

EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

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1B

NCAA Women's Basketball

Oregon upsets Duke to make first Sweet 16

By JOEDY MCCREARY
Associated Press

DURHAM, N.C. — When it comes to NCAA Tournament experience, all of the Oregon Ducks are like freshmen — because they'd never been here until now.

Fortunately for the Ducks, their actual freshmen are playing far beyond their ages.

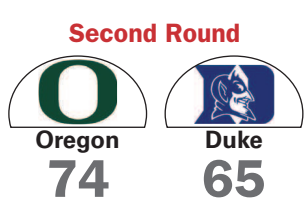
Freshman Ruthy Hebard had 20 points and 15 rebounds, and Oregon earned its first Sweet 16 berth by upsetting Duke 74-65 on Monday night in the second round of the tournament.

"It's funny, we never really

put a goal on how far we can go, just because we didn't know what we had," Oregon coach Kelly Graves said. "We've kind of attacked the entire season as a work in progress. ... With a young team, you kind of have to do that."

"House money, that's a good way to put it," he added. "We're playing with house money."

Maite Cazorla added 17 points and Lexi Bando finished with 14 points to help Oregon



(22-13) become the first No. 10 seed in a decade to reach the round of 16.

The Ducks, in their first tournament since 2005, had never advanced past the second round in their 12 previous appearances. Now they're on to Bridgeport, Connecticut, to take on third-seeded Maryland (32-2) in a regional semifinal.

"I think what we're all going to take is just, we've got to play our hardest," Hebard said. "No one's guaranteed

a spot. Seeds don't mean anything ... and hopefully, we'll keep winning."

Lexie Brown scored 25 points for the second-seeded Blue Devils (28-6), who have been upset at home in the tournament's second round twice since 2014. They played without guard Kyra Lambert, who tore her left anterior cruciate ligament in the first round against Hampton.

Oregon was in control all night — never trailing after the first 3 minutes, methodically stretching its lead to 15 on back-to-back 3s by Bando and Cazorla early in the fourth quarter.



Oregon's Lexi Bando, center, jumps into the arms of Mallory McGwire as Sierra Campisano and Justine Hall (3) celebrate beating Duke on Monday in Durham, N.C.

Prep Roundup

Rockets slip past Cougars

Weinke's sixth-inning hit lifts Pilot Rock

East Oregonian

ECHO — It wasn't the prettiest season-opener for the Pilot Rock softball team, but in the end it got the result it wanted.

Pilot Rock fought through some unkind weather and a stingy Echo Cougars team to head home with a 8-7 victory on Saturday afternoon. A two-out triple off the bat of Sara Weinke in the top of the sixth scored two and put the Rockets (1-0) on top 8-7 for good.

"We had runners on second and third and I was just hoping for a good single," Pilot Rock coach Darin Fitzpatrick said. "But she (Weinke) crushed one to straightaway center over the center fielders head."

Weinke along with Bekah Roe and Rhyanne Oates each had two hits apiece in the game for Pilot Rock, and Jacey Wilson added one hit, two runs and two RBIs. Tehya Ostrom pitched all seven innings for the Rockets, and allowed three hits, seven runs and six walks to go with eight strikeouts.

Echo's (0-2) big, six-run inning in the third came with mother nature's help, as Fitzpatrick said the skies opened up and a downpour of rain began, making it tough for Ostrom to control the ball well.

Monique Montoya led the Cougars offense with a 2-for-4 day at the plate with a run scored, and Samantha McQuown tallied Echo's only other hit. Alyssa Ray got the start in the circle, and allowed eight runs, seven hits and four walks over seven innings with eight strikeouts.

UP NEXT

Echo next hosts Elgin on Tuesday for a doubleheader starting at 1 p.m., while Pilot Rock will play Scio (11 a.m.) and Gaston (5 p.m.) on Friday in the Pilot Rock Tournament.



Cougar runner Alyssa Ray (4) and Pilot Rock catcher Rhyanne Oates (6) converge at the plate Saturday in Echo. Ray was ruled out.

Pilot Rock's Marissa Sutherland lets one go by during Saturday's game against Echo.

Staff photo by Kathy Aney



3B — S. Weinke (PR).

BASEBALL

STANFIELD 13, DESALES (WA) 1 — At Walla Walla, the Stanfield Tigers picked up win No. 1 on the season with a 13-1 victory over DeSales in five innings on Saturday morning.

It was the first appearances on the mound from Stanfield's regulars, with Brody Woods getting the start while Dylan Grogan and Tony Flores followed. Woods gave up just one hit in two innings. Grogan gave up one unearned run and one hit and Flores struck out all five batters he faced to end the game.

"The last game we hit well, but pitching is where we struggled," Stanfield coach Brad Rogers said. "Our goal is to throw 60 percent strikes and today we threw 57 percent strikes and let our defense play more."

