

Trail Blazers suffer surprising loss to Raptors

Blazers forward Zach Randolph goes for 33 points and 15 rebounds despite missing team's charter flight

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
TORONTO — No one expected the Toronto Raptors to be 3-0. Not Vince Carter, and not their fans.

Carter had 25 points, including a go-ahead 3-pointer with 4.8 seconds left, to help the Raptors get off to their best start in franchise history with a

101-97 victory over the Portland Trail Blazers on Sunday.

"I didn't know what to expect, to be honest with you," Carter said. "I started feeling better about this team in the last preseason game."

The attendance of 13,863 was the smallest home crowd in the Raptors' 10-year history. Toronto went 33-49

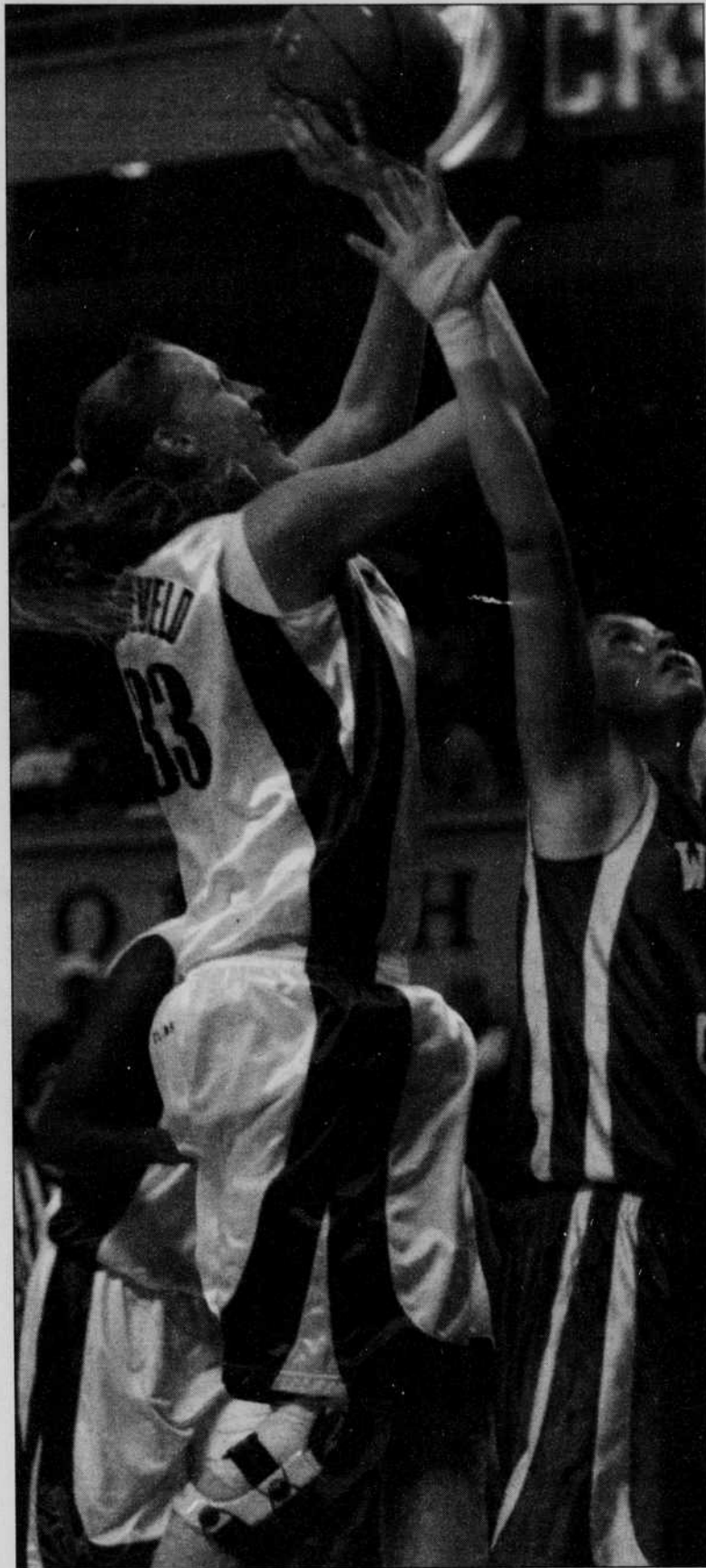
last season, missing the playoffs for the second straight year, and Carter, a five-time All-Star, asked for a trade this summer.

