

"You look around the league, and the guys who are carrying their teams are veterans. We're not doing that for some reason."

Oregon head coach Ernie Kent after the Ducks' 88-69 loss to Stanford

■ Women's basketball

Oregon overwhelms USC in 81-59 rout

The Ducks outrebound the Trojans 44-28 and improve to 6-0 against Pac-10 teams at Mac Court

BY STEPHEN MILLER
SPORTS REPORTER

Senior Andrea Bills credits her team's threads for Oregon's success at home against Pacific-10 Conference opponents this season.

"It's the white uniforms," she said after her team dismantled Southern California, 81-59, in front of 4,096 fans at Saturday's matinee at McArthur Court.

The Ducks (14-6 overall, 7-4 Pac-10) improved to 9-1 at home this season — 6-0 against Pac-10 teams — with a showcase of disciplined shot selection and aggressive rebounding.

Meanwhile, the Women of Troy dropped to 8-3 in conference play and 14-6 overall, but they continue to hold the second best record in Pac-10 conference play.

"(The Ducks) executed their motion offense, they played great defense and they killed us on the boards," said USC head coach Mark Trakh, whose team brought down only 28 rebounds compared to Oregon's 44. "We usually win the battle of the boards."

The unarmed Women of Troy won very few battles; however, they committed fewer turnovers, recorded more steals and shot better from the free-throw line.

But Oregon controlled the defensive glass, collecting 36 USC misses. "That's going to be the key to victories in the Pac-10 — controlling the boards," Oregon head coach Bev Smith said. "We were demons on the defensive boards. We really

got after it and didn't give them second-chance points."

The Ducks, who scored a season-high 45 first-half points, witnessed the seniors score 66 of their 81 points.

Cathrine Kraayeveld (9-of-11 shooting) and Bills (9-of-14) each posted 22 points. Their similarities were noticeable early with each player recording 11 points and six rebounds before halftime. Both veteran players finished with 11 rebounds. A lay-up with 4:26 left in the first half helped Kraayeveld surpass the 1,000-career-points mark.

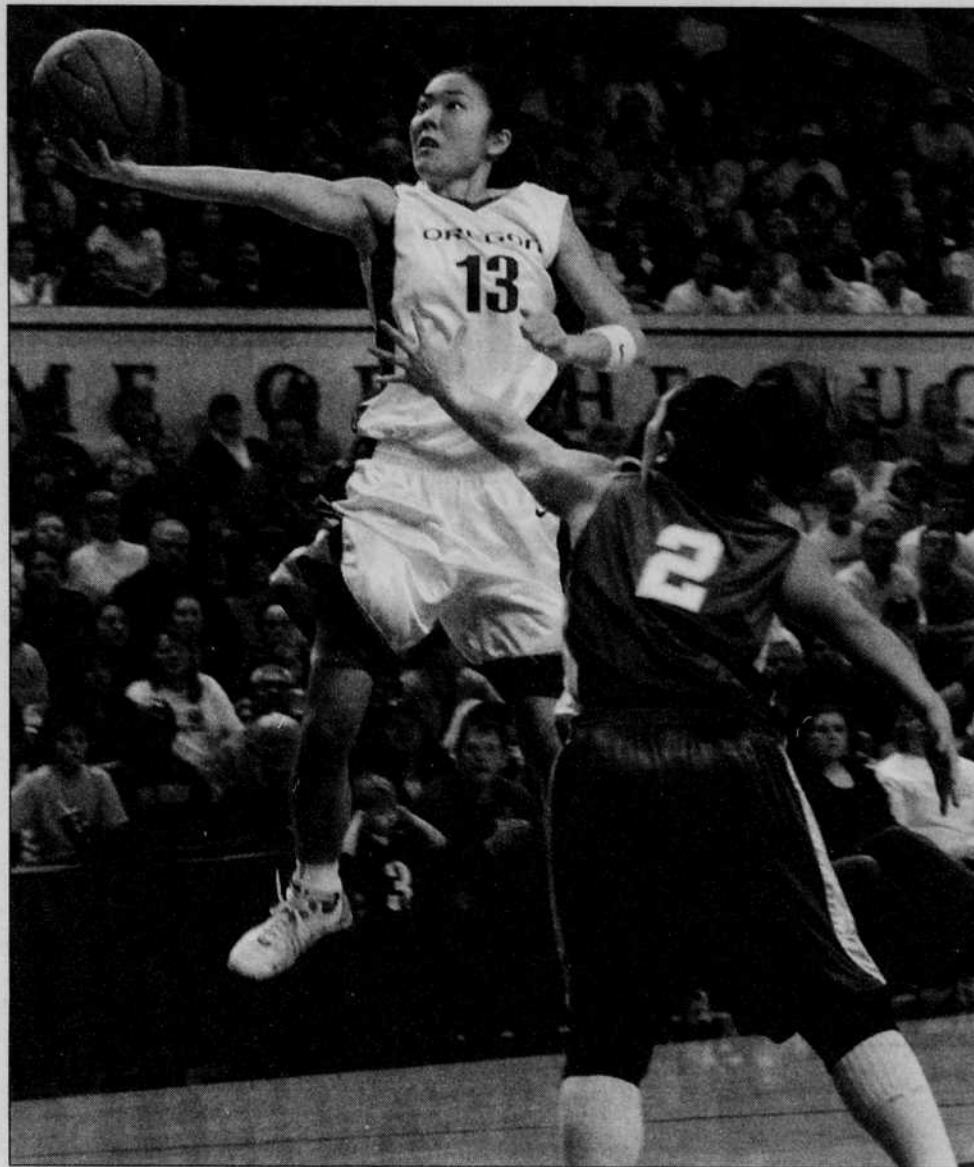
"Kraayeveld played very well and Bills just made every shot," Trakh said. "Their whole team played with a sense of urgency."

