

Meet the Green JERRY GREEN

Kris Henry
Oregon Daily Emerald

Oregon head coach Jerry Green is a salesman.

Not your polyester-wearing, fast-talking type of salesman, but a salesman nonetheless.

The 51-year-old's honest face and genuine smile were used to sell the Oregon men's basketball team the past two years to victory-starved Duck followers.

Sunday's announcement that Oregon was invited back to the NCAA tournament after a 34-year drought just gives him more ammunition to fend off the disbelievers.

"The more I think about today," Green said on Sunday, "the happening of Oregon getting into the NCAA tournament is very important."

"Today, the big thing to me is the excitement for the people who have stuck with us this length of time when other people said, 'You're not going to be able to turn it around.'"

Things more than turned around at Oregon after the Ducks named Green its 14th head coach in the spring of 1992.

He inherited a group that went 6-21 the previous year and a program that struck fear in the hearts of few. But, the salesman that he is, Green preached to current and future Oregon players of what would soon be.

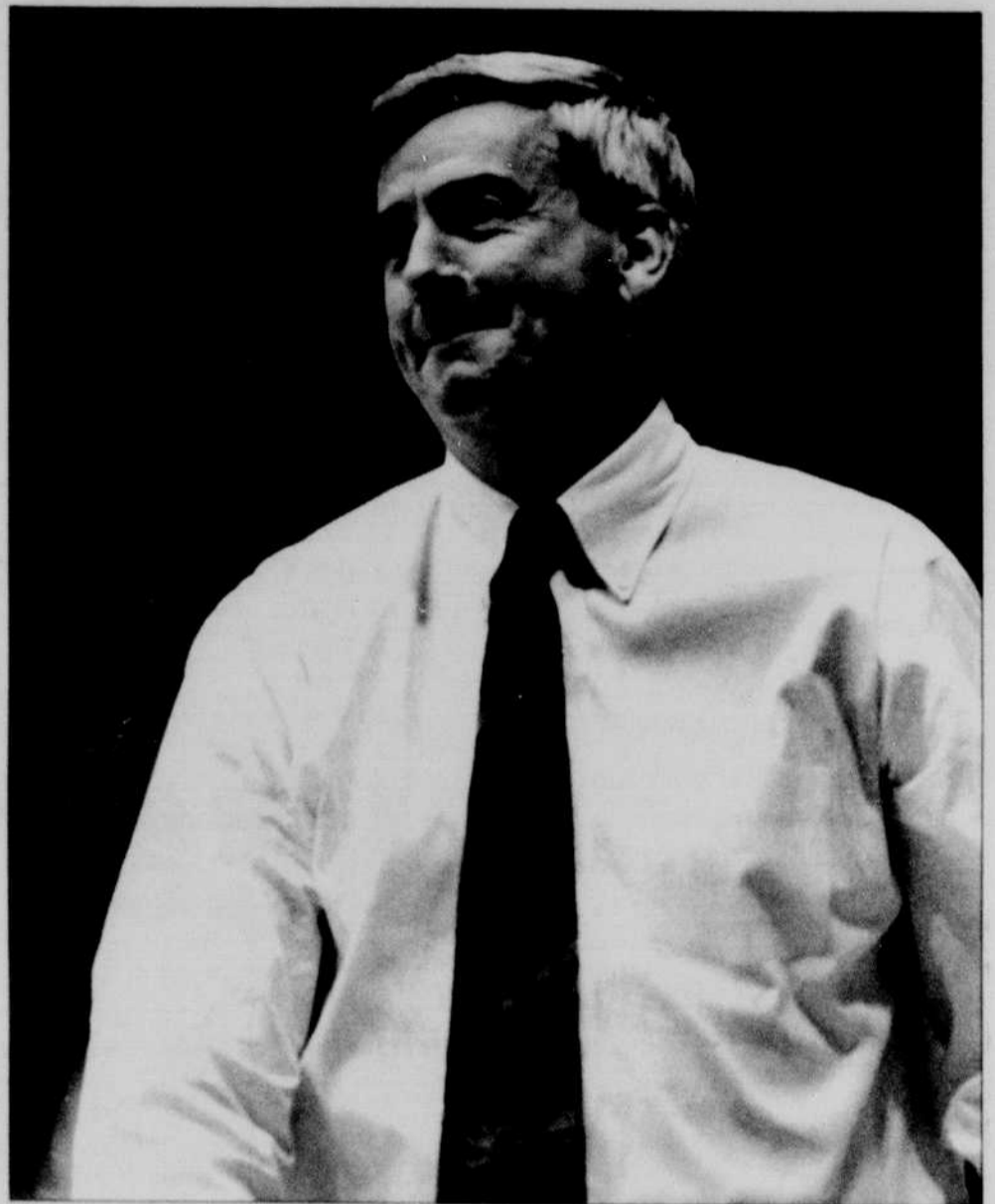
"I remember it pretty vividly," Oregon forward Jeff Potter said about Green's first meeting with his new team. "He came down to the old lockerroom and told us that he wanted us to score 100 points a game, play unbelievably hard and unbelievably unselfish."

