

Men's Basketball Schedule

JAN 20	Thursday	WASHINGTON STATE	Seattle, Wash. (7:00 p.m.)
		McArthur Court (7:05 p.m.)	
22	Saturday	WASHINGTON	Pullman, Wash. (3:00 p.m.)
		McArthur Court (7:05 p.m.)	
27	Thursday	@Arizona	Tucson, Ariz. (3:37 p.m.)
29	Saturday	@Arizona State	Phoenix, Ariz. (7:05 p.m.)
FEB 3	Thursday	STANFORD	McArthur Court (7:05 p.m.)
5	Saturday	CALIFORNIA	McArthur Court (3:05 p.m.) (RAYCOM)
12	Saturday	@OSU	Corvallis, Ore. (1:05 p.m.) (RAYCOM)
17	Thursday	@Washington	
MAR 3	Thursday	@California	Berkeley, Calif. (7:30 p.m.)
5	Saturday	@Stanford	Palo Alto, Calif. (7:30 p.m.)
10	Thursday	USC	McArthur Court (7:05 p.m.)
12	Saturday	UCLA	McArthur Court (3:05 p.m.) (RAYCOM)

New NCAA rule earns praise from coaches

By Dave Charbonneau

Oregon Daily Emerald

Oregon head coach Jerry Green and his Washington counterparts don't really have to think about the new ruling handed down by the NCAA last week, but they hope that someday they will.

At the NCAA convention last week, the NCAA passed a rule that states undergraduates are allowed to test the NBA draft waters, declaring eligibility for the draft with the option of changing their minds in the next 30 days.

That means players can make themselves available for the NBA draft and then back out if they are not satisfied with the team that picks them.

Obviously, this ruling will affect teams with usually large amounts of players going pro. But when you're coaching for teams that have a player turn pro once every six years or so, like Oregon, Washington State and Washington, the implications of the rule are small.

"I hope that we have some players in that situation some day," Green said. "That would be a dream come true for me."

Washington head coach Bob Bender had similar sentiments.

"I hope someday to be in a position where (the rule) can benefit one of our players," Bender said. "It's not jeopardizing the player's future, it's enhancing it."

Washington State head coach Kelvin Sampson said he believed it was a good rule, mainly because it benefits the student-athlete.

"It doesn't affect me as much as it does other schools which send

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— Jerry Green

Oregon Basketball coach

more players to the NBA," Sampson said. "I think we are seeing more legislation done for the player."

Green added that although it may make coaching a little more difficult, it's the player's future that is most important in college basketball.

"Sure, it will make it tougher on the coaches," Green said. "But with the money they're paying in the NBA, I think it's a good deal for the players."

Not only does the new rule give players more of an option of which team they may or may not play for in the NBA, it gives "borderline" players — players that are forecasted as late first-round, early second-round picks a chance to see how highly they are thought of by NBA teams.

"If a player has the ability to play in the NBA, they can see their options and it doesn't penalize them," Bender said. "They want to come back and get an education if they didn't do as well as expected."

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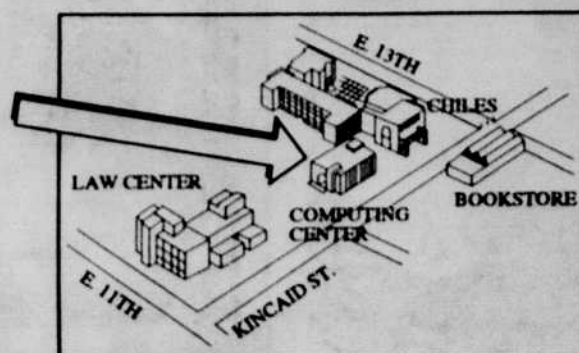
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