Kraayeveld was a perfect 4-of-4 from long range while shooting guard Brandi Davis scored 14 points, and all four of her field goals came from beyond the arc. Point guard Corrie Mizusawa tallied eight points to go with a game-high nine assists.

"Our players just did a great job of following the game plan," Smith said.

Bills opened up her shot availability and spread USC's defense with some early outside shots. She started the game by draining a shot that came from just beyond the free-throw line. It set the tone for a night where she tied career bests in points scored and field goals made.

"I'm still working on the three-pointer ... I'm pretty sure they



Oregon point guard Corrie Mizusawa was one of four seniors who contributed in Saturday's 81-59 victory at McArthur Court over USC with eight points and a game-high nine assists.

ERIK R. BISHOFF | PHOTOGRAPHER

■ Men's basketball

Stanford uses fast start to dominate in 88-69 victory

BY JON ROETMAN
SENIOR SPORTS REPORTER

The Oregon men's basketball team had aspirations of qualifying for the NCAA Tournament while training this summer.

Loaded with an abundance of young talent in the backcourt and four players standing 6-foot-10 or taller, a trip to the Big Dance seemed feasible.

But after 18 games, it appears qualifying for even the Pacific-10 Conference Tournament will be a test for the fledgling Ducks.

Oregon (11-7 overall, 3-6 Pac-10) closed out the first half of its conference schedule with an 88-69 loss to Stanford (12-7, 6-3) on Saturday in front of 7,233 fans at Maples Pavilion. It was the Ducks' fourth consecutive loss and sixth in their last eight games.

Oregon entered the contest having lost 18 consecutive games at Stanford. The Cardinal ended any hope the Ducks had of breaking that streak with a phenomenal first half performance. Stanford shot 20-of-36

from the floor, including 5-of-10 from three-point range, resulting in a 51-25 halftime lead.

The Cardinal set the tone early with its first basket. Junior point guard Chris Hernandez showed his veteran savvy when he got the ball inside against Kenny Love, banking in an 8-footer over the Duck guard and drawing a foul by leaning into Love during his release.

The Cardinal continued to play like the more experienced team, passing the ball around on offense until it found a quality shot. While Stanford knocked down one open look after another, Oregon hoisted poor shots and failed to convert its open shots.

Stanford had first-half leads of 10-2 and 37-16 and led by as many as 32 in the second half before Oregon rallied late to make the score reflect a game more competitive than it actually was.

