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## NIT

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Davis ended the year with 86 three-pointers, fourth best in a single season. He connected on 242 shots from beyond the arc, second all-time in school history and eighth in the Pacific-10 Conference's.

Jackson, Davis and Anderson went 81-45 in four seasons with the Ducks, and Joseph was 41-22 in two years.

### No consolation

This season marked the first since 1983 that the NIT decided not to have a consolation game, citing attendance as a reason.

The 12,630 in attendance at Tuesday's games was better than the average per session that the tournament had in the past three seasons. Tonight's attendance would rank fourth on the list since the 1983 season if Tuesday's figure is attained or bettered when Rutgers and Michigan play.

However, Rutgers, which is located in nearby New Brunswick, N.J., brought many of its fans to the game.

Madison Square Garden was a sea of red for the Scarlet Knight's game against Iowa State, which the team won, 84-81, in overtime.

That win sets the stage for the

final tonight in New York.

"To have a chance to win the national championship just shows the strides we have made and it shows the hard work (we have put in)," Rutgers guard Ricky Shields said. "It is a building block for us to move on to the next big stage. Right now, we just want to compete Thursday night to the best of our abilities and do the things that can help us win."

### Well, they had the Pac-10 down pat

Who could possibly unite all the fans at Madison Square Garden?

The Oregon cheerleaders, of course. While the Ducks saw their small lead evaporate quickly, then Michigan's grow substantially, the team's cheerleaders began to get the biggest ovations.

Fans yelled individual comments throughout the arena, and eventually gave a standing ovation.

Michigan, Oregon, Rutgers fans, it didn't matter. During halftime, one of the cheerleaders was even seen taking a picture with a Rutgers fan.

Must be that New York hospitality everyone's always talking about.

Contact the sports editor at [hankhager@dailyemerald.com](mailto:hankhager@dailyemerald.com).



**Hank Hager**  
Behind the dish

# Jackson's Oregon finale less than fitting

NEW YORK — It wasn't fitting. It just wasn't. Not for Luke Jackson. Not for the talent he brought to Eugene.

Definitely not for what he brought to the Oregon program.

Oregon's loss to Michigan in the semifinals Tuesday at Madison Square Garden was not the way Jackson was destined to go out. Especially with the Creswell native on the bench for the final 3:22 of the game.

The senior scored 17 points against the Wolverines, just four of those in the second half. When the Ducks needed him the most, he couldn't step up.

But no blame should fall on him. When the Wolverines proved they were too athletic for the Ducks, all the dominoes fell, including the biggest — Jackson.

He tried. Oh did he ever. But he couldn't get past the Michigan defenders and into the lane, as Colorado allowed in the second half and George Mason and Notre Dame allowed all game.

No, the Ducks went up against a more talented team.

Jackson was the perfect player at the right time for head coach Ernie Kent's program. He brought the team an image of durability, strength and a winning swagger.

He and the other seniors always said they remember what it was like their freshman season when the Ducks failed to make it to the postseason. They remember the heartache, the boredom, the jealousy of seeing other players from other schools live

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Ani Nyhus, seen here competing earlier in the season, threw a one-hitter against Portland State on Wednesday, her first start after a no-hitter against Utah State.  
Erik R. Bishoff  
Photographer

## SOFTBALL

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senior season.

Nyhus struck out three in her two innings of work. In Oregon's three-game winning streak, Nyhus has struck out 31 batters in 16 innings of work.

Richards was 3 for 4 with three

RBI's to lead Oregon in the victory.

Vikings second baseman Erin Stokely was 2 for 3 with an RBI.

The Ducks return to Pac-10 play Friday when they face California. Oregon then plays Stanford on Saturday and Sunday before returning to Oregon.

Contact the senior sports reporter at [mindirice@dailyemerald.com](mailto:mindirice@dailyemerald.com).

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