Carter scored nine points in the final 4:28, including the fadeaway 3-pointer that gave Toronto a 98-95 lead.

"That's the Vince Carter that I know. That's the Vince Carter that I

remember," teammate Morris Peterson told Carter after the game.

Zach Randolph had 33 points and 15 rebounds for the Trail Blazers. Randolph started the game despite missing the team flight to Toronto on Saturday. He was fined and had to pay his own way.



TIM BOBOSKY | PHOTOGRAPHER

Oregon's Cathrine Kraayeveld goes for a layup against Western Oregon's Shannon Talbott during an exhibition game on Friday at McArthur Court. Kraayeveld, a senior, scored 10 points and collected nine rebounds in the Ducks' 75-23 victory.

Women's: Ducks spread points evenly

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said. "It was a strong game, and I am hoping to build on it."

Free-throw shooting was the Ducks' Achilles' heel as they converted only six shots in 15 trips to the line.

"We have to get to the free throw line a lot more, and we have to shoot much better from the free-throw line," Smith said.

Senior Cathrine Kraayeveld earned her points the hard way by taking more shots than any of her teammates. She went 5 of 9 from the floor for 10 points. Under the basket, she pulled down a game-high nine rebounds.

Senior Brandi Davis was Oregon's other sharp-shooter and made an immediate impact off the bench as she scored two consecutive three-pointers after entering the game six minutes into it.

"I'm just taking on my role as that bench player that tries to be an offensive spark," Davis, who finished with nine points, said. "If I have the shot, I'll take it. If I have the lane, I'll take it."

No Oregon player was on the floor for more than 20 minutes, and everyone except Kaela Chapdelaine scored. The offense was distributed fairly evenly with Wagner, Davis and Gabrielle Richards each collecting nine points. Senior point guard Corrie Mizusawa kept the game fast-paced with a handful of exciting breakaways. She dished out six assists, scored four points and snagged two steals.

For the most part, the Ducks' defense was nothing more than a size advantage. Height was an obvious and unavoidable obstacle for Western Oregon, which has no player taller than six feet on its roster.

Oregon continued to tune its zone defense and managed to grab 14 steals and six blocks. The Wolves were held to only six points in the paint.

"Sometimes it gets a little skewed, and we get offset," Kraayeveld said. "If we just keep communicating it's going to be a really effective defense this year."

Junior Carolyn Ganes did not play. Coach Smith said that they have decided to redshirt Ganes so she can fully recover from ankle and back problems.

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IN BRIEF

Swinnen ousted from Indoor Championships

Oregon's Sven Swinnen, the No. 12 ranked collegiate singles player in the country, was defeated in the second round of the ITA National Intercollegiate Indoor Championships Friday in Ann Arbor, Mich.

Swinnen, the tournament's No. 5-8 seed, was defeated by No. 59 Arnaud Leclerc of Virginia Commonwealth, 6-7, 6-4, 6-4. The loss ends

Swinnen's run at the Indoors and drops his singles record to 7-3.

The Oregon senior advanced to the second round with a 2-6, 7-6, 5-3 (ret.) victory against No. 13 Mark Van Elden of Oklahoma State Thursday.

"Sven did another outstanding job of battling back," Oregon interim head coach Ross Duncan said after Swinnen's victory. "He wore down Van Elden after the first set and came away with a huge win."

Swinnen reached the tournament after becoming the first Oregon men's player to win an ITA Regional event last week when he won the Northwest

Regional in Berkeley, Calif.

Swinnen has improved his singles ranking from last year, when he finished 16th in the country, which is tops in program history. Swinnen also gained All-American honors after going 22-8 in singles play.

"He has figured out a style that suits him well," former Oregon head coach Chris Russell said.

The Ducks close out the fall individual tournament season, Nov. 8-15, at the USTA Futures in Honolulu, Hawaii.


— Brian Smith

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