Individual leaders at the plate included Grogan (2-for-4, 2 runs, 2 RBI), Ryan Bailey (1-for-4, 2 runs, 2 RBI), Hunter Barnes (2-for-3, 2 runs, RBI), and Woods (2-for-4, one run, 2 RBI).

Stanfield returns home on Thursday to host Pilot Rock at 4:30 p.m.

PHS 147 OX — 12 13 3

SHS 402 34 — 13 15 2
DHS 001 00 — 1 2 3
(SHS) B. Woods, D. Grogan (3), T. Flores (4) and T. Monkus. (DHS) McCaw, Towles (4).
2B — D. Curriel, R. Bailey, T. Monkus (SHS).

PENDLETON

Bucks get bats going

PHS softball improves to 3-0; Baseball gets first win in road split

East Oregonian

St. Helen's Taylor Dow led off the game with a home run, but Pendleton pitcher Alexi Brehaut didn't let that rattle her in her first start on the rubber this season.

Brehaut fired back with nine strikeouts and no walks, and allowed just four hits as the Buckaroos got their bats going for a 12-2 win in five innings on Saturday in a non-league softball game.

"She settled right in and did a really good job throwing to her spots the rest of the game," said Pendleton coach Tim Cary of his junior hurler.

The Bucks (3-0) quickly got the run back in the bottom of the first, then added four in the second and seven in the third to take over.

Brehaut went 3-for-3 with two RBIs at the plate, and Rylee Gentner and Kila Solomon each had two doubles while going 2-for-3. Peyton Hergert added three RBIs on a 2-for-4 game and Lauren Richards and Kirah McGlothlin also drove in two.

Cary said he wasn't happy with the team's three errors in the field, though.

"Our bats finally came alive, so that's nice to see, but our defense took a step back," he said. "We'll take the victory that's for sure, and this gives us some good coaching points early in the season."

Pendleton's next game is Tuesday when it hosts La Grande at 4:30 p.m.

SHHS 100 10 — 2 4 2
PHS 147 OX — 12 13 3
B. Scheer and M. Massey. A. Brehaut and K. Solomon. W — Brehaut. L — Scheer.
2B — M. Parker, R. Gentner 2, K. Solomon 2 (PHS). HR — T. Dow (SHHS).

BASEBALL

PENDLETON 12, OAK HARBOR 1 — At Hanford, Wash., Tyler Chichester and Hayden Villers combined on the mound and Daniel Naughton went 3-for-3 with four RBIs at the plate to lead the Buckaroos to their first win of the season on Saturday.

Naughton hit a double and a triple, and scored twice as Pendleton led from the second inning on. Austin Zaugg (2-for-4) and Villers (0-for-2) each added two RBIs and Wyatt Morris and Jared Beveridge were each 2-for-4.

See BUCKS/2B

Sports shorts

Lillard named Player of the Week

PORTLAND — Portland Trail Blazers guard Damian Lillard has been named NBA Western Conference Player of the Week for the week ending March 19, the league announced today.

Lillard led the NBA in scoring with 35.3 points (55.1% FG, 59.4% 3-PT) to go with 3.3 rebounds, 4.0 assists and 1.00 steal last week. He was a perfect 36-for-36 from the free throw line, and his 49 points March 19 at Miami marked a season high, while his nine 3-pointers tied a franchise best. In a win at San Antonio during the second night of a back-to-back on March 15, Lillard paced all scorers with 36 points.

His 49-point game at Miami are the most scored in the NBA on 21 field goal attempts or fewer since Amar'e Stoudemire in 2008. In the same game, Lillard became the first Trail Blazer to make 1,000 career 3-pointers.



Lillard

"Hopefully when I get the jerseys back I can make something very positive come from this experience."

— Tom Brady

New England Patriots quarterback after learning his missing game jerseys worn in Super Bowls II and XLIX were recovered after being found in the possession of a member of the international media.

Seattle signs offensive lineman

RENTON, Wash. (AP) — The Seattle Seahawks added depth on the offensive line by signing former Houston guard Oday Aboushi.

Seattle announced the deal with Aboushi on Monday. Aboushi spent his first two seasons with the New York Jets and the past two years with Houston. Aboushi made eight starts and appeared in 11 games during his time with the Texans. He started 10 games in his two seasons with the Jets.

Aboushi joins former Jacksonville offensive lineman Luke Joeckel as Seattle's two signings this offseason looking to bolster a line that was among the worst in the league last season. Aboushi's strength has been in pass protection, and he's had only four accepted penalties against him the past two seasons.



THIS DATE IN SPORTS

1893 — The first women's college basketball game is played at Smith College in Northampton, Mass. Each basket is worth one point and the freshman class beats the sophomore class 5-4. The game takes place behind locked doors and men are prohibited from watching.

1964 — UCLA caps a 30-0 season with a 98-83 victory over Duke in the NCAA basketball championship. UCLA is the third team to go undefeated and win the title. The victory gives coach John Wooden the first of his ten NCAA Tournament championships.

Contact us at 541-966-0838 or sports@eastoregonian.com