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MEN'S BASKETBALL PREVIEW



Head coach Jerry Green hopes to get Oregon fans back to McArthur Court this year.

Photo by Jeff Paslay

Green brings new look to Ducks

By Dave Charbonneau
Emerald Sports Editor

The Oregon men's basketball team was greeted by 4,000 dedicated fans when it entered the floor of McArthur Court for the first exhibition game of the season.

It wasn't the wild, rowdy fans the "Pit" is used to having. A 6-21 record the previous season will do that to fan turnout.

Instead, it was a crowd of observers. They came to see just what exactly this new Jerry Green guy has brought to Eugene.

As for Green, he was observing as well. Coming off an assistant coaching position at Kansas, Green was used to see-

ing packed houses. This night he got his first true look at what may lay in front of him: a team without tradition of expectation.

But Green saw the positives. "As soon as we sat down," Green said, "I told the players to look at the crowd. I wanted them to know that someday we'll walk out and this arena will be full. I don't know when that will happen, but it will happen."

Until that day, the Ducks are picked by virtually everybody to finish dead last in the Pacific-10 Conference.

Green can't control that; all he can control is the way his team is supposed to play. Green, who took over as head

coach for the Ducks last spring, has brought a new, up-tempo style of play to Oregon and is hoping it catches on with the fans.

Green has said all along that he would only promise two things to Oregon's fans: his team would play unbelievably hard and unbelievably unselfish.

So unbelievably hard that Green instituted a system of player "self-substitutions." The players on the court basically decide when they need to come out of the game. After getting their rest, they can go back in the game by just telling the

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Meet VISTA recruiter Simon Connor on December 1st in Erb Memorial Union from 9am-4pm. Or, call 1-800-424-8867 (TDD 1-202-606-5256).

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