Laettner securing 'bad boy' reputation

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Christian Laettner still isn't sorry about blowing off a mandatory practice. He might even do it again.

20.0

1. 1. 1.

"I don't know," he said Wednesday. "If I have a business commitment and my advisers tell me to go to it ... I don't know."

Given a choice between paying attention to his management team or joining his basketball team for a mandatory practice, Laettner went with his agents.

He skipped the Minnesota Timberwolves' workout Monday in New Jersey to accept a college award in North Carolina despite being told by coach Sidney Lowe that he was expected at practice. Laettner was given a one-game suspension without pay and an undisclosed fine.

It was only the latest in a series of disagreements with coaches, teammates and referees, depicting Laettner as the NBA's newest bad boy.

On Dec. 26, co-captain Chuck Person said Laettner occasionally played selfishly, citing Laettner's decision to drive the length of the court after making a steal instead of passing to a wide-open teammate.

Laettner was ejected from a Jan. 15 game after threatening to throw a basketball at referee Mike Mathis. And in a Feb. 13 loss to Houston, Laettner swore at Timberwolves assistant coach Chuck Davisson and told him to "shut up."

MEN Continued from Page 9

tained.

"He's a good enough shooter that he will eventually get his shots," Green said. "We just have to limit his opportunities."

Saturday, the Ducks have the unenviable task of trying to hand Arizona its first Pac-10 loss of the season. The Wildcats (12-0, 19-2) have been climbing the national rankings, and with No. 1 Indiana's loss Tuesday night, Arizona is-likely to be ranked among the top three teams in the country.

The Wildcats crushed the Ducks 92-60 earlier this season, but Green said his team is playing much better basketball now than it was then. "We've played pretty good basketball the past month or so," he said. "But we still don't have much margin for error. especially against the teams we're playing this weekend. We have to play extremely well to be in a position to win this weekend."

Oregon's victories over the Huskies and the Cougars were made possible largely because of the play of two unlikely heroes. Forward Aaron Johnson scored a career-high 19 points against Washington and forward Clyde Jordan stepped into the power forward position to score nine points and pull down nine rebounds in the two games. Jordan added three important steals and a blocked shot down the stretch in the Washington State game. Green said Jordan just recently accepted the move to the power forward position, and is pleased with his performance.

"Clyde did some good things for us last weekend," Green said. "He's starting to learn there's more minutes for him at that position, and he can help our team more. I think the players really like having Clyde at the (power forward) position."

Green's knee problems continue to plague the first-year coach. After having arthroscopic surgery on the right knee last week, the left knee swelled up. Green had the knee drained on Monday and again Wednesday before the team left for Arizona. It is still unknown what has caused the swelling.

以及自己的自己的问题。



T. STREET

10 Oregon Daily Emerald Thursday, February 25, 1993

and the second se