

Boyer's back, Ducks ready for Stanford showdown

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL:

Leader scorer Arianne Boyer's suspension is over, but her playing time will be a question mark

By Mark McTyre
Assistant Sports Editor

Arianne Boyer is back. Those were the words of Oregon women's basketball head coach Jody Runge prior to Wednesday's practice at McArthur Court.

"We haven't made any decisions about [the Stanford game] with the exception that she will probably play," Runge said. "I think the slate is clean now and we're ready to go on about our business."

Boyer was put on suspension a week ago, following the Ducks' 72-59 loss at Washington State. Runge told the media yesterday the suspension was because of "a difference of opinion."

In the days following, Boyer's future at Oregon was unknown. She met with teammates, coaches and family on Monday to discuss the suspension, and then met again with Runge yesterday.

"I think everybody's feelings are clear and that we're all going in the right direction," Runge said.

With that in mind, Oregon must return to the right path quickly, because fifth-ranked Stanford is coming to Eugene tonight and the Ducks are in desperate need of a Pacific-10 Conference victory.

With the extent of Boyer's services still in question, Runge will be looking for her reserves to step up against the Cardinal.

"I think we really need to be able to play some people off the bench," Runge said. "And that we need some production from them offensively and defensively. Hopefully we'll be able to do that."

This year, like most, Stanford (11-2 overall, 4-0 Pac-10) has been hard to beat. The team won 11 of its last 12 contests, and is currently on a five-game winning streak. Kate Starbird is pacing the Pac-10 leaders with 21.9 points per game.

Turn to **WOMEN**, Page 9



Oregon point guard Cindie Edamura has become a player the team can depend on to come through in clutch situations early this season.

Edamura provides Oregon with all she has to offer

POINT GUARD: Cindie Edamura has quietly risen her level of play to become the Ducks' go-to player

By Pete Schneider
Sports Reporter

Cindie Edamura is the classic lead-by-example point guard for the Oregon women's basketball team.

Quiet and unassuming, Edamura is not the player who will stand up in the locker room and chew out her teammates in efforts to fire them up for the big game. Instead, she is the one off to the side who listens, thinks and quietly accepts her role as the on-court leader.

"I'm not the most talkative, enthusiastic and cheering type of person," said the junior point guard from Kamloops, British Columbia. "I would rather just go out and get the job done. I like to lead by example and let other people do the talking."

Lately, Edamura has been quietly getting the job done for the Ducks, as her offensive numbers have risen steadily all season, across the board. Never considered a scoring threat in the point guard spot, Edamura turned it up a notch against Washington last weekend, racking up a career-high 16 points.

Nobody would consider the 5-foot-6 Edamura a rebounding threat either, but she managed to pull down a career-high eight boards against Washington State, two days before her offensive explosion in Seattle. Edamura raised her level of play for Oregon at the right time, with leading scorer Arianne Boyer unavailable last weekend and No. 5 Stanford coming into town tonight.

"I think that she's handling the pressure and the adversity really well right now," head coach Jody Runge said. "She's getting the ball where we need it to go right now. Because not a lot of people are stepping up to hit the shots, I think she realizes that we need her to do some of that, more than she's



EDAMURA

Turn to **POINT GUARD**, Page 9

Oregon looks to get back to its winning ways at Stanford



Junior point guard Kenya Wilkins will go against one of his toughest adversaries, Brevin Knight, at Stanford tonight.

MEN'S BASKETBALL: The Ducks play their first conference road game tonight

By Andrea DeYoung
Sports Reporter

The Oregon men's basketball team will play its first Pacific-10 Conference game away from home tonight against the Stanford Cardinal in Palo Alto, Calif.

After losing to Washington in the closing seconds of the game on Jan. 13, Oregon (9-5 overall, 2-1 conference) looks to get back on track with a win over the Cardinal (8-4, 2-2). Stanford is ranked No. 24 in the nation by *USA Today*, but falls behind the No. 3 Ducks in the Pac-10 standings at No. 4.

Last year, the two teams split the season series when the Cardinal beat Oregon 92-86 at Stanford and the Ducks picked up an 88-80 win at McArthur Court.

While Stanford will be facing a rather new Oregon squad, the Ducks simply have to watch the tapes of last year's games to know how the Cardinal team operates. The Stanford starting line-up consists of four seniors, a junior, and four returning starters.

The experience of these starters may give Stanford the edge. The Ducks will have to contend with three Cardi-

“Stanford senior Brevin Knight and Oregon junior guard Kenya Wilkins are considered the two biggest small-men in the Pacific-10 Conference.”

nal players who average more than 14 points per game. Senior forward Andy Poppink, senior guard Dion Cross and junior guard Brevin Knight lead the seasoned Stanford squad.

Knight and Oregon junior guard Kenya Wilkins are considered the two biggest small-men in the Pac-10, and tonight's match-up between the two guards will prove to be pivotal part of the game.

Knight is averaging 14.2 points per game, and Wilkins is currently ranked ninth in the Pac-10 in scoring with an average of 15.7 points per game. But after an unimpressive eight-point outing against Washington, Wilkins will be looking to get back in form tonight.

On the boards, the battle will be between Oregon junior

Turn to **MEN'S BASKETBALL**, Page 8