"I think he has accomplished a lot since he's been here. I don't think we really realized how far down this program was until he got here."

After two 10-win seasons, Greenball began showing glimmers of hope and hit its first milestone with Sunday's NCAA announcement officially signifying that the Jerry Green era has arrived and talk of the Dick Harter era should be secondary.

Green's 1994-95 team has toppled every accomplishment (and then some) that the 1970s "Cardiac kids" coach did during his heyday at Oregon — a phenomenal feat considering Green has only had two recruiting years at Oregon.

The 51-year-old native of Startex, S.C., was Roy Williams' top assistant at Kansas for four years before moving to Eugene. Prior to that he held the top post at UNC-Asheville for nine seasons where he posted a 150-108 ledger.



Oregon head coach Jerry Green has displayed many expressions throughout his trials with the Ducks, but the anguish has turned to ecstasy thanks to Sunday's invitation to the "Big Dance."

Green is 39-45 in three seasons at Oregon and 189-153 overall.

In his 16 years, Green has displayed an uncanny talent for being a significant element in turning a decimated program around. Each team he has been a part of has eventually found itself in the upper echelon of the

school's record books.

"Coach Green came in and completely turned this program around and revitalized the attitude," Oregon center Aaron Johnson said of Green's efforts. "He kept telling us

Turn to GREEN, Page 9B



Bike To School Days

BIKES

TEST RIDE A '95 MONGOOSE' TODAY!

EXPERIENCE THE VALUE SERVICE

Major tune-up

ONLY \$45.00

Call for details

BIKE SECURITY

Kryptolok 9"

\$27.95

Advent U-Lock w/Bad Bones

\$36.95

LIGHTS

CAT EYE halogen light

only \$14.95

Vista 430 20 Watts!

Sale \$99.95

reg. \$120

FENDERS

Mt. Zefal clip-on fenders

only \$19.95 pr.

Trick parts

from Answer, Bontrager, Cook Brothers, Avid Rock Shox, Interloc, and more



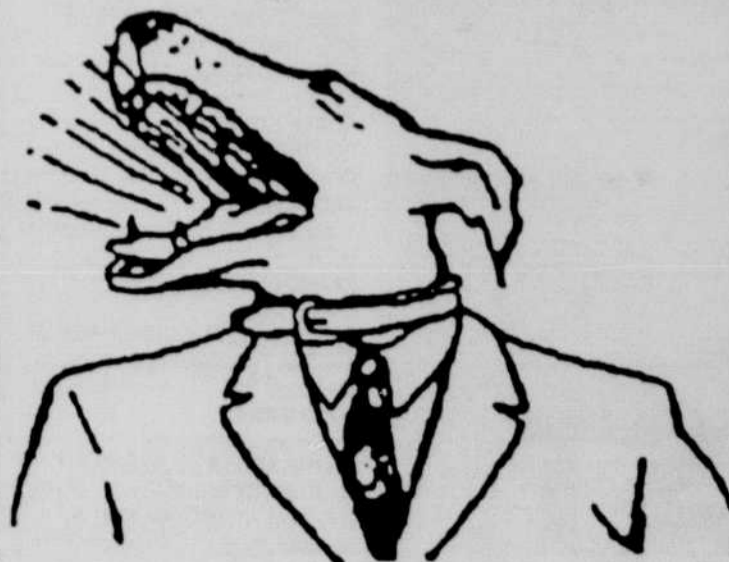
1340 WILLAMETTE
687-0288



Kris Henry says:

"Texas will talk the talk but the Ducks will walk the walk in Utah. Arkansas, Kentucky, Mississippi State and Villanova will shake things up when the heat is on. Can you say repeat?"

HOUSE OF RECORDS



258 E. 13TH, EUGENE
Phone 342-7975

BUY • SELL • TRADE
NEW & USED
SPECIAL ORDERS
HARD TO FIND
CD'S LP'S TAPES