

Sports

Heiney optimistic about young team's season

By Cliff Pfenning
Emerald Contributor

Preparing for the upcoming women's basketball season, the Oregon Ducks roster has taken on a decidedly fresh look.

Seven first-year players have been installed for the 1987-88 season into coach Elwin Heiney's formula of success. Entering his 12th season at Oregon, Heiney has had 11 winning seasons in a row, including last year's 23-7 record.

Gone from last season's roster are Lauri Landerholm, and Gabi Neumann, two players who ac-

counted for more than 40 percent of the Ducks offense. Carol Drouet, who started alongside Landerholm in the backcourt, is also gone, giving up her final year due to recurring knee problems.

Fortunately, two starters return. Center Stefanie Kasperski, and forward Kris Glidden, both sophomores, are back. Kasperski averaged 11.1 points, and 6.5 rebounds per game, while Glidden added 8.7 points, and 6.9 rebounds per game. Amy Pettersen, a starter from two years ago, is back after sitting out last season with a knee injury.

The other returning players (Michelle Eble, Kim Giguere, Sheila Sattiewhite, and Jacquie Semeniuk) are reason enough for Heiney not to be alarmed by all the new faces.

"It's a pretty good mixture of young and old players," Heiney said. "We have enough older players so that leadership shouldn't be a problem."

Heiney has been impressed by the early season progress of the younger players, and expects several to have a hand in replacing the departed players roles.

Trina McCartney, a six-foot-two inch forward from McKinleyville, Calif., is ex-

pected to take up some of the slack left by Landerholm's departure. McCartney was voted the California Division Three Player of the Year after averaging 26.6 points, 11.8 rebounds per game during her senior year.

Guard Jennifer Bourn at five-foot-seven inches from Ridgewood, N.J., should be one of the players earmarked to replace Drouet. Bourn averaged 16.5 points, 5.0 rebounds and 3.5 assists-per-game last season.

The other new players are guards Brooke Allen, Vonda Anderson, Tori Baker, forward Missy Anderson and center

Cathy Gieck.

Baker was expected to compete with Bourn for the guard position, but underwent knee surgery last week and will be out for five more weeks at least. Missy Anderson and Gieck have also suffered minor injuries, although Gieck has been able to practice.

"It's got the makings of a good team," Heiney said. "The freshmen are all very good, and the returnees are in good shape. I'm very optimistic."

Oregon's season starts at home on November 24 with an exhibition game against the Australian National team.

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