

Oregon wears out Wolves in blowout win at McArthur

The Ducks used height to their advantage Sunday in a 58-point win over NAIA foe Western Oregon

By **Mindi Rice**
Senior Sports Reporter

In Oregon's women's basketball game against Western Oregon on Sunday, there was one major problem: The Wolves couldn't see the basket over the Ducks, let alone shoot the ball.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

With a 5-foot-4-inch starting point guard and its tallest player equal to the average height of Oregon's starters, the Ducks easily trampled Western Oregon, 87-29, in front of 3,150 fans at McArthur Court.

"It was a good picture of how good we can be," forward Cathrine Kraayeveld said. "I think we can be even better than that. It just showed how well we ran through our offense."

The offense was the easy part. Oregon had 39 points in the first half, and that would have held it the entire game.

Instead, the Ducks continued to pound away on offense every time they had possession of the ball — and even when they didn't. Oregon had 15 steals, including three clean picks by point guard Corrie Mizusawa that she ran the length of the court for uncontested layups. Mizusawa also added 11 assists — her second time in as many games with double-digit assists.

But the game wasn't for showboat-

ing their offense prowess, the Ducks said. They had keys to work on during the game.

"The three things that were looked at were certainly defensively keeping people in front of us, really jumping to the ball and finishing plays, rebounding," head coach Bev Smith said. "We accomplished those better in the second half."

In the second half, the Ducks grabbed 25 rebounds — including 17 defensively, many of which were collected to the sound of the shot clock buzzer.

Three times in the first half, Western Oregon turned the ball over on a shot clock violation. Five consecutive sets in the second, and more sporadically throughout the half, saw shots go up as the clock ticked to zero and the buzzer began to sound — most of the attempts ending off-target in the hands of a Duck.

"We were great on defense," center Andrea Bills said. "We still have a lot of stuff to work on, but that just shows how hard we were playing on the defensive end to get so many shot-clock violations."

Although it looked like an easy win, the Ducks were still happy to be playing against someone else.

"It's definitely helping us," Mizusawa said. "We had a couple main points that we wanted to focus on to get ready to play next week in our tournament. Especially defensively, getting back in transition defense because that's one thing that killed us on Wednesday."

The Wolves had 10 three-point attempts in the game, sinking three of them.

Offensively for Oregon, forward

Carolyn Ganes led the charge with 22 points off the bench. Starters Kraayeveld and Bills each added 17, with nine of the former's points coming from three-point range.

"No matter how easy it was, we still had to go in there and fight for floor position," Bills said. "We've got to learn to be stronger and take things from this game."

Everyone on the bench who was suited up for the game saw at least 10 minutes on the court and contributed at least two points. Even freshman guard Cicely Oaks, who did not play in Wednesday's game against Strakonice, played the final 10 minutes and 39 seconds of the game. Oaks made a three-pointer, grabbed three defensive rebounds and grabbed one steal while she was on the floor.

