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Craighead just looking for 'fun' in WNIT

■ The senior guard has played more than 100 games for the Ducks, but she isn't done yet

By Hank Hager
Oregon Daily Emerald

For Jamie Craighead, the numbers speak for themselves.

In her career, the senior has made 166 three-pointers (second all time), including 53 this season. For her career, she has shot 37 percent from beyond the arc, sixth best in Oregon history.

But the number that may be the most outstanding is the first one listed on a statistical sheet: games played.

For her career, Craighead has played in 102 contests for the Ducks. Of those 102, the last 35 have been starts.

In her 100th career game, played two weeks ago against Washington State in the Pacific-10 Conference Tournament, Craighead helped pace the Ducks to victory with eight points, including two three-pointers.

In three games in the tournament, the Elma, Wash., native contributed 25 points. More importantly, she provided a presence from outside, hitting on half of her three-pointers (6-of-12).

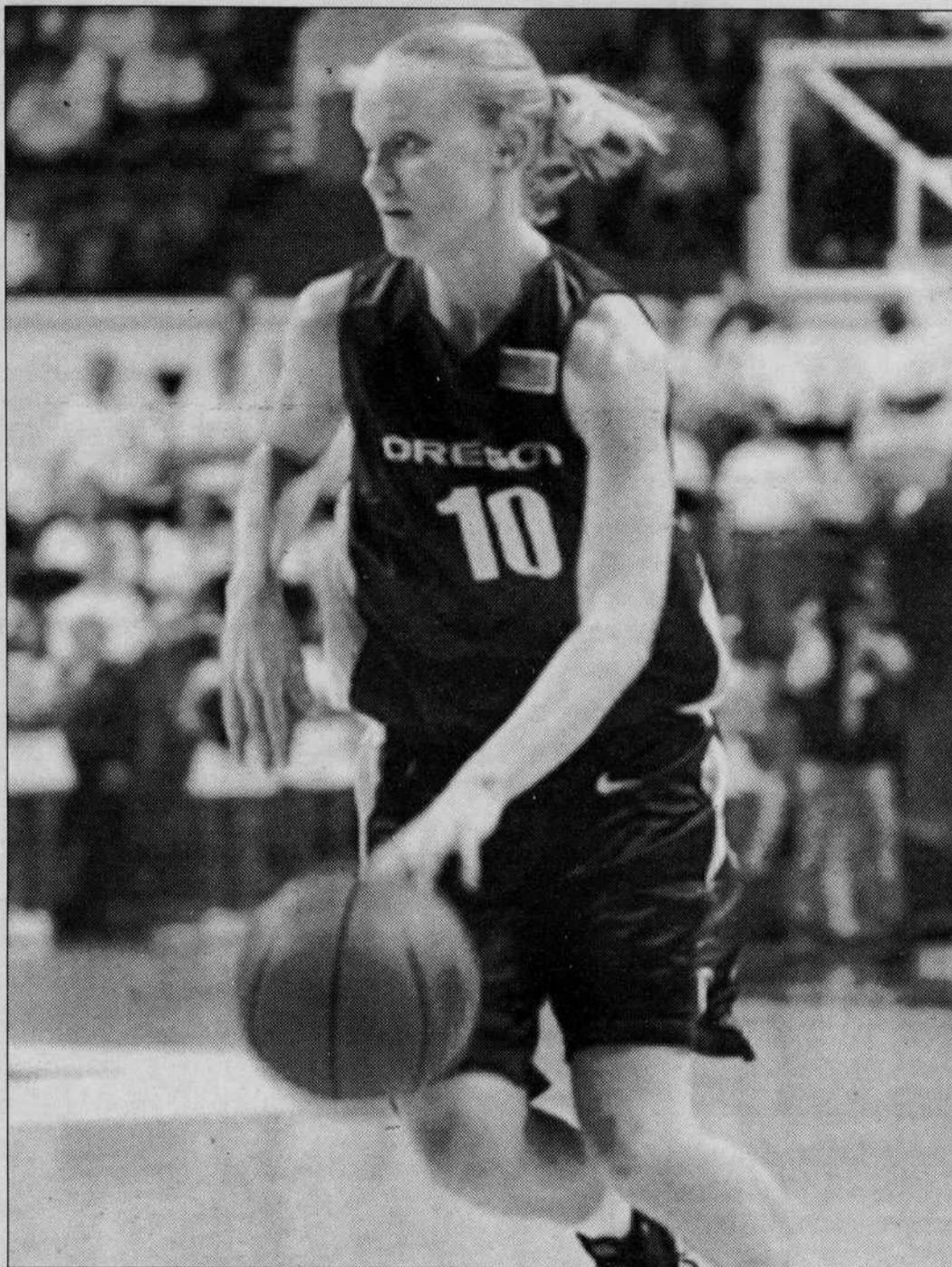
Now that the Ducks have failed to make it nine straight NCAA Tournament appearances, does the appeal of the Women's National Invitation Tournament for Craighead seem good enough?

"It's just going to be a lot of fun to play again and get some games back here at McArthur Court and to maybe play some opponents like the Beavers and Huskies again," she said.

