

"They're our big three, even though Corrie is a little short."

Oregon's Brandi Davis describing the team's seniors

Men's basketball

Ducks fall once again after early lead fades

Turnovers, missed free throws and fouls plagued the second half of the game for Oregon

BY JON ROETMAN
SENIOR SPORTS REPORTER

For the first 22 minutes of Saturday's game against Arizona State, Oregon played like the much-hyped group of athletes the public was informed about in October.

For the game's final 18 minutes, however, the Ducks looked like the same inexperienced bunch that has stumbled its way through the last month of Pacific-10 Conference play.

After building a 38-25 lead two minutes into the second half, the Oregon men's basketball team was outscored 41-18 and fell to Arizona State, 66-56, at Wells Fargo Arena in Tempe.

Steve Moore scored 17 of his 22 points in the second half to spark the Sun Devil comeback, including a three-pointer with less than 12 minutes remaining to tie the score at 42.

The teams traded baskets for the next five minutes as the Ducks (12-11 overall, 4-10 Pac-10) grabbed a 53-50 lead on a Brandon Lincoln dunk with 7:20 remaining. From that point, the Sun Devils (18-9, 7-8) closed the game on a 16-3 run, with Moore and Ike Diogu scoring 12 of the 16 points.

Oregon was held scoreless for more than five minutes down the stretch, with its only field goal during the game's final seven minutes coming on a Malik Hairston putback with 32.6 seconds remaining.

"It was a frustrating loss," Oregon head coach Ernie Kent said after the game. "I thought we had complete control of the game at one point in the second half."

Oregon was once again plagued by turnovers. The Ducks finished with 19 giveaways — compared with only six by the Sun Devils — and turned the ball over on their first three possessions of the game.

Aaron Brooks, Bryce Taylor and Hairston combined for 14 turnovers.

When Oregon wasn't turning the ball over, it was hampered by missed free throws. The Ducks turned in another pathetic performance from the foul line, connecting on only 6 of 16 freebies. Arizona State, on the other hand, capitalized on its opportunities, knocking down 17 of 25 foul shots.

Many of the Sun Devils' trips to the foul line were a result of poor post defense by the Ducks. Oregon routinely double-teamed Diogu down low, and the Duck big men continued to reach in and slap at the ball, forcing officials to blow their whistles.

