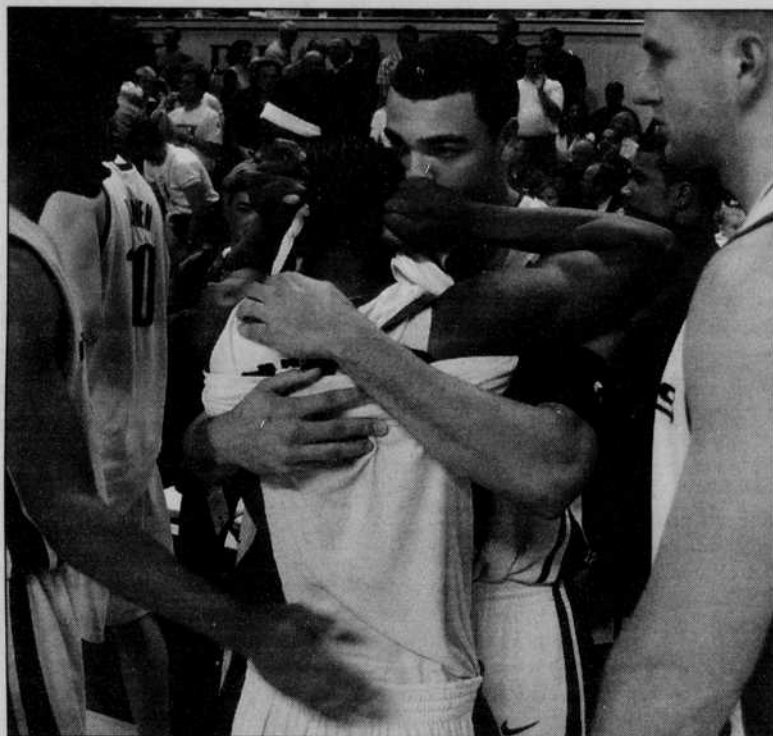


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ERIK R. BISHOFF | PHOTOGRAPHER

Oregon point guard Aaron Brooks, center with back turned, is consoled by Jordan Kent after the Ducks' two-point loss to Stanford Saturday.

Men: Aaron Brooks commits 27 turnovers in four games

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games, turning the ball over 27 times while dishing out 18 assists.

Hairston was the only other Duck to score in double figures, finishing with 12 points. But the shots the freshman didn't hit had a bigger impact on Saturday's outcome. Along with missing the game's final two field-goal attempts, Hairston missed a pair of costly free throws down the stretch. With less than four minutes remaining and Oregon leading 56-54, Hairston twice missed the front end of a one-and-one, allowing Stanford to tie the game at 56 on a pair of free throws by Jason Haas with 1:11 remaining.

Hairston is shooting 48 percent from the foul line this season, connecting on only 39 of 81 free throws.

"I take full responsibility for the free throws," Hairston said. "It's just a learning experience for me. It's kind of been my Achilles' heel all season."

Kent said Hairston's free-throw shooting will improve with experience.

"His form is great," Kent said. "He makes them in practice on a regular basis. But the intensity of a ball game, with the money on the

line (makes it tough). The fatigue factor is huge — mentally and physically. For freshmen, it just takes them time for their body and minds to handle that."

Haryasz had another big game against Oregon. After dropping 20 points and grabbing 20 rebounds against the Ducks at Maples Pavilion in late January, the 6-foot-11 junior scored 18 points on 6 of 9 shooting and grabbed 10 rebounds. Hernandez was held in check, hitting only 2 of 13 field goal attempts, but still scored 16 points by going 10 of 10 from the foul line.

Oregon needs some help if it is to qualify for a berth in the Pac-10 Tournament. The Ducks are tied for eighth place with California, but the Golden Bears hold the tiebreaker over Oregon. Cal plays Washington and Washington State — which is a game ahead of Oregon — at home next week, while the Ducks travel to face Southern California and UCLA to close the regular season.

The top eight teams in the conference qualify for the tournament.

jonroetman@dailyemerald.com

Women: Freshman Forristall notches 12 points, eight boards

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assists. The senior forward added three steals and two blocks, both game-highs.

"Cathrine is more than a go-to player," Smith said. "She's an offensive threat for us inside and outside."

Freshman Kristen Forristall also had an impressive game for Oregon as she contributed 12 points and a career-best eight rebounds.

Reserve senior post Khadijah Coakley recorded a double-double for Cal with a team-high 11 points and a game-high 12 rebounds. No other player reached double figures in scoring for the Bears, and their bench provided half of the team's scoring with 25 points.

"Khadijah Coakley played one of the best games I think I've ever seen (her play)," Horstmeyer said.

Senior center Andrea Bills played in her 119th game and is tied for third all-time at Oregon.

Corrie Mizusawa passed out nine assists in 38 minutes for the Ducks, even after dislocating the

middle finger of her right hand in practice the previous day.

"She just said, 'I'm playing,'"

Smith said. "She was a true warrior and played very solid for us."

The senior point guard, who is a native of the nearby Lafayette, Calif., moved into sixth place for career assists with 363 at Oregon, which is only six assists behind Shaquala Williams in fifth place. Mizusawa needs seven assists to tie Jacquie Semeniuk for the program's single-season assists record.

stephenmiller@dailyemerald.com

"We talked all along that this year we have set ourselves up to always have our destiny in our own hands."

BEV SMITH | Oregon head coach

Jones: Hernandez needs to know that the mud slings both ways

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But Kent did bring up some interesting examples of what those classy geniuses at Stanford have come up with in the past.

"You can't call the Pit Crew out of line," Kent said. "I've been down there and picked up one of their sheets, and they talked about (former Oregon guard) Freddie Jones smoking the wacky tobaccy and Ian (Crosswhite), calling him a big, dumb goof."

Wacky tobaccy? A big, dumb goof? I'm glad to see that such a prestigious school has really blossomed creatively.

But getting away from the sarcastic cracks that spawn from my pure jealousy of Stanford, I do think Cardinal players were a little sensitive to the comments.

While I wasn't close enough to hear the Pit Crew's remarks, its job is to get in the opposition's heads and get them out of their game.

And Hernandez: If it weren't for

some questionable "foul" calls resulting in you sinking all 10 of your free-throw attempts, it would have been an ugly 2 of 13 performance for six points.

But I do respect your game.

You work hard and are a very physical point guard. You're the type of player that everybody hates when they play you, but would love to have on their own team.

And Kent had some wise words that you can hopefully take into consideration.

"Their (crowd) is no different than ours," Kent said. "I didn't think (Oregon players were) out of line down at their place, and we heard some stuff out of those stands too."

"That's a part of the game, to me, that you have to live with."

And I hope you realize that before you descend upon McArthur Court and the Pit Crew next season.

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