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## STANFORD

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Then, maybe, Oregon could've pulled off the upset.

"I was proud of these guys, the way they battled," Oregon head coach Ernie Kent said. "That was the same kind of effort we had against them at home. I challenged them to play hard and work against Stanford, and they did."

Oregon couldn't capitalize on early second-half Cardinal foul trouble. Stanford was charged with seven fouls in the first five minutes of the second half. The Ducks couldn't run, couldn't get their offense going.

The Cardinal were charged with five more along the way.

"Actually, I think that might have been one of the reasons why it was a little uneven down the stretch," Platt said. "I'm sure (Stanford head coach Mike) Montgomery was saying, 'Look, it's 7-1 in fouls.' The officials probably noticed that."

"You can't leave it up to the officials, though. You've got to go out there and play as a team and win the game yourself."

The Cardinal took an eight-point lead with 7:32 to play and looked like it would control the game from that point on.

Much like it had been in the first half, Oregon came back on a 9-0 run. Jackson hit a jumper to start, then knocked down two free throws after a Matt Haryasz foul.

Ian Crosswhite sank two free throws less than a minute later. Then, James Davis capped the run with his second and final three-pointer of the game with 4:38 to play.

Joseph knocked down four three-pointers, leading Oregon with 16 points. Jackson scored 12 points, his

## HAGER

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He had nine in the second half, but again the Cardinal controlled his shot selection. Only a few times did he get a chance to penetrate to the basket, and when Jackson did, a sea of red defenders converged in the paint.

The shots he did get off in the paint were floaters, quite unlike what fans at McArthur Court saw from him for most of the season.

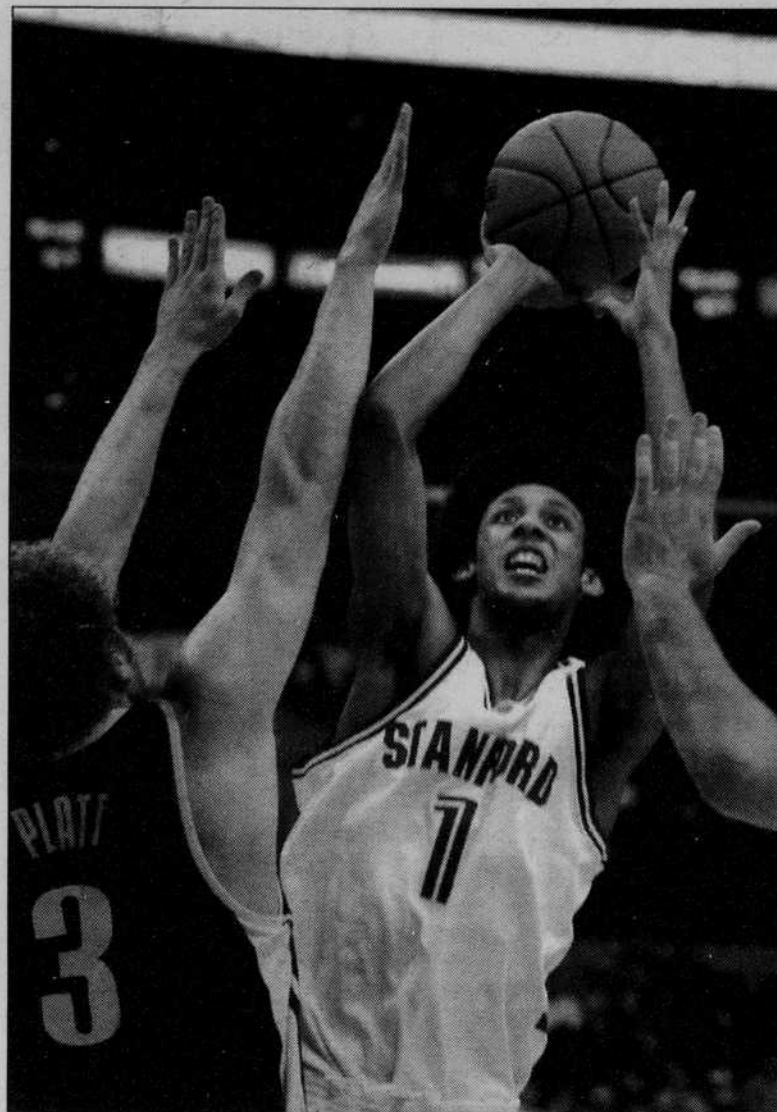
As good of a season Jackson may have had, it was his inability to lead the underachieving Ducks into the postseason that stands out most. He scored 39 points against Oregon State in January

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Karl Mondon Contra Costa Times

Josh Childress scored 18 points to lead Stanford past Oregon on Friday.

second-lowest output of the season. Platt finished with 10.

Childress, the Pac-10 Player of the Year, paced Stanford with 18. Lottich

ended with 15, Rob Little had 13. Contact the sports editor at hankhager@dailyemerald.com.

and a career-high 42 against Arizona a month later, both of which were losses.

Joseph and Davis did get decent looks at the basket against the Cardinal. Joseph showed during the Pacific-10 Conference Tournament what he hadn't for most of the season: He can be a pure shooter given the right situation and would play a significant role on a winning team, as he did prior to this season when Oregon went 23-10 in 2003.

Davis, meanwhile, got those looks and had chances to put the Ducks in commanding situations. He just couldn't do it, instead leading Oregon to a berth in the NIT.

Oh, and that post play? Mitch Platt played a key role in the fact that the Ducks hung around as long as they did.

His reward? Getting replaced by Ian Crosswhite as the game's stretch drive arrived.

Oregon's reward? A second-round upset bid stopped dead in its tracks by No. 2 Stanford.

Jackson and the Ducks should take the loss to Stanford as a lesson. See what happens when a team is balanced offensively, but still manages to allow its top offensive threat to control the flow of the game?

Childress, arguably Stanford's most gifted offensive player, led the Cardinal with 18 points. But he also found the time to give the ball up. Lottich had 15 and Rob Little scored 13 points.

That comes from hard work on the offensive end of the floor. There were but a few series for Stanford where the Cardinal wasn't setting a screen at the top of the key or allowing one of its big men to cut to the basket untouched.

As hard as Oregon tried to do that, it had no foundation to build on. As big of a disappointment as Jackson's output was — but not effort-wise, you can't criticize that — even more disconcerting was a lack of offensive discipline.

Make no mistake, the Ducks didn't take a lead into halftime because of hard work and discipline. No, that was a lackluster effort from Stanford. The Cardinal played down to Oregon's level in the first half, then realized it could use another win before the NCAA Tournament starts.

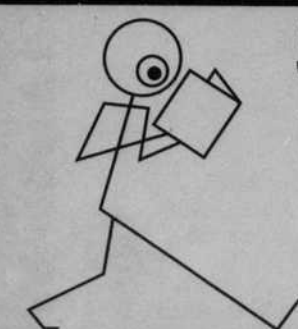
"You can get wonderful highs and you can have a lot of success, but at the same time, when you give everything and you get defeated, it just makes it that much tougher when you leave it out on the floor," Jackson said. "Because it means that much to me, and it means that much to the rest of the guys."

In the end, that just wasn't enough.

Contact the sports editor at hankhager@dailyemerald.com. His opinions do not necessarily represent those of the Emerald.

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