The Ducks also had no answer for Cardinal forward Matt Haryasz, who scored 20 points and

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■ Women's basketball

Seniors play pivotal role in lifting Oregon over USC

Four veteran players score 66 of the Ducks' 81 total points, including the team's final 23

BY BRIAN SMITH
SPORTS REPORTER

There are a number of reasons for Oregon's dominant 81-59 victory over Southern California Saturday at McArthur Court.

The Ducks shot 62 percent from the floor and 69 percent from beyond the three-point line.

The Ducks out-rebounded the Trojans 44-28. The Ducks dished out more assists.

And lastly but most importantly, the Ducks used experience to stay perfect at home against Pacific-10 Conference opponents this year.

With 15:08 left in the second half and the Ducks up by 26 points — their largest lead of the game — USC made its best attempt at a comeback.

The Trojans switched to a full-court press and forced the Ducks to commit 11 turnovers in their next 13 possessions, resulting in a 12-0 run by the Women of Troy.

After a Duck timeout with 8:57 left, Oregon senior Andrea Bills, who tied for a game-high 22 points, ended the Trojans' run with five straight points and re-ignited the Duck offense.

"It was big time," Bills said. "There was one point where we had a few turnovers and the

seniors stepped it up, just trying to show leadership and getting our teammates back into it if they were slipping off mentally."

The quartet of seniors — Bills, Cathrine Kraayeveld, Corrie Mizusawa and Brandi Davis — scored 66 of the team's 81 points and the last 23 points of the game.

"I thought we had exceptional leadership by those three (Kraayeveld, Bills and Mizusawa)," Oregon head coach Bev Smith said. "And not just in terms of scoring, but keeping the younger players believing, being vocal, being supportive."

For the weekend, senior point guard Mizusawa handed out 18 assists, limited her turnovers to six and, most importantly, routinely broke both USC and UCLA's press defenses.

"The coaches definitely look to us to be leaders," Kraayeveld said. "And I think that is what our team needs, is somebody to step up every game."

After an off-night against UCLA on Thursday, the 6-foot-4 Kraayeveld returned to form against USC, grabbing her seventh double-double of the season and 26th of her career.

The weekend series also saw the re-emergence of Brandi Davis, who scored 42 points over both games and has filled the role of injured shooting guard Chelsea Wagner.

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GAME TIME

Mon. Jan. 31-
Tue. Feb. 1

Men's golf

Oregon at Ping Arizona
Intercollegiate

Thu. Feb. 3-Sun.
Feb. 6

Softball

Oregon at Hawaii Paradise
Classic

Fri. Feb. 4

Wrestling

Oregon at Oklahoma,
5:30 p.m.

Women's tennis

Oregon vs. Texas Tech,
6 p.m.

Fri. Feb. 4-
Sat. Feb. 5

Track

Oregon at McDonald's
Collegiate

Sat. Feb. 5

Men's tennis

Oregon at BYU, 12 p.m.

Men's basketball

Oregon at Oregon State,
4 p.m.

Wrestling

Oregon at Oklahoma State,
5 p.m.

Women's

basketball

Oregon vs. Oregon State,
7 p.m.

Sun. Feb. 6

Women's tennis

Oregon vs. San Diego
State, 10 a.m.

Super Bowl XXXIX

New England vs.
Philadelphia, 3:30 p.m.

OREGON SCORES

Fri. Jan. 28

Wrestling

Oregon 22, Stanford 21
Cal State Fullerton 29,
Oregon 12

Sat. Jan. 29

Men's basketball

Stanford 88, Oregon 69
SU: Haryasz 20 pts, 20 reb
SU: Hernandez 19 pts,
5 ast, 2 stl

UO: Hairston 19 pts, 7 reb

Women's basketball

Oregon 81, USC 59
UO: Kraayeveld 22 pts,
11 reb (scored 1,000th
career point)

UO: Bills 22 pts, 11 reb
USC: Murphy 12 pts, 8 reb

Men's tennis

Oregon 7, St.
Mary's (Calif.) 0

Oregon 7, Eastern
Washington 0

Women's tennis

Oregon 7, Boston College 0

Sun. Jan. 30

Wrestling

Arizona State 23,
Oregon 15