

Thursday, March 6, 2003

Ticket glitch shrinks student section

Students were shorted 140 seats per game during the men's basketball season because of a contractual mix-up

Peter Hockaday
Sports Editor

The ASU's Athletic Department Finance Committee is set to recover a large sum of money from the Athletic Department next week in compensation for 1,820 student tickets that were never given out for basketball

home games this year.

ADFC Chair Kate Kranzush said the glitch was not intentional, and that the Athletic Department has been fully cooperative in getting the money back.

The 1,820 tickets, or 140 seats per game, come from section 13, where the band was moved this year because of NCAA regulations that bands can't be too close to an opponent's bench. The switch exposed a glitch; The tickets from the section were never distributed and the ADFC ended up with few-

er tickets than stated in its 2002-03 ticket contract.

Associate Athletic Director Steve McBride found out about the discrepancy when counting stubs after a basketball game, and presented it to the ADFC in a Feb. 19 meeting.

"He was as surprised to learn about it as we were," Kranzush said. "Steve had no idea about it."

After it discovered the discrepancy, the ADFC hammered out an agreement to recover \$33,989 in compensation. The figure is the

total cost of the lost tickets minus almost \$11,000 that the ADFC owes the Athletic Department for an upgrade this year in the computer ticketing system.

McBride was presented with the ADFC's final plan Wednesday morning and still has to present it to Athletic Director Bill Moos, who is out of town. But McBride said he doesn't think the plan will hit any speed bumps.

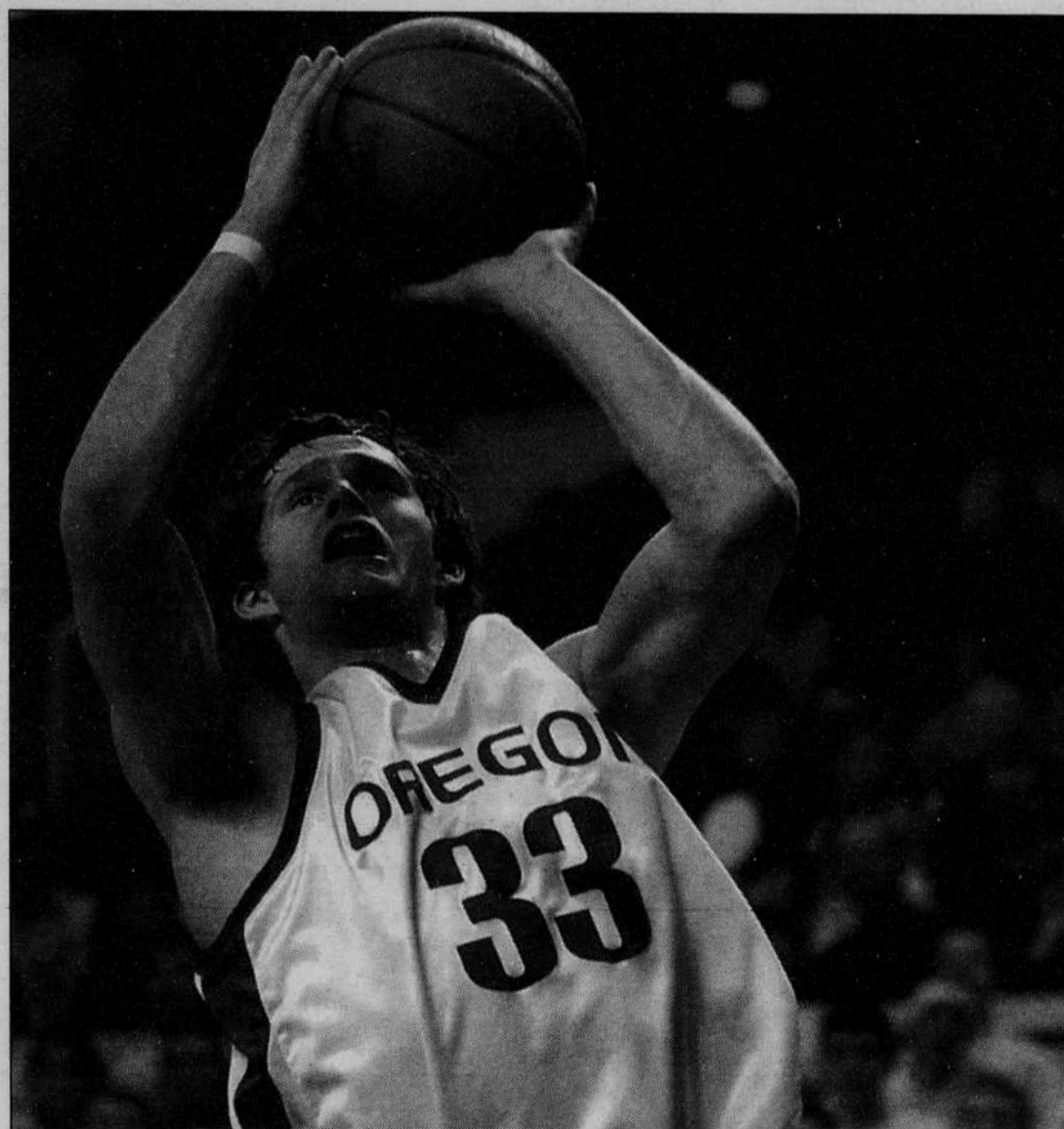
"I think it's fair to say that they haven't been getting all the tickets they paid for," McBride said.

