### Oregon Daily Emerald Sports-

# Losing wears on Duck coach

By Dave Charbonneau

Monday afternoon, Oregon men's basketball coach Jerry Green missed his first practice in 25 years of coaching due to a bad case of the flu.

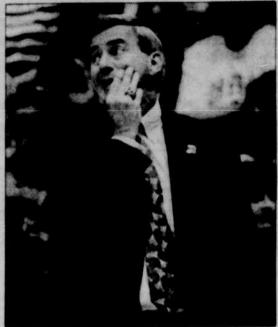
As the losses pile up for the Oregon men's basketball team, the first-year coach is caught in one of the most dreadful seasons of his coaching career, and it's beginning to take a toll on the man.

"It wears on me everyday," Green said. "It's the first thought that goes through my head when I wake up in the morning, and it's the last thought that goes through my head when I go to bed."

The Ducks are in last place, with a 0-9 record, in the Pacific-10 Conference, and Green, his players and Oregon fans are beginning to wonder if the team will win another game this season.

After a 7-5 start in the pre-season, it looked as if Green's style of up-tempo basketball was sitting well with a team that went 6-21 the year before under coach Don Monson. But now, Oregon is on pace to finish worse than last year's team, which went 2-16 in the Pac-10.

Green knew of the Ducks' laughable reputation in recent years, and he knew it was unrealistic to expect an NCAA or even a NIT berth in his first season at the helm of Oregon. But he didn't expect his team to be the worst team in the Pac-10.



Oregon men's basketball coach Jerry Green has watched a season of expectation crumble into a season of contemplation.

Green's pain is magnified by the fact that the team he left as an assistant - Kansas - is currently ranked in the Top 10, and even spent a couple of weeks at No. 1.

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#### Pac-10 in logjam at halfway mark

By Steve Mims **Emerald Sports Reporter** 

1993 was supposed to be a rebuilding year for the Pacific-10 Conference, but with eight teams still alive for post-season play, the conference is making a comeback.

Arizona went 9-0 in the first half of the conference season and is the overwhelming favorite to win the conference title, but the next seven teams in the standings are only two games apart. The parity within the conference will most likely result in fewer teams being invited to the NCAA tournament than in past years.

"The consensus is that the league is down compared to past years," Arizona State head coach Bill Frieder said. "There is no doubt about that. I think we have to have some teams emerge from the crowd and create a gap if the conference is to get many teams in the tourna-

Arizona State was picked to finish last in the Pac-10 in most pre-season predictions, but the Sun Devils have responded by winning six of their first nine conference games and are tied for second place.

Our team has played hard and intense," Frieder said. "We are small and don't look like a basketball team, but we play unselfish and as a result we have been getting wins."

Oregon State recovered from a

4-5 pre-season to begin the Pac-10 season with five consecutive wins, but has lost three of their last four games to fall into a second-place tie at 6-3. Beaver point guard Brent Barry is expected to come back from an injury this weekend and his return has sparked optimism in

Washington State has recovered from an 0-3 conference start and is currently on a sixgame winning streak that has them alongside Oregon State and Arizona State at 6-3.

Washington is alone in fifth place at 5-4, followed by UCLA. USC and California at 4-5. California shocked the conference on Monday when it fired head coach Lou Campanelli midway through the season. Campanelli's fellow coaches expressed shock and outrage at his dismissal

"Lou's firing totally shocked me," Arizona head coach Lute Olson said. "I wonder what is going on when a coach is in the beginning of a five-year contract, takes his team to the NCAA tournament for the first time in more than 20 years and has, I'm

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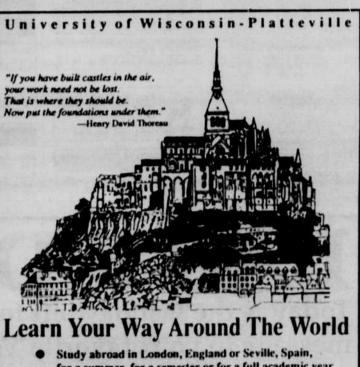


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