

Sports

OREGON WOMEN'S BASKETBALL EXHIBITION

Top-ranked Duck women stun U.S. national team, 93-86

■ The U.S. team had lost only once before to a college team, Tennessee in 1999

EUGENE (AP) — Top-ranked Oregon did something that few teams have done in the last two decades — beat the U.S. women's national team.

Sabrina Ionescu scored 25 of her 30 points in the second half to lead the Ducks to the stunning 93-86 victory Saturday in an exhibition game. It was only the second loss ever by the U.S. to a college program and their first defeat in any game since 2014.

"I believed that we could do it," Ionescu said. "I never thought that I'd say we beat the best players in the world, and I think if we played again the outcome might be totally different, but we're really proud of this team and our coaching staff and what we did tonight."

The Americans haven't lost a major international game since falling in the semifinals of the 2006 World Championships to Russia. The only other loss to a college program came in 1999 when



Andy Nelson / The (Eugene) Register-Guard

Oregon's Sabrina Ionescu drives past Nnemkadi Ogwu-mike (16) and Diana Taurasi during the third quarter of Saturday's game.

Tennessee won on a shot by Kara Lawson, who was a freshman that season, with 10 seconds left. The U.S. won the next 20 college games after that loss to the Lady Vols before Saturday. The Americans did drop an exhibition

game to France in 2014 and suffered a loss to the Czech Republic during a European tour in 2011.

The Americans were playing the fourth game of their college tour that started in Stanford last Saturday. Since

that win over the Cardinal, the Americans have traveled nearly 5,000 miles while playing against Oregon State, Texas A&M and now Oregon.

The college tour, which will continue in January, was the brainchild of Sue Bird and Diana Taurasi. The veteran U.S. players thought it could help get the Americans more training time together and also help bring more exposure to the team that's won six consecutive Olympic gold medals. There were 11,530 fans on hand for the exhibition game Saturday night and they witnessed history.

Oregon trailed by one late in the third quarter before Ionescu's layup to end the third quarter gave the Ducks a 68-67 lead and started a 15-2 run that Satou Sabally capped with a layup with 6:26 left. Bird then hit a 3-pointer on the other end, igniting a 15-5 U.S. spurt that got the Americans to 87-84 with 1:02 left after a layup by Napheesa Collier.

OREGON MEN'S BASKETBALL

Ducks breeze past Boise St.

EUGENE (AP) — Anthony Mathis was on target against Boise State, and so were most of his Oregon teammates.

Mathis scored a career-high 30 points as the No. 15 Ducks beat Boise State 106-75 Saturday night.

Mathis, in his second game with the Ducks after transferring from New Mexico for his final season, hit on 10 of 12 shots from the field overall, including 9 of 11 from 3-point range. The Ducks (2-0) shot 42 for 60 (70 from the field overall, and made 13 of 19 3-point attempts, after 1-for-13 shooting from beyond the arc in their opening win over Fresno State on Tuesday.

"I made the first one and it's like a breath of fresh air," Mathis said. "I just went from there."

Payton Pritchard, a teammate of Mathis' at Oregon's West Linn High School, had 19 points, seven assists and six rebounds.

OREGON STATE MEN'S BASKETBALL

Beavers top Iowa St.

CORVALLIS (AP) — It's just two games in, but Oregon State is already showing confidence.

Tres Tinkle had 27 points, including a pair of key 3-pointers in the final moments, and the Beavers held off a late rally by Iowa State for an 80-74 victory on Saturday.

Tinkle added 11 rebounds for Oregon State (2-0), while Kylor Kelley contributed 15 points and seven rebounds.

Oregon State led by as many as 11 points in the second half but the Cyclones closed in late and the two teams wrestled for the lead down the stretch. Rasir Bolton's jumper got Iowa State within 72-71 with 3:07 left. After Ethan Thompson missed free throws for the Beavers, Bolton's layup put the Cyclones in front.

Tinkle answered with back-to-back 3-pointers to give Oregon State a 78-73 lead with 55 seconds left and Iowa State could not catch up.

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Limit 1 entry per person. Maximum of 2 entries per household per week. The contest is open to everyone in Baker County. No photocopies accepted. Employees of The Baker City Herald and their immediate families not eligible. Winners will be announced in Wednesday's ad each week. Decisions of the judges are final.

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