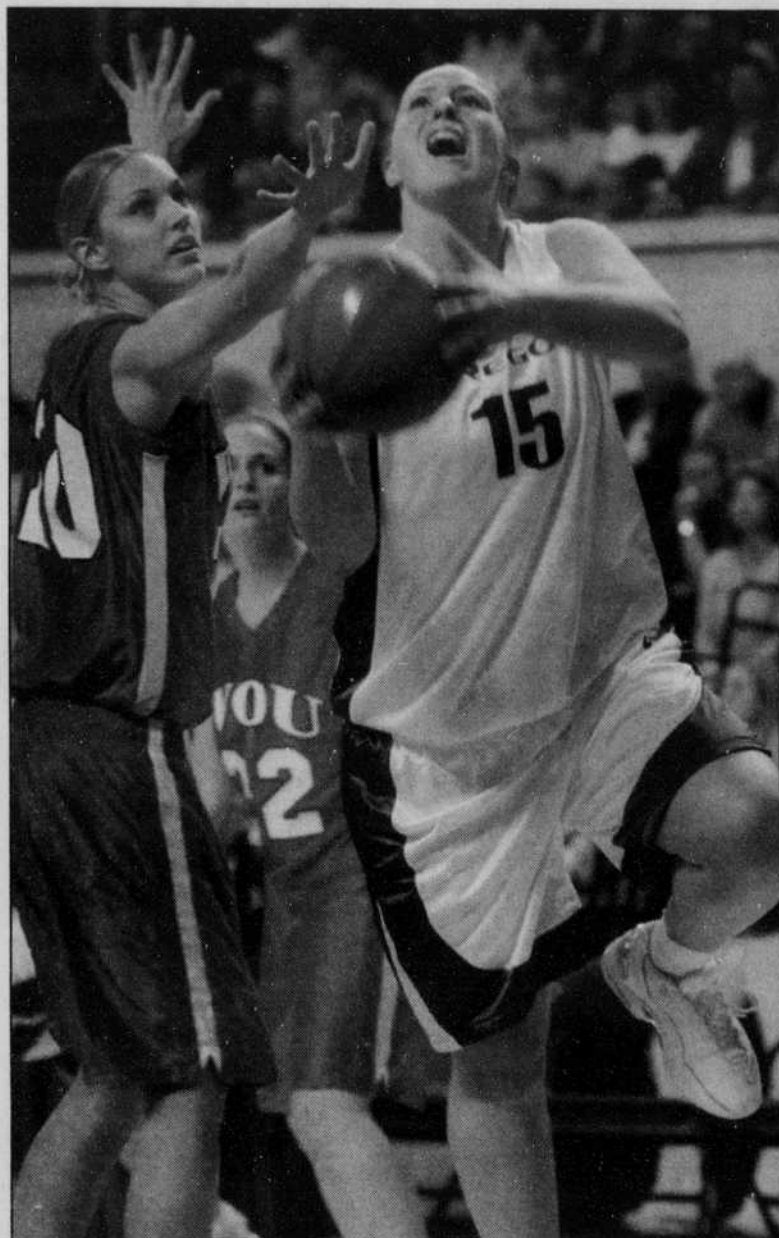
The Ducks, as a unit, made the point that it wasn't about making it as big of a win as possible. Instead, it was about working on the little things.

"We respect the game and what the game demands," Smith said. "It's not who's in front of you, it's not the scoreboard, it's certainly what we have to do to get better."

"Who we are is Oregon. Oregon will always play defense, Oregon will always get back in transition and Oregon will limit second chance opportunities and that's what you play to — your potential and not just what the scoreboard says."

The Ducks have the week for practice before hosting the Women's Sports Foundation Classic on Saturday and Sunday.

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Danielle Hickey Senior Photographer

Oregon's Carolyn Ganes led the Ducks with 22 points in an 87-29 victory Sunday.

Duck post players dominate undersized opponent

Oregon's post players play an integral role in the Ducks' win Sunday; Carolyn Ganes leads UO with 22 points

By **Jon Roetman**
Sports Reporter

If Sunday's exhibition game was an episode of "Wild Discovery", Oregon post players would have been the hunters while an undersized Western Oregon team acted as their prey.

Carolyn Ganes, Cathrine Kraayeveld and Andrea Bills dominated the paint against a Wolves squad whose tallest player — Eugene native Kristi Hill-Rudolph — stood 6 feet 1 inch tall.

The trio combined for 56 points in Sunday's 87-29 win against Western Oregon.

Oregon shot 57 percent for the game, with most of its shots coming from within 10 feet. Even when the Ducks couldn't get a decent inside look, there was always someone open on the perimeter after Western Oregon was forced to double-down defensively.

Oregon head coach Bev Smith said the Ducks looked to utilize their size advantage entering the game, but failed to do so early in the contest.

"I thought that our post players, certainly in the first 10 minutes, were not being as aggressive and burying people as they needed to," Smith said. "Then I thought (Bills) came in after her second shift and really dominated and (Western Oregon) had to make some adjustments."

After building a 14-3 lead with 12 minutes 16 seconds remaining in the first half, Bills took Smith's

words to heart, scoring Oregon's next 10 points. Bills finished with 17 points on 7 of 10 shooting.

Bills said the Ducks were enjoying themselves on the court, while outscoring the Wolves 42-6 in the paint.

"It was a lot of fun," Bills said. "The coaches just emphasized us going inside and posting up hard. The guards were finding us and if (the ball) came in, we were able to pass it back out for the open shot."

After a relatively quiet first half, Ganes finished with fury, scoring 16 of her 22 points in the second half, while connecting on 11 of 14 shots for the game. She also grabbed seven rebounds.

Ganes also credited Oregon's back court for feeding post players both down low and on the move.

"Even in transition, (the guards)

were able to hit us on the run," Ganes said. "We were just playing really well inside and outside."

Kraayeveld scored the game's first two points on a layup, giving the Ducks a lead they wouldn't relinquish. She finished with 17 points on 7 of 9 shooting and was also able to take her game outside, connecting on 3 of 4 from three-point range.

