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Best Bet
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Beavers celebrate rare win at McArthur Court

■ Oregon State defeats the Ducks, 61-53, for its first win at Mac Court in nine years

By Adam Jude
Oregon Daily Emerald

The champagne was replaced by sparkling cider, but everything else felt like a genuine championship celebration.

And it might as well have been the ultimate win for Oregon State, which won its first game Saturday at McArthur Court since 1993.

"Look at me," said Oregon State senior Ericka Cook, weeping as she sat down for the post-game press conference. "We waited

for this for years. This was a very emotional game. It feels so good."

With the 61-53 win, Oregon State (10-9 overall, 6-3 Pacific-10 Conference) snapped an 11-game losing streak to the Ducks and gave head coach Judy Spoelstra her first win at the Pit.

"All week we've been talking about not beating the Ducks since we've been here — and we finally did it," said Oregon State senior guard Felicia Ragland, who scored a game-high 16 points. "We're going to party all night."

In front of a season-high 6,193 fans at Mac Court, the Ducks (10-8, 5-4) managed to hit just 21 percent of its shots in the second half, when they were outscored 31-23.

Senior guard Jamie Craighead nailed a three-pointer to open the second half, but Oregon did not score again until the 11:50 mark. In that stretch, the teams combined to commit 12 fouls while scoring just 10 total points. Overall, the teams committed 40 turnovers and had 40 fouls.

"It was not a very pretty game," Spoelstra said. "(But) it was a big win for our players."

Trailing by five, Oregon sophomore Cathrine Kraayeveld hit a three-pointer with 6:19 to play to cut
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Oregon senior Alyssa Fredrick tries to drive past Oregon State's Brina Chaney (42) and Leilani Estavan in the Beavers' 61-53 victory Saturday. The win was Oregon State's first at Mac Court since Feb. 5, 1993.

Adam Amato Emerald

UO women full of bricks in loss to OSU

■ Oregon's woeful shooting drops it into a three-way tie for fifth place in the Pac-10 Conference

By Hank Hager
Oregon Daily Emerald

In a game that left the Ducks battered and bruised, flustered and frustrated, one number stood out.

Twenty-six. Twenty-six percent of the shots Oregon (10-8 overall, 5-4 Pacific-10 Conference) took against Oregon State on Saturday went in the basket. For you math wizards out there, that's 16-of-60 from the field.

In fact, Oregon made more shots from the foul line (18) and committed more fouls (18) than made field goals.

To make matters worse, the Ducks shot just 3-of-18 from beyond the three-point arc in the 61-53 loss, their lowest scoring output of the season. Sophomore Cathrine Kraayeveld, taking only her sixth and seventh shots of the season from downtown, sank one with a little more than six minutes left in the game and pulled the Ducks within two at 44-42.

But that was the end of that. "Our emphasis was on defense and getting out to their three-point shooters," Oregon State guard Felicia Ragland said. "They're good shooters, but our defense made them think twice about shooting outside."

Oregon's "big three" — guards Jamie Craighead, Ednisha Curry and Shaquala Williams — went a combined 2-for-15 from beyond the arc, but still contributed 27 of the Duck's 53 overall points.

"We have to make shots, and I think that's the reason we didn't win this game," Curry said. "We had

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UO leaves Corvallis with Civil War win and first-place status

■ The Ducks beat the Beavers for the sixth straight time to remain tied-for-first in the Pac-10

By Jeff Smith
Oregon Daily Emerald

CORVALLIS — In the darkness of night, inside a bus driving in the right lane of southbound Interstate-5, the television sets all flickered the same motions.

Play.

Stop.

Rewind.

Play.

It was 10:30 p.m. Saturday, and the bus was filled with the Oregon men's basketball team, which was traveling the 47 miles from Corvallis to Eugene.

Oregon had just beat Oregon State, 63-51, but instead of rejoicing over its Civil War triumph, Ernie Kent wasted no time in going over the game film with his team to show them what they did right and what needed improvement.

Oregon's win Saturday, its fourth straight, kept the Ducks (14-4) atop the Pacific-10 Conference standings, tied with Southern California at 6-1 in

league play. The Ducks equaled their win total from 2001 and topped their five league victories from last year.

And Monday, the team climbed four spots to No. 19 in the Associated Press poll.

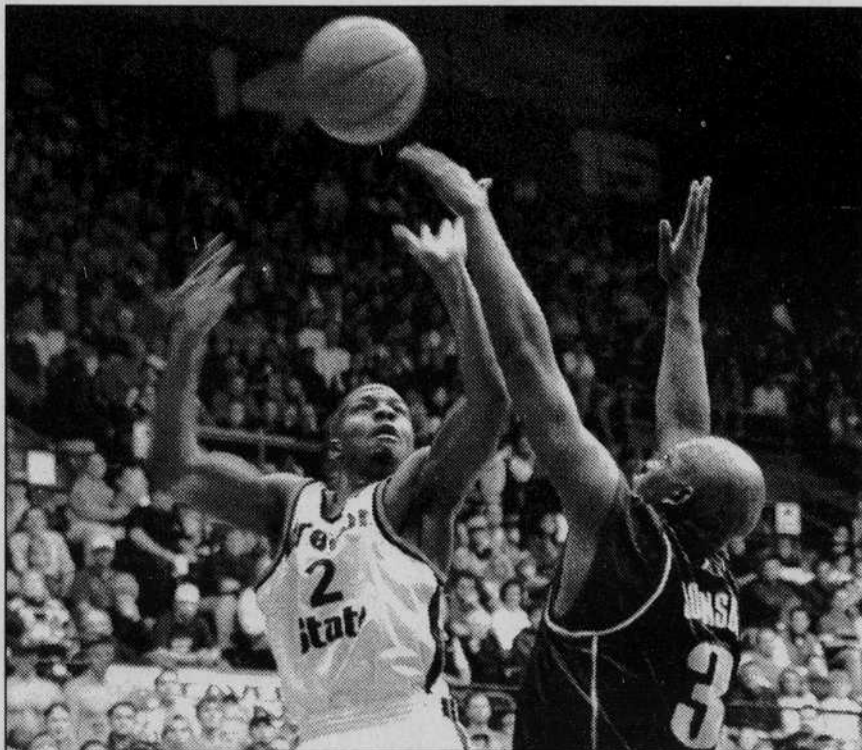
But for this year's Ducks, what they do next matters most. The next game is always "a big game," and putting the past behind them has helped the Ducks rebound from the consecutive December defeats to Massachusetts, Portland and Minnesota.

"Those three losses toughened us up as a basketball team," Kent said.

When Oregon ended its season in Gill Coliseum last March, it hoped for an NIT berth that would never come. After their latest visit to their in-state rivals, the Ducks spoke not of the NIT, but of the NCAA Tournament. Their voices were filled with confidence instead of just hope.

"We're in control of our own destiny now," senior Freddie Jones said. "I want to take this thing as far we can take it."

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Oregon forward Robert Johnson leaps up and swats away a shot attempt by Oregon State's Brandon Payton. Johnson recorded all three of Oregon's blocks in the Ducks' 12-point win.

Thomas Patterson Emerald