight's anniversary celebration isn't about his team. That special group has had plenty of reunions over the years, including at the 1988 Final Four when the NCAA hon-

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John Dick (bottom row, far right) is the only surviving member of the starting lineup from the 1939 NCAA champion Oregon "Tall Firs," who won the first ever NCAA Tournament.

BASKETBALL

U.S. bockey team bopes win will unite America



Hager Behind the Dish

Take a look at any sports fan's movie collection, and ou il most likely see Field of Dreams, 61, Slap Shot" and "Hoosiers," among others.

What you probably won't find is a copy of the 1980 "Miracle on Ice" game between the United States and the Soviet Union. I guess that's where you could call me odd.

Save for "Hoosiers," I own and watch all of those movies on a regular basis. I even own "Eight Men Out." Yeah, I'm a sports freak. But the piece of sports media that I revere the most is my copy of the game many call the greatest sporting moment of the 20th century.

So, when I find myself trying to relax, I pop in the tape, and for the 30th time, watch as Mike Eruzione and Jim Craig take on the vaunted Soviets and shock the world. And to this day, I still get chills from watching Craig wrap himself in the American flag and hearing Al Michaels call out his famous, "Do you believe in miracles?"

You'd better believe I do.

Now flash forward to the present, and look toward February in Salt Lake City. Exactly 30 days from today, the U.S.

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Pac-10 women's title up for grabs

■ With Pac-10 play half over, five teams are within one game of second place

By Adam Jude Oregon Daily Emerald

Stanford is No. 1 in the Pacific-10 Conference women's basketball power rankings. The rest is

With the first half of conference play wrapping up at the end of this week, Arizona State (14-4 overall, 5-2 Pac-10) is second behind Stanford, with four other teams - including Oregon within one game of the Sun Devils.

All told, the Pac-10 crown will likely be up for grabs when the first women's tournament is held at McArthur Court in March.

Powell named Player of the Week

For the third time this season, Stanford sophomore Nicole Powell was named the Pac-10 Player of the Week. Powell averaged nearly a triple-double - 21.5 points, 17 rebounds and 8.5 assists as No. 4 Stanford (16-1, 6-0) swept Oregon (10-7, 5-3) and Oregon State (7-8, 4-3) at Maples Pavilion.

"Nicole had a monster game," Stanford head coach Tara VanDerveer told the Stanford Daily after Powell's school-record 23-rebound perform-

ance against the Ducks. "She does so much for our team. She can play with anyone (in the country) - we know it, she knows it and you know it."

Powell, the 2001 Pac-10 Freshman of the Year, is averaging a double-double this season (16.5 points, 10.3 rebounds). In 47 career games,

Powell has 16 double-doubles and three triple-doubles. No other player in Pac-10 history has recorded more than one triple-double in her career.

Trojans begin home stretch

Southern California, picked to finish fourth in the Pac-10 in the preseason media poll, could be the last team standing at the conference tournament. The Women of Troy are currently 5-2 in the

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