Most of the money will go into the McArthur Court Subsidy Fund, which helps student groups rent Mac Court for events. Some of the money will go into the Incidental Fee Clearing Account, which helps fund student groups, or the Student Senate Surplus Account.

Kranzush said this isn't the first time a glitch like this has happened.

"It happened four or five years ago in football," Kranzush said. "The Athletic Department did the same thing, they refunded the

Turn to **Tickets**, page 13



Adam Amato Emerald

Luke Jackson and the Ducks head to the desert trying to improve their NCAA Tournament position against UA and ASU.

Men hope to survive trip to Arizona, ASU

The Ducks are hoping to avoid a repeat of the UA senior night massacre of two years ago

Men's basketball

Peter Hockaday
Sports Editor

The last time Oregon walked into Tucson on Arizona's senior night, the result was uglier than the bearded lady.

It was two years ago, and luckily the 104-65 beating wasn't Oregon's last game of the season.

But when the Ducks waltz into the McKale Center on Saturday, it will be the final game of the regular season for both teams. And Oregon is doing more than hoping to avoid a blowout. The Ducks want a win.

"We are a basketball team that has been in those tough environments," Oregon head coach Ernie Kent said. "It's all about accountability, if we're accountable we have a good chance to win that game."

Before Arizona, Oregon will face Arizona State. The Ducks and Sun Devils have a set date in the first round of the Pacific-10 Conference Tournament, so tonight's game will be as good a scouting report as is available.

"They really like to put the ball on the floor and drive to the basket," Kent said. "We need to not let (Ike) Diogu have a monster game. I think we let

him have a monster game when they played (in Eugene)."

Diogu is the superstar freshman who is almost a lock for the Pac-10's Freshman of the Year award. He averages 19.3 points per game, good enough for fourth in the Pac-10, and adds eight rebounds per game, also fourth in the conference.

"He just wants the ball," Johnson said. "They're a team that really goes after the ball, and he's like that."

So how to contain Diogu and the Sun Devils? Kent said the Ducks need to keep the style fast and furious, not down and dirty.

"We need to play smart and keep the tempo at our pace," Kent said.

For Oregon, the tempo has been high for a while. The Ducks are 4-1 since a 1-2 stretch in early February cast their NCAA Tournament hopes briefly in doubt. With their 20th win against UCLA on Saturday, Oregon seems like a lock for March Madness now.

But the Ducks still have a 3-4 Pac-10 road record, and that doesn't look good to the NCAA Tournament prognosticators.

A win or two in Arizona would certainly help boost Oregon's March Madness standing. And one of the selection committee's criteria is how a team did in its last 10 games. If the Ducks split in Arizona and win one game in the Pac-10 Tournament, they'll

Turn to **Men's**, page 12

Women need 3 wins for NCAAs

The scenarios of the Pac-10 tourney show the Ducks have a long road ahead if they wish to return to McArthur Court

Women's notes

Jesse Thomas
Sports Reporter

Three games lie ahead for Oregon. Three games that all require a 'W' if the Ducks want to hear screaming fans under the bright lights of McArthur Court again.

Three games stand in the way of the Pacific-10 Conference Championship, which if won by Oregon would place the Ducks in the NCAA Tournament. McArthur Court is a site for the first two rounds of the NCAAs.

They are three games that won't be easy. "It's about playing hard and who wants it more," sophomore Brandi

Davis said. "We just need to have confidence in ourselves and know that we have an opportunity to do something great here with this Pac-10 Tournament."

Oregon's first test is Saturday night against UCLA. The Ducks lost to the Bruins on Saturday after a late shot by senior Michelle Greco.

Oregon will head into Saturday with the same game plan: stay patient, run the offense and try and drive the ball inside. Oregon led most of the game last Saturday and it plans to have the final say this time around.

If the Ducks can overcome the Bruins, the most likely scenario is for them to face Stanford. That is, provided the Cardinal are not upset by the winner of the Arizona State-California game.

The Cardinal visited the Pit in early January and left the crowd shocked as the Ducks lost by only one point. When Oregon traveled to Maples Pavilion, Stanford had its way, win-

ning 85-54.

The Ducks would love the chance to have their turn against Stanford one more time.

"Stanford is always within our reach," sophomore Kedzie Gunderson said. "To me, we are the best matchup with them. Overall, our guards and our post match up well to them."

If Oregon can manage the top-seeded Cardinal and contain junior Nicole Powell, the Ducks will head to the championship game Monday.

Who would they face? Probably Washington or Arizona, provided upsets by Oregon State, USC or Washington State don't occur.

The Huskies and Wildcats pose two completely different threats to Oregon.

With Arizona, there is the post dominance with freshman Shawntinice Polk, and Washington brings

Turn to **Women's**, page 13



Jeremy Forrest Emerald

Kedzie Gunderson (23) said Stanford could be within Oregon's reach.