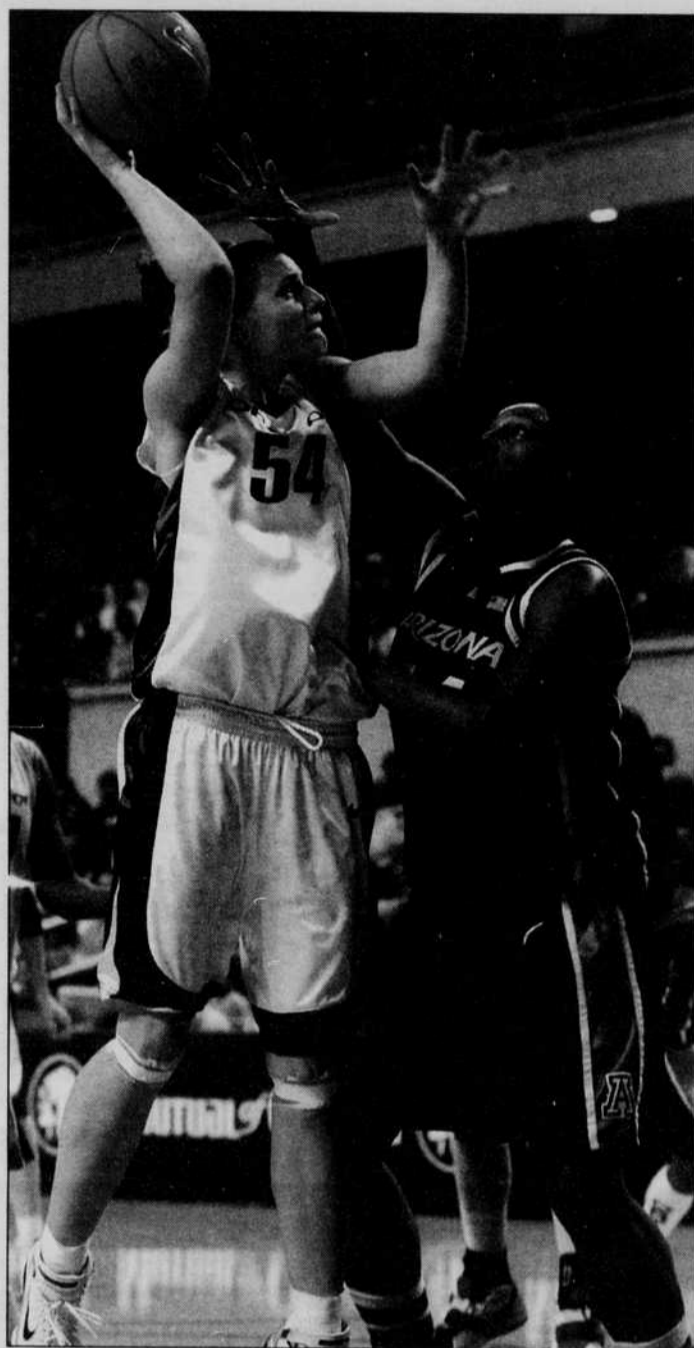
"We let (Arizona State) back into the game with as poorly as we played in terms of our intelligence on the defensive end of the floor," Kent said. "When we had Ike in double-teams, (we didn't execute)."

Kent went on to say he didn't agree with the officiating but also said it was not an excuse for the Ducks' poor second-half play.

"(The game) was very poorly called, I thought," Kent said. "I think they'll go back and see that we just got hammered inside, and sometimes I thought we were in position and Ike just kind of bowled us over and there were no calls."

"But you can't blame (the loss) on officiating. I told the guys that officiating is going to be

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ERIK R. BISHOFF | PHOTOGRAPHER

Oregon's Eleanor Haring takes a shot during the Ducks' 69-51 victory against Arizona on Saturday at McArthur Court. The sophomore struggled from the field but played solid defense that included two steals.

Women's basketball

Davis eligible for one more year

The Ducks' other three seniors, Kraayeveld, Mizusawa and Bills, played for the last time at McArthur Court

BY STEPHEN MILLER
SPORTS REPORTER

The table was set for the Ducks on Saturday: The chance to claim both second place in the Pacific-10 Conference and an undefeated home record against Pac-10 teams on Senior Day were available for the taking.

Three Oregon seniors played at McArthur Court for the final time in their careers. They each got plenty of recognition, and they each went out with a lot to be proud of.

But what about the fourth senior on the Ducks' roster?

Senior guard Brandi Davis reminded fans — and has reminded opponents all season as she did in Oregon's 69-51 victory over Arizona — that she's a dangerous and exciting player with another season of eligibility left.

But she doesn't want to be the one to break the bad news to her Pac-10 opponents.

"I'm not trying to put a certified stamp on what I'm doing," said Davis, who finished Saturday's game with a team-high 19 points on 7 of 15 shooting with five three-pointers. "It's not a 'hey, I'm coming back.' It's

just I went out there and played. We all competed, and we came out with the win.

"This was a big game for the seniors, and I was just enjoying it because they were enjoying it."

Davis, a native of La Habra, Calif., has started the last five games for Oregon and was the leading scorer in four of the last seven contests.

"She's playing a lot more — playing very confident," Arizona head coach Joan Bonvicini said. "She misses one (shot), but she doesn't have any conscience about putting up the next one."

That's how Davis has played all season and all through her career. Even though she lets the ball fly with more frequency than her teammates, she has gained a recent shooting discipline similar to seniors Cathrine Kraayeveld, Andrea Bills and Corrie Mizusawa, a trio that has led the team.

