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Men's

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Saturday after playing limited minutes because of foul trouble.

Johnson and Ian Crosswhite fouled out late in the game for Oregon. Senior center Brian Helquist, who injured his right shoulder in practice Monday and missed the Ducks' win over Portland on Wednesday, started and tallied two points and six rebounds in 17 minutes.

The Oregon victory spoiled the homecoming for Kansas guards Aaron Miles and Michael Lee, graduates of Portland's Jefferson High School who had a large supporting crowd. Miles finished with just two points on 1-for-11 shooting and seven turnovers. Lee had 11 points and eight rebounds off the bench.

Kirk Hinrich, a preseason All-American, paced the Jayhawks with 24 points.

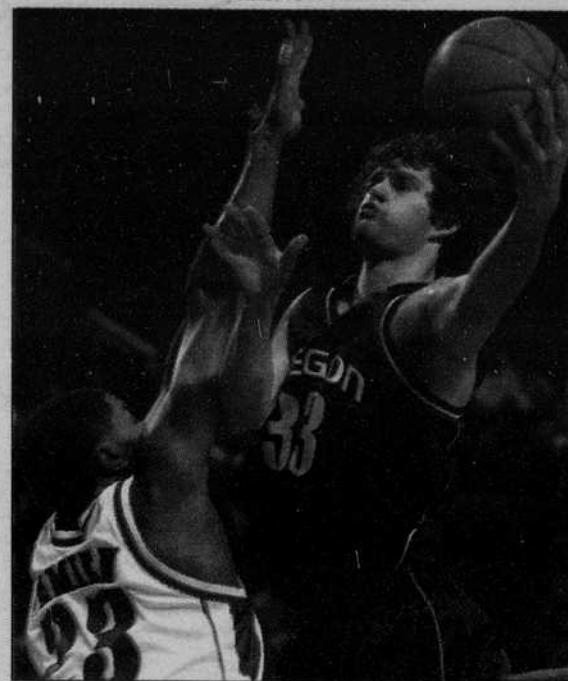
"We didn't play as well as we did in the tournament against them last year, but Oregon had a lot to do with that today," Kansas head coach Roy Williams said.

"It was a classic college basketball atmosphere. Anyone who loves basketball had to love it out there today.

"It was a tough atmosphere, and to hang in there was good for this team. But we're not into moral victories; never have been and never will be."

Jackson had 18 points in the first half as the Ducks held a 47-43 lead at intermission after leading by as much as 14.

Having proven itself worthy of its No. 7 ranking, Oregon's next task is a road trip to Pepperdine on Saturday before heading off to the Jimmy V. Classic in East Rutherford, N.J., on Dec. 17 to face Cincinnati.



Adam Amato Emerald

Luke Jackson (33) led all scorers with 26 points in Saturday's win over No. 14 Kansas at the Rose Garden in Portland.

"We're a contender, right up with the best in the country," Jackson said. "We're not scared of anybody."

Contact the senior sports reporter at adamjude@dailyemerald.com.

Ridnour

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than he is."

And in an early-season situation, when it's too early to mention the words "Player of the Year," the talk was instead about how Ridnour has lifted the Ducks to be a top-tier basketball program.

"You can't say enough about Luke Ridnour," Jackson said. "He

makes everyone on the team that much better. I'm just happy to have him on my team."

As the players were introduced before the game, spotlights scanned the players and the crowd.

But during the game, the spotlight was directly on Ridnour. With the national cameras pointed at him, he stepped into it easily.

And how did Ridnour himself handle it when he was bombarded with

questions about his talent?

"I just love to play basketball," Ridnour said. "We have a lot of guys on this team that are like that, and we all kind of rub off on each other."

For Ridnour, it seems, not much has changed since high school. Even with all the hype and all the spotlights, it's still just about the basketball.

Contact the sports editor at peterhockaday@dailyemerald.com.

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