

# SPORTS

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**Best Bet**  
Winter Olympics: Snowboarding,  
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## Oregon women 'golden' in victory over Bears

■ The Ducks trounce Cal, 76-43, with a solid defensive effort at McArthur Court on Saturday

By Adam Jude  
Oregon Daily Emerald

Three starters, including the team's leading scorer, didn't get off the bench until nearly seven minutes into the game. Normally, the situation would be cause for concern.

But not for the Oregon women's basketball team on senior night.

With the aid of its four seniors, the Ducks surged to a 13-8 lead in the first half of Saturday's Pacific-10 Conference battle against the California Bears. And when the regular starters entered the game, everything was, well, easy. Oregon won 76-43.

"I don't think Oregon was on top of their game early on," Cal head coach Caren Horstmeyer said. "I'm really at a loss. That was our worst game of the year."

Conversely, it may have been the Ducks' best game of the season.

In front of 4,820 fans at McArthur Court, the Ducks won Saturday with defense, something they've been pressing all season. Cal went nearly eight minutes without a field goal in the first half and shot just 26 percent from the field — Oregon's best defensive effort of the year. Cal's 43 points were the fewest the Ducks have allowed all season.

After the first half, Cal had just 16 points on 6-of-25 shooting (24 percent).

"I give our defense credit for that," said Oregon junior guard Shaquala Williams. "We know they can score, but tonight we just had a really stingy defense who wasn't going to give them anything easy."

Senior post Alyssa Fredrick had a game-high 15 points to go along with three rebounds and only one turnover.

"We wanted to come out with a lot of intensity and not let our emotions hinder our performance, and I feel like we did that," said senior forward Ndidi Unaka, who had five points and seven rebounds. "Our defense kindles our offense because we are a running team. We need to come out strong on defense and make them work hard."

Leading 37-16 at the half, the Ducks pushed the margin to 52-26 on a Cathrine Kraayeveld layin with 13:19 to play. For the game, Oregon shot 53 percent and had 23 assists to Cal's five.

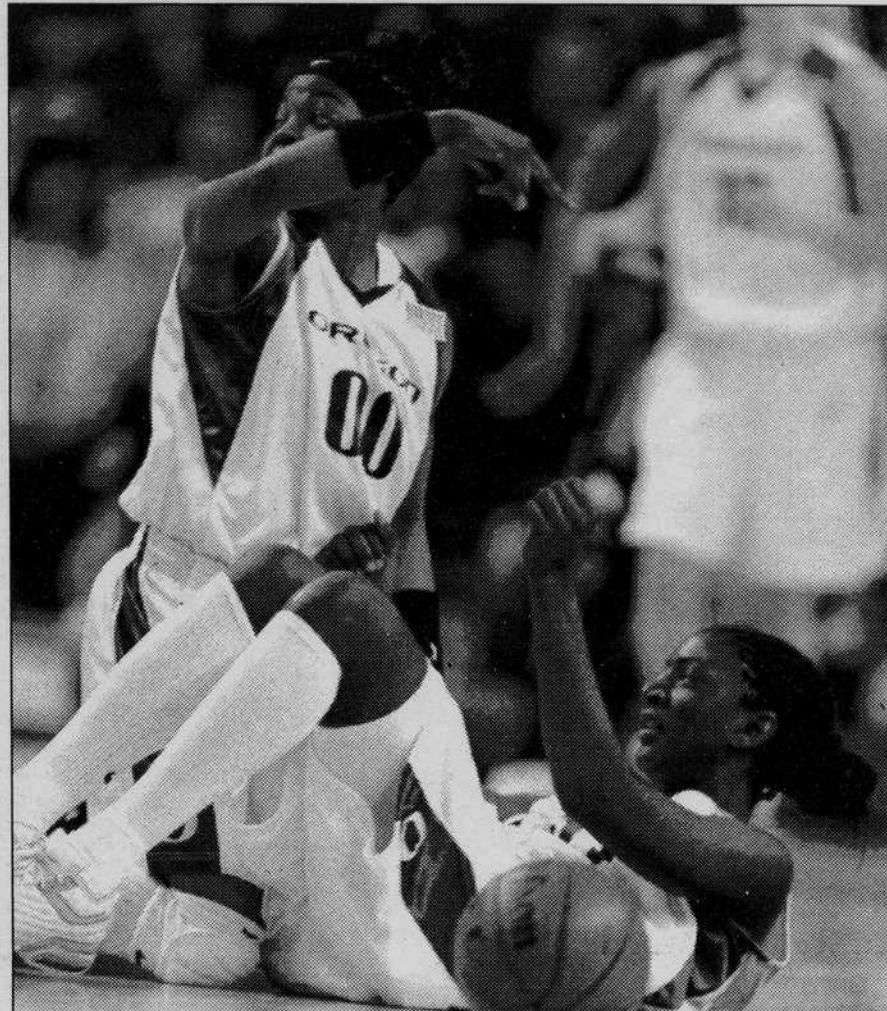
"I don't think we won tonight because it was senior night, but because the seniors stepped on the floor and performed at standards that go beyond just a basketball game — playing your best regardless of who you're playing against," Oregon head coach Bev Smith said. "And tonight, for the first time, we had back-to-back games where we absolutely did that."

Oregon's tenacious defensive effort comes after Thursday's 77-72 loss to No. 2 Stanford, a game the Ducks felt they could have won.

"We didn't want Stanford to make us bring out our best effort," Williams said. "We wanted to get ourselves up for this game. Tonight we had tremendous team work."