"They're our big three, even though Corrie is a little short," Davis said. "We're really proud of all our seniors, and we were just happy to give them the biggest present of all, and that's going undefeated at Mac Court in

Women's basketball

Ducks take second in Pac-10 with Arizona win

The Ducks remained undefeated in Pac-10 play at Mac Court after a 69-51 victory Saturday

BY BRIAN SMITH
SPORTS REPORTER

For the Oregon women's basketball team, Saturday's game against Arizona was more than just a sending off for a heralded group of seniors.

The victory meant sole possession of second place in the Pacific-10 Conference going into the final weekend of the conference season.

Behind a season-high 11 three-pointers and solid defense, the Ducks (18-7 overall, 11-5 Pac-10) took a 17-point lead early in the second half and never looked back, beating the Wildcats (18-9, 10-6) 69-51 at McArthur Court.

The victory capped off a perfect 9-0 record at home in conference play. For the year, the Ducks are 12-1 at home; the only loss coming at the hands of then-No. 10 Ohio State in December.

Before the game, emotions were high as the Ducks honored seniors Cathrine Kraayeveld, Andrea Bills and Corrie Mizusawa in front of an announced crowd of 4,682. Early in the game, however, that emotion seemed to hinder Oregon, as the Ducks started out cold and fell behind 10-3 early in the first half.

Instead of getting flustered, the Ducks relied on some key scoring by a couple of freshman — Kristen Forristall and Gabrielle Richards — to weather the early Arizona run and stay

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ERIK R. BISHOFF | PHOTOGRAPHER

Oregon's Brandi Davis made a 19-point statement in the Ducks' 69-51 Senior Day victory over Arizona. Davis is expected to return next year for her last season of eligibility.

Pac-10 play."

Before the game, the three outgoing seniors were recognized for their accomplishments and the statistics they've recorded in their careers, which have included countless floor burns.

Kraayeveld notched the 27th

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GAME TIME

Mon. Feb. 21-
Tue. Feb. 22

Women's golf
Oregon @ Wildcat Invitational

Thu. Feb. 24

Women's basketball

Oregon @ Stanford, 7 p.m.

Men's basketball

Oregon vs. California
7:30 p.m.

Fri. Feb. 25 - Sat.
Feb. 26

Track

Oregon @ Mountain Pacific Championships

Fri. Feb. 25 - Sun.
Feb. 27

Softball

Oregon @ NFCA Leadoff Classic, Columbus, Ga.

Fri. Feb. 25

Women's tennis

Oregon @ Arizona,
1:30 p.m.

Lacrosse

Oregon @ Denver, 2 p.m.

Sat. Feb. 26

Women's tennis

Oregon @ Arizona State,
11 a.m.

Lacrosse

Oregon @ Northwestern
in Denver, 11 a.m.

Women's basketball

Oregon @ California, 2 p.m.

Men's tennis

Oregon vs. Texas Tech
in Seattle, 3 p.m.

Men's basketball

Oregon vs. Stanford, 4 p.m.

Sun. Feb. 27

Men's tennis

Oregon @ Washington,
2 p.m.

Sun. Feb. 27-
Mon. Feb. 28

Wrestling

Oregon @
Pac-10 Tournament
in San Luis Obispo, Calif.

GAME SCORES

Fri. Feb. 18

Men's tennis

Oregon 5, Minnesota 2

Sat. Feb. 19

Men's basketball

Arizona State 66, Oregon 56

UO: Hairston 18 pts, 11 reb

ASU: Diogu 23 pts, 9 reb

Women's basketball

Oregon 69, Arizona 51

UO: Kraayeveld 14 pts,
11 reb, Bills 10 pts, 10 reb

Sun. Feb. 20

Softball

Game 1:

Oregon 2, Portland State 1

UO: Cook CG, 3 hits, 12 Ks

Game 2:

Portland State 6, Oregon 5