

Men

continued from page 9

seven points against Northridge — had 12 and 14 points, respectively.

Joseph was visibly excited after hitting his first three-pointer with 4:34 left in the first half.

"It was just a sigh of relief," Joseph said. "I was happy, that's what it was."

Crosswhite, meanwhile, was more excited about another statistical category.

"We accomplished one of our major goals by out-rebounding the other team tonight," Crosswhite said.

It might not sound like a major goal, but after being out-rebounded by a combined 10 boards to smaller teams in their first two

games, the Ducks tapped rebounding as a major area of concentration Saturday night. And they achieved that goal by out-rebounding Pacific 41-39.

"We accomplished one of our major goals by out-rebounding the other team tonight."

Ian Crosswhite
forward

"They know and I know that we still need to go back to the drawing board on certain things like rebounding and defense," Kent said.

The Ducks will go back to the

drawing board this week in practice as the prepare for a game against Portland — a team that beat Oregon in the preseason last year — Wednesday night at Mac Court.

Looming on the schedule is Saturday's matchup with No. 2 Kansas in the Papé Jam in Portland. The Jayhawks surely won't be ranked as high as No. 2 when the polls come out today — Kansas lost to unranked North Carolina and No. 7 Florida in the Preseason NIT last week — but the game is still an important one for the Ducks.

Both of Oregon's games this week will be revenge games. Portland beat Oregon 79-78 in the Rose City last year, while Kansas ended Oregon's season with a 104-86 win in the NCAA Tournament's Elite Eight in March.

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Jeremy Forrest Emerald

Luke Ridnour (with ball) led all scorers with 24 points against Pacific on Saturday.

Women

continued from page 9

Bev Smith said. "She is our stopper on defense. She sets the tone for us and gets us ready to play."

Down 35-32 with 15:41 left in the second stanza, Oregon watched the Eagles go on a 9-0 run. The Ducks were able to get within single-digit points just one time from that point on before Boston College broke the game open for good with a 10-4 run over the final 4:36 of the contest.

Jessalyn Devany led the Eagles with 25 points and eight rebounds.

On Thursday, Oregon was off its game, losing to the Gamecocks convincingly.

Jocelyn Penn was dynamite for South Carolina (4-0), leading the squad with 24 points, and contributed with nine rebounds as Oregon was dominated on the boards again.

The Gamecocks registered 18 offensive rebounds to Oregon's nine.

"We got busted on the boards," Smith said. "Any time a team gets that many offensive rebounds, it's a problem."

The Ducks uncharacteristically shot 6-of-15 from the charity stripe. Making matters worse, Oregon shot 36 percent (16-of-45) from the field — including 6-of-22 in the second half — and 2-of-11 from beyond the 3-point arc.

"We weren't in control on the offensive end," Smith said. "When we're in control, we make things happen. Tonight, we didn't cut well or set hard screens. It's going to take more time on the offensive end. It's not a short-term project."

Sophomore Andrea Bills led Oregon's lackluster offense with 10 points on 5-of-12 shooting, and sophomore Kedzie Gunderson led the way with three steals.

The Ducks hung with South Carolina at the beginning, trailing just 6-4 at the end of the seventh minute. From then on out, however, the Gamecocks

were too much, spurred by a 13-2 run in the next three minutes.

Five of Gunderson's seven points of the night came within the last 10 minutes of the half as the Ducks closed the gap to 29-22, only to see South Carolina fight back with a 12-4 run to end the first stanza.

The Ducks scored just 14 points in the second half en route to 40 points in the game — the Ducks' lowest point total since scoring 34 against Washington in 1978.

"We had an improved effort and increased intensity," Williams said. "But we can't allow ourselves to get into a hole early against a team like that. It was hard to fight back."

Oregon plays next on Thursday, when Portland visits McArthur Court for a 7 p.m. start. The Ducks then travel to Portland on Saturday for the Papé Jam against Brigham Young, beginning at 3 p.m. at the Rose Garden.

Contact the sports reporter at hankhager@dailymerald.com.

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