Of the Ducks' four postseason games during Craighead's career, she has played in two, contributing 24 points. However, she has not shot well from beyond the arc, hitting on 6-of-27.

But don't expect those kind of numbers against St. Mary's (Calif.) on Wednesday. Armed with the possibility

Turn to Women's, page 8



Adam Amato Emerald

Senior Jamie Craighead has brought hard work and determination to the Ducks in her four years at Oregon. Although she knows her time in Eugene is soon to end, Craighead wants to make a lasting impression on the team.

UO tennis serves up perfect weekend

■ Wins over Santa Barbara and Sacramento State extend the men's winning streak

By Peter Martini
for the Emerald

The winning streak extended to six matches for the Oregon men's tennis team with two victories over the weekend.

The No. 66 Ducks won at UC-Santa Barbara, 5-2, on Sunday and beat Sacramento State, 6-1, on Friday.

Against Santa Barbara, Oregon won two out of three doubles matches to take the early lead. Freshman Sven Swinnen and junior Oded Teig won 9-8, and freshman Manuel Kost and sophomore Chris King won 8-3.

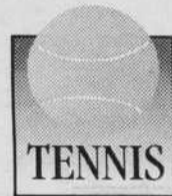
Junior Jason Menke and sophomore Martin Pawlowski lost the only doubles match for the Ducks, 9-7.

"We played well in doubles, and that took some pressure off of our singles," head coach Chris Russell said.

Oregon needed to win three singles matches to earn the victory and it got four singles victories. Teig won 6-2, 6-1 at the No. 2 spot for the Ducks.

Swinnen, King and sophomore Greg Dubourdiou won matches in the bottom of the lineup to help Oregon improve to 11-2 overall this season.

"Our depth has been incredibly valuable for us. They haven't lost in about four matches, and that takes pressure off the top of the order," Russell said of the bottom three singles



Turn to Tennis, page 6

New-look Wildcats breeding confidence toward Big Dance

■ Arizona has recovered from a slow start and will have plenty of momentum heading into the NCAA Tournament

By Jeff Smith
Oregon Daily Emerald

They hardly resembled the team that Oregon easily handled in December and early January.

The No. 7 Arizona Wildcats won three games in three days in Los Angeles over the weekend to be crowned champions of the Pacific-10 Conference Tournament, which returned for the first time since 1990.

Arizona entered the season with a roster loaded with youth, and head coach Lute Olson said that the inexperience played a large part in the 105-75 and 90-80 losses to the Ducks.

Since those losses, the Wildcats have blossomed, with juniors Jason Gardner and Luke Walton stepping into their leadership roles and freshman Salim Stoudamire playing beyond his years.

Stoudamire, who went to Lake Oswego High, had a career-high 29 points in the Wildcats' 81-71 victory over USC on Saturday in the Pac-10 Tournament championship game. Olson thought that his team's three wins would earn Arizona a No. 2 seed in the NCAA Tournament, but instead, the Wildcats are a No. 3 seed in the West region.

"I'm sure the thing that made us a three was the two losses to Oregon because Oregon got a two seed," Olson said Monday. "It's probably unfortunate that we played them as early as we did with our young team, and then when we played them again we did not have Luke Walton."

The Ducks, who are ranked 11th in the latest Associated Press poll, received the No. 2 seed in the Midwest and must only beat Montana and the winner of the Wake Forest-Pepperdine



OLSON

Barbara. Gonzaga, ranked sixth, qualified as the bracket's biggest shocker with a No. 6 seed.

"I was surprised," Olson said. "I thought Gonzaga would be one of the top four seeds in the West. But it shows that when you play in a league where there are not ranked teams, it's out of your hands."

And when you do play in a league with a lot of ranked teams, it obviously helps. Four Pac-10 teams were in Monday's Associated Press top-25 poll (Arizona, Oregon, No. 18 USC and No. 24 Stanford), while un-

ranked California and UCLA joined those four to give the league a strong presence in the NCAA tourney.

Those six teams would have probably been selected for the Big Dance regardless of the results of last weekend's Pac-10 Tournament, but the overall consensus was that the conference tourney did a lot of good.

"I think it got our confidence going," Walton said. "It helped our young guys to play in a one-and-done situation where you have to win."

Even Olson, who has made no secret of his disdain for a league tournament, saw the positive side of the weekend in getting his team some postseason experience. But it still didn't change his overall viewpoint; he said he thinks if the league's going to continue with the conference tournament, then it must shorten its schedule.

"Let's take a look at the athletes and make a decision based on

what's best for them for a change, instead of for the budget," Olson.

"It is ridiculous to go through 21 games in your conference."

Isn't it ironic?

Fox Sports Net signs were all around the Staples Center while the network extensively covered the first two days of the tournament.

But the cable channel could not be received at the hotel where the teams and the media stayed.

"Somebody blew it on that," Olson said.

Bring on Duke?

This Final Four prediction comes from the Los Angeles Daily News: Duke, Gonzaga, Oregon and Maryland.

As for the championship? The newspaper projects a final score of Duke 96, Oregon 90.

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