Kraayeveld said front-court players did a good job of scoring inside without forcing their shots.

"We've got to notice (smaller opponents) and take advantage of that when we can," Kraayeveld said. "Not forcing anything, but if we are open, take our shots. All the posts did a good job."

Oregon front-court players were also a major reason that Western Oregon shot 21 percent for the game, including 2 of 22 in the second half. Defensively, the Ducks

challenged every shot, blocking six of them.

Even when the Ducks couldn't get a hand on a shot, their constant pressure made a difference. Several Western Oregon players missed open layups, altering their shots in fear of having them blocked.

Despite the blowout win, Smith said the Ducks are an experienced group and will not take false ideas from the game. She added that players realize points in the paint won't come so easily against larger opponents.

"Our players have been around the block a little bit," Smith said. "They understand who they played today and they understand that certainly next week it's going to be a lot different."

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Panova falls in consolation finale of ITA Championships

Junior Daria Panova reaches the consolation finals at ITA Nationals but loses in a hard-fought three-set match

Alex Tam
Sports Freelancer

The Oregon women's and men's tennis teams did not end the fall season of their year-long schedule the way they wanted to.

DUCK TENNIS

Junior Daria Panova, coming off her tournament victory at the ITA Regionals two weeks ago, advanced to play at the ITA National Intercollegiate Indoor Championships at Ann Arbor, Mich., during the weekend.

There were high expectations for Panova, who was ranked seventh na-

tionally and seeded sixth in a field of 32. In the first round of the singles main draw, however, Panova was upset by Karin Coetzee of Wake Forest in straight sets, 7-5, 6-1. Coetzee is currently ranked No. 53 in the nation.

Panova found more success when she moved to the singles consolation bracket. The third-year Duck came from behind to defeat No. 15 Luana Magnani of USC after losing the first set, 2-6, 6-4, 6-1.

"I feel like when I'm on the court, everyone can beat me," Panova said before the tournament. "It's not that I'm stronger or faster, but I feel like I can fight until the end and I can fight harder than my opponent."

Panova moved on to the semifinal round after beating Florida's Jennifer Magley in a hard-fought match that ended 6-4, 7-5. Panova pressed on against Elizabeth Exon of Michigan in a straight set victory, 6-3, 6-4, despite a hometown

crowd rooting for the Wolverine.

The run ended at the consolation finals when Panova was defeated by Shadisha Robinson of Georgia in a highly competitive match that was determined in the final set, 6-4, 4-6, 6-4.

On the doubles side, Oregon was represented by Panova and senior Courtney Nagle. The duo is ranked No. 13 nationally as a team. The two received one of four at-large bids to the national tournament and it marked the first time in Oregon women's tennis history that a doubles team competed at the event.

In the first round, Nagle and Panova were forced to the consolation bracket when the No. 3-seeded team of Georgia's Agata Cioroch and Robinson defeated the Duck duo, 8-5.

Nagle and Panova continued their struggles and lost in the consolation quarterfinal round to Marshall's No.

41 team of Jessica Johnson and Ashley Croh, 8-6.

Men in L.A.

The men's tennis team competed at the USC Intercollegiate tournament in Los Angeles, Calif., but did not fare as well as they had hoped. The Ducks featured five players in the singles draw and only two advanced to the next round.

Senior Chris King pulled off the only win in the singles draw for the Ducks on the first day when he defeated San Francisco's Andrew Hogan, 6-1, 6-3. King, however, lost in the second round to Brian Swatt of San Diego in straight sets, 6-4, 6-4.

Junior Manuel Kost, ranked 31st nationally, earned a bye for the first round and defeated his second round opponent, Linas Cienas of Loyola Marymount, 4-6, 6-3, 6-4. Kost struggled in the third round, though, and lost to UC Santa Barbara's Alex

Anselmb, 6-2, 6-2.

Two Oregon teams competed on the doubles side but neither could sustain a winning formula to succeed. They combined for only one win.

The Ducks doubles team of sophomore Aaron Spencer and Kost learned that only doubles win when they handled San Diego's Emil and Tom Novak, 8-5. USC's No. 2 duo of Parker Collins and Daniel Langre defeated Spencer and Kost in the quarterfinals, 8-2.

Head coach Chris Russell saw that his young squad needed to continue developing and to gain as much experience as possible.

"We are doing well with the fundamentals," Russell said. "Our execution needs to get better. We came down here to get some matches in, and we did that."

Alex Tam is a freelance writer for the Emerald.