

Porter recruit not dunk deal

By Jayson Jacoby
Emerald Sports Reporter

At least one person thinks the match of newly hired Oregon men's basketball coach Jerry Green and the Ducks' 6-foot-10, 270-pound recruit Damion Porter is a good one.

"Jerry Green will be the best thing to ever happen to that kid," said Mike McClintock, Porter's coach this year at Rend Lake College in Illinois.

The problem is that, at this point, whether Porter — who averaged nearly 15 points and a league-leading 12 rebounds per game this season — actually makes it to Eugene is far from a done deal.

At present Porter said his GPA is 1.50 at Rend Lake, and he needs a 2.0 to graduate. Porter said his overall college GPA is 2.4, but Rend Lake doesn't include transfer grades in its assessing of graduation requirements.

Porter said he is passing all of his classes right now, and if he successfully completes the current semester with his present grades — and a one-month summer class running from May 20 to June 20 — he'll graduate.

"If I get a 2.0, I'm definitely coming to Oregon," Porter said.

Despite all the ifs, the addition of Porter to a team coming off a 6-21 season — not to mention having to adjust to a new coach — seemingly can only help.

McClintock's assessment of Porter says he has a chance to make an impact on the Pacific-10 conference.

"He's got a pro-type body," McClintock said. "He can shoot the ball from about 12 feet in, and he can run the break. He's your basic low-post, back-to-the-basket type of player."

"I've been told since I was in high school that I have an NBA body," Porter said.

McClintock described Porter as a raw talent in need of some development before he's ready to become a force in the Pac-10.

"He's got a lot of potential, but he

needs to find it," McClintock said. "He needs to develop better work habits. He's gotten by so far because he's been so big. I know Jerry (Green) is not going to accept that."

"Damion is going to have to lose a little weight and get in better shape cardiovascularly."

McClintock also said Porter's defense will have to improve if and when he gets to the Pac-10.

"Defensively he allows people to just catch the ball," McClintock said. "You can't do that in a league like the Pac-10."

Porter said Green's avowed implementation of an up-tempo offense suits him.

"I like that type of game," Porter said. "In order to advance to the next level, that's what you have to play."

Although he was recruited by the staff of Don Monson, who was fired March 17, Porter said the coaching change hasn't diminished his desire to don an Oregon uniform.

"I was coming into a completely new staff anyway," Porter said. "The only difference is I haven't been recruited by the people there now. I met with coach Green last week, so that was nice. I was only close to (former Oregon assistant) Ken Smith, and so his being gone bothered me. But he told me to keep going and stay strong."

So while it's still too early to start planning a lineup built around a twin-tower philosophy with returning 6-foot-11 forward Bob Fife and Porter anchoring the Oregon frontcourt, Oregon fans have to be excited about the return of a strong presence in the paint for the Ducks, a position only partially filled this season by graduating senior Chuck Patterson.

Whatever the outcome, Porter himself seems to be looking forward to the possible move to Oregon.

"You can tell everybody I'm anxious to come to Oregon," Porter said. "I want to be in uniform on the floor in November."

For now, that's a sight Duck fans can only hope for.

RIM to hold fitness program

By Doug Carter
Emerald Contributor

Fitness can be fun.

At least that's the message the Oregon Recreation and Intramural Office will be trying to convey during its 28-day Witness for Fitness program that begins Saturday.

The program coincides with National Health Fitness Month and involves five phases of different activities, with all the proceeds going toward new fitness equipment for the University.

Witness for Fitness special events coordinator Dene Eller began brainstorming the master plan last November with hopes of stimulating campus involvement in fun fitness activities.

"The program is designed to create a campus community activity that encourages a sense of connectedness among students, staff and faculty," Eller said. "The main focus is that fun is the primary product and fitness is the by-product. We tried to keep that in mind while putting it together."

And the RIM office has put together a unique lineup of events, including first-time events like Team Superstars (April 27-May 3), Club Cardio (May 4-8), Airobics (May 21) and Fitness Assessment (May 5-6).

Also included in the fitness package will be the third annual Storm the Stairs (May 3), which has been moved to Hayward Field this year.

Team Superstars is a cumulative competition between teams made up of four to eight people. Participants will be able to compete in such events as an obstacle course, a sports trivia challenge, various aqua splash activities and four-a-side outdoor volleyball.

The team that finishes with the most points will be treated to a super feed sponsored by Sam's To Go Sandwiches.

The deadline to register for Team

Superstars is Monday, April 27, and includes a fee of \$30 for a team of four and \$6 for each additional member (eight maximum). All participants receive a T-shirt with registration.

Storm the Stairs, an event that has attracted more than 2,000 people in its first two years, will include some new events this year. A dunk tank will be set up where students will take shots at dunking Oregon basketball player Bob Fife, among others.

A softball game including Special Olympic athletes and a performance by the Green Garter Band will also be a part of Storm the Stairs.

Although people will be able to register on the day of the event — \$3 for individuals or \$15 for teams of 4 to 25 people — pre-registration is encouraged.

Phase III of the program is called Club Cardio and is designed to get student feedback on the possibility of a University cardiovascular workout center.

The idea behind Airobics is to have as many people as possible participate in a 90-minute high-low and funk-style dance aerobics at the covered tennis courts. Admission for Airobics is free.

A five-on-five basketball tournament is scheduled as part of the fitness program at the Bean Complex basketball courts Saturday. Participants may play at either advanced or intermediate levels. Admission is \$5 per team, and those interested should contact Tri Tran or Dave Mollet at the RIM office, 346-4113.

Also included in the Witness for Fitness package is a tennis classic (April 24-26), a RIM track meet (April 26), balloon sculpting (May 5), a RIM golf tourney (May 17), a softball long-ball hitting contest (May 19) and a free golf lesson (May 20).

For further information on any events contact the RIM office.

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Phi Psi A d. The Defectors 11-3/M1
Sultans of Swat d. Sigma Chi '1' 12-5/M1
Phi Psi A d. Fiji '1' 15-4/M1
Fiji '1' d. The Cutters 12-8/M1
The Cutters d. The Defectors 12-8/M1
Theta Chi B d. ATO Team '2B' 15-12/M2
Flaccid Girth d. TKE 14-9/M2
Sigma Nu B d. Nothing But Dingers 21-8/M3

Cold Duck d. Hawaiian Heat 2-1/M3
ATO/KAO d. Crepitation 5-0/C1
ATO/Chi Omega d. Chi Psi/Kappa 18-2/C1

Apr. 21

Delta Tau Delta d. Our Gang 24-0/M2
Chi Psi '2' d. The Jeffersons 6-0/M2
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