Williams, the team's leading scorer, didn't start the game because she violated a team rule, which was not

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Adam Amato Emerald

On senior night, senior center Alyssa Fredrick (on floor) scored a game-high 15 points, and senior guard Edniesha Curry (00) added five steals in Oregon's 76-43 win over Cal.

## Seniors land win in farewell

■ The four Oregon seniors say goodbye to Mac Court with a blowout of California

By Hank Hager  
Oregon Daily Emerald

One by one, history stepped off the floor at McArthur Court on Saturday.

First came Edniesha Curry. Then it was Jamie Craighead's turn. Finally, as a sign of solidarity, Alyssa Fredrick and Ndidi Unaka made their way to the Oregon bench.

With just more than a minute left in the Ducks' 76-43 win over California, the four Oregon seniors stood confidently at their bench knowing they had just ended their career at home in true fashion.

"It was just a good experience for all of us to be on the court one more time together," Craighead said. "We'll never get to play together again, so it was fun."

Just as Craighead and Unaka did four years ago in their first game, and Fredrick

a season later, the Ducks dominated in the win. Only Curry began her Oregon career with a loss, as the Ducks lost to Wisconsin-Green Bay to start this season.

"I wanted to go out with a win, and go out with a win for my mom (who was in attendance)," Fredrick said. "This is as sweet as it gets."

Craighead and Unaka, the two seniors who spent all four seasons of their collegiate careers at Oregon, finish 44-11 in regular season games at Mac Court. However, their only post-season game at the storied gym resulted in a loss at the hands of Alabama-Birmingham in 2000, 80-79.

It would be wrong to compare this year's Oregon four to the group that finished their careers last season, but it would be unfair as well to cast them aside. Since Craighead and Unaka first put on the Oregon green and yellow, the Ducks have gone 1-3 in the NCAA

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## UO road struggles continue vs. Bears

■ The Oregon men's basketball team drops into second place after getting swept in the Bay Area

By Peter Hockaday  
Oregon Daily Emerald

BERKELEY, Calif. — Two nights after a tough overtime loss, the Oregon men's basketball team went to two overtimes, lost their second straight game and dropped to second in the Pacific-10 Conference.

Now, the Ducks have only two road games left to prove they can win away from McArthur Court.

The number "two" also pops up on the jersey of Amit Tamir (No. 24), the California freshman who set a Golden Bear rookie record by scoring 39 points against No. 13 Oregon (17-7 overall, 9-4 Pac-10) Saturday night.

Tamir led the Bears (17-5, 8-4) to a 107-103 double-overtime win that revitalized a mediocre Cal team and knocked the Ducks out of the Pac-10 lead, where they had sat for three previous weeks.

"We had two winnable ball games" this weekend, Oregon head coach Ernie Kent said, also referring to Thursday's 90-87 overtime loss at Stanford. "We just needed another play or two in crunch time to get it done. But we didn't get it done, so the key thing for us right now is to go home and re-group."

Saturday's game was won at the beginning of the second extra period, when the Golden Bears hit three big shots to pull away and put away the Ducks. The first two came from Tamir, who hit a layup and a three-pointer, both with two seconds on the shot clock. Those baskets put Cal up 94-89, and Golden Bear point guard Shantay Legans hit a three on the next possession — this time with six ticks on the shot clock — to put Cal ahead by eight.

Oregon guard Freddie Jones scored 23 points in the game, but said he felt responsible for the defensive lapse at the beginning of the second overtime.

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## UO wrestlers defeat Bakersfield, Fresno State, but fall to Cal Poly

■ The Ducks improve their record to 7-7 after three weekend meets, including a win over No. 21 Fresno State

By Chris Cabot  
Oregon Daily Emerald

It was an up-and-down-weekend at McArthur Court for the Oregon wrestling team.

After two wins on Friday against Cal State-Bakersfield and No. 21 Fresno State, the Ducks dropped a

close match to Pacific-10 Conference rival Cal Poly. Oregon's record now stands at 7-7 overall and 3-4 in the Pac-10.

Oregon's weekend began with an afternoon win over Bakersfield, which dropped its record to 2-6 overall and 0-4 in the Pac-10. The meet, a 35-9 decision, featured three forfeits by Bakersfield and one by Oregon's Shaun Williams. The Ducks' only true loss came in the 149-pound weight class when Casey Hunt dropped an overtime

decision to Thomas Juarez.

Freshman Elias Soto picked up his first major decision victory of his collegiate career with a 15-6 victory. Also in the Bakersfield meet, No. 5 Eugene Harris secured a technical fall, winning his 165-pound match, 21-6.

In the Friday nightcap, Oregon beat the tough Fresno State team despite another forfeit in the 125-pound weight class. Williams, who is 7-4 on the season at 125 pounds, has had trouble making weight late-

ly. In all three of this weekend's meets, Williams was just over the required limit and also missed the meet against Arizona State on Feb. 2 because he missed weight.

"Shaun is having some problems," Harris said. "We don't quite know what is going on, but it would be great to have him back in there."

Fresno State's record now stands at 10-7 due in large part to Oregon freshman Shane Webster's battle in the 174-pound class. Heading into Web-

ster's match against Britt Mooney, the Ducks were ahead 15-12 after consecutive wins by Tony Overstake and Harris. Webster came close to pinning Mooney at two points in the match, picking up six total nearfall points. With 1:20 remaining in the third period, Webster put Mooney on his back to earn enough points for a technical fall win.

Head coach Chuck Kearney called the Fresno State victory a "big win," and was pleased with

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