

Oregon State grid coach gets two-year extension

CORVALLIS (AP) — Oregon State University has given a two-year contract extension to head football coach Dave Kragthorpe.

Kragthorpe, who just completed his second season with the Beavers, now has five years remaining on his contract with the Pacific-10 Conference school. His new contract expires Dec. 31, 1991.

"We are extremely pleased with the job Dave has done in returning our football program to respectability," Athletic Director Lynn Snyder said Tuesday. "Dave and his staff have done an outstanding job, both on and off the field, and are great representatives of intercollegiate football and Oregon State University."

Kragthorpe, 53, has guided Oregon State to back-to-back 3-8 seasons. The six victories in two seasons represent the best two-year record for the long-suffering Beaver program since 1971-72.

"I am very excited about the immediate future of Oregon State football and the improvements that we have made in the last two years," Kragthorpe said.

"I am also pleased with the development of plans to remodel Parker Stadium and provide better football facilities here at OSU," he said. "I think it's imperative for the future of OSU football to accomplish these improvements."

Kragthorpe was athletic director at Utah State when he was hired two years ago to replace Joe Avezzano at Oregon State. He has installed a pass-oriented attack styled after that of Brigham Young University, where Kragthorpe was an assistant coach for 10 seasons.

Kragthorpe was head coach at Idaho State for three years. He directed the Bengals to the NCAA Division I-AA championship in 1981.

At Oregon State, Kragthorpe's teams have pulled off a pair of major upsets, defeating Washington in Seattle in 1985 and Brigham Young in Provo, Utah, last season.

Oregon State has not had a winning football season since 1970 and hasn't been in a bowl game since 1965.

Win streak, first league victory highlight women hoopers' holiday

By Dennis Fernandes
Of the Emerald

After a shoddy start, it appears that Oregon women's basketball is back on track and flying high.

The Ducks began their first-ever Pacific-10 Conference season Friday by defeating Arizona State University rather handily, 84-70. The win was the sixth straight for the hoopers, now 7-2 overall.

That comes as a welcome relief to coach Elwin Heiny, whose team struggled early on when they lost two in a row at home last month against ranked teams Texas Tech and Long Beach State University.

To date, consistency and improved shooting percentage has been the rule for the Ducks in Christmas break victories over University of Nevada-Reno, University of Colorado, U.S. International and ASU.

"I think we're playing closer to where we want to be," Heiny said. "Our consistency at executing offense is there. Our defense is not playing great but adequate," he added.

Steady forward Lauri Landerholm has been her usual self and will check into this Friday's counter with Oregon State University with a 19.6 scoring average. Landerholm had a season-high 28 points in the 105-69 rout over U.S. International.

But the key to Oregon's success has been some new faces coming off the bench, the biggest contributor being one 6-foot-7 Stefanie Kasperski. The West German center is seeing substantial playing time and responded strongly against the Sun Devils with a 15-point, seven-rebound effort. She also had a season-high 16 points against U.S. International.

Kasperski's emergence gives Heiny the flexibility to bulk up

the front line as he wishes by running Kasperski and the 6-foot-5 Gabi Neumann in the same lineup, and he will even add 6-foot-3 reserve forward Kris Glidden for greater power. Heiny is quick to applaud Kasperski's sudden emergence as a force on this Duck squad.

"She's done very well. It's not a surprise because we had seen what she could do, but she is playing better earlier than we expected. It would be great if she continues to improve as she has," he said.

Jacque Semeniuk, a 5-foot-10 freshman guard-forward, has been awarded a starting slot as a result of her recent performance. Her playing time increased when the Ducks learned that 5-foot-10 forward Shelly Ray, a strong rebounder, was declared academically ineligible and would not be available to the team until next season.

Semeniuk has rebounded well, grabbing a game-high nine boards in the ASU game, but Heiny wants her to register some points as well.

"She doesn't have quite the

confidence she needs in her shooting even though she's a great shooter, but she's only a freshman and that comes with maturity," Heiny said.

A weakness for the Ducks is their defensive play. Although opponents have averaged a .412 shooting clip, Heiny still sees room for improvement, especially as the schedule toughens.

"It comes down to how we plan on executing," he said. "Each game we've broken down on some fundamentals, which have been basic defensive fundamentals rather than 'zone' or 'man' fundamentals. It's just a matter of working on it."

The Ducks have had plenty of opportunity to work on it. Their toughest matchup in the win streak came against Colorado, and Oregon pulled off the non-conference win, 81-75, thanks to Neumann's career-high 29 points and Carol Drouet's 20.

"It was good to see us win a game, which could have, at any time, gone either direction," Heiny said.

Sports shorts

•Sean Madden, an Oregon volleyball assistant coach for two years, has left the Ducks to become the head volleyball coach at Gonzaga University in Spokane, Wash. Madden was the top assistant for former coach Chris Voelz and was retained under current coach Gerry Gregory.

•Oregon basketball player Anthony Taylor recently became the 15th Duck player to register 1,000 career points. The 6-foot-4 Taylor, a junior from Beaverton, currently has 1,059 career points to his credit. Only four Oregon players have scored more than 1,500 points.

•Yes, that was former Oregon football star Lew Barnes fumbling a punt on national television Sunday. Barnes has been fielding punts all season as a rookie with the Chicago Bears, who were upset in the playoffs by the Washington Redskins 27-14. The Redskins returned the muffed punt for a touchdown.

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