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CSUF men's basketball dominated in second half, falls to Oregon State, 70-51

By Grace Min
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Sophomore Antwan Robinson tallied five points and four rebounds in Friday's loss against the Beavers. (Sergio Gonzalez / Daily Titan)

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Following their recent trend of early dominance and late struggles, Cal State Fullerton men’s basketball fell to Oregon State 70-51 Friday night at Gill Coliseum.

For the third consecutive game, the team was outscored by more than 24 points in the second half.

The Titans led by seven at halftime and held a lead with 12 minutes in the second half before collapsing defensively and losing by 19. CSUF was outscored 45-19 in the half.

CSUF is now 0-4 in the season. In all of their games, the team's three-point shooting efficiency dropped significantly from the first half to the second half.

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Against Oregon State, it dropped from 40% to 8.33%. Meanwhile, the Beavers took advantage of the Titans' struggles and shot 58.33% from beyond the arc in the second half compared to 17.65% in the first half.

Freshman Davis Bynum came off the bench to lead to the team with 12 points and four rebounds. Junior Donovan Oday led the team in minutes in his first game off the bench this season and contributed with eight points on 2-of-11 shooting.

After running out the same five starters in the first three games, head coach Dedrique Taylor ran out a new lineup against the Beavers. Freshman Lolo Rudolph, center Zachary Visentin and guard Freddie Cooper each started their first game as a Titan.

The Beavers jumped out of the gates early with a 7-0 lead before the Titans bounced back to tie things at 17. Sophomore Keith Richard secured the Titans' first lead with a three-pointer, sparking the team from that point on.

The Titans eventually closed the half on a 9-2 run, leading by seven at the break.

CSUF shot efficiently throughout the first half, shooting 44% from the field compared to Oregon State's 29.63%.

Richard also contributed eight points in the Titans' offensive effort against the Beavers.

Coming out of the locker room, CSUF maintained their lead in the first five minutes of the second half before the Beavers' Nate Kingz drilled two three-pointers to help the Beavers close the gap.

The Beavers tied the game at 42 apiece before the Titans fell apart defensively in the second half once again, being outscored 28-9 from that point on.

The Titans will return to Titan Gym on Monday to face Idaho State for their home opener after losing all four games of their road trip. Tipoff is set for 7 p.m.

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