

Oregon hosts veteran Australian basketball team

The Outback All-Stars are a physical team that will test Oregon's ability to take a pounding, Kent says

By Rob Moseley
 Sports Reporter

The second and final men's basketball exhibition game tips off tonight at McArthur Court, and after decimating the Russian Central Army team 89-54 on Saturday, Oregon is ready for a tougher challenge.

The Ducks' opponent tonight is the Outback All-Stars, an Australian club team which lost to both West Virginia and Kansas on its current tour of the United States. The All-Stars, made up of older and more experienced players than the Russians, are led by Australian national team

standout Scott McGregor.

"The Russian team was a much younger, underdeveloped team. This Australian team is very physical," head coach Ernie Kent said. "They're going to challenge our ability to take a pounding with their big guys, yet they're a smart veteran team. It's going to be an opportunity for us to play at a higher intensity level and a higher intelligence level."

Henry Madden led all scorers on Saturday with 17 points against Russia, while

A.D. Smith and Jamar Curry added 12 each. Smith and freshman Flo Hartenstein tied for the rebounding lead with eight each, and Curry and point guard Mike McShane each dished out five assists.

Kent said he will use the same rotation against Australia that he did against Russia barring a major catastrophe.

"Everybody had pretty much even minutes against the Russians," Kent said. "We'll probably have the same situation again, unless the outcome of the game is in doubt."

"Even though this is an exhibition game, it's a game we want to win."

On top

- **WHAT:** Men's basketball exhibition vs. Australia's Outback All-Stars
- **WHERE:** McArthur Court
- **WHEN:** 7:05 p.m.

Oregon will use week off to rest

John Taylor will undergo X-rays this week to determine the severity of a knee injury he suffered 13 seconds into his match against Stanford

By Joel Hood
 Sports Reporter

The Oregon wrestling team will take the week off, licking its wounds from last weekend's impressive season-opening sweep of Pacific-10 Conference rivals UC Davis and Stanford.

The No. 22 Ducks suffered several minor injuries and a serious one Saturday as it defeated UC Davis 32-3 in afternoon competition and Stanford 29-13 in an evening match in Palo Alto, Calif.

Oregon standout John Taylor was forced to default after injuring his left knee on a takedown move, just 13 seconds into his match against Stanford.

The senior's loss on Saturday put the Ducks into an early hole, but the team rebounded by winning seven of its remaining nine matches to cruise to an easier-than-expected conference victory.

However, Taylor's injury is a major concern for the team.

"We weren't sure what was going to happen after John went down," said junior Sean Morgan. "We needed some of our other wrestlers to step up and they did that. But that injury was a big loss to us, especially if he has to sit out for a while."

Head coach Ron Finley said Taylor's injury is improving and is probably a severe sprain. But the senior will undergo X-rays this week to determine the injury's severity.

"John is doing much better than we expected," Finley said. "He has a better range of motion than he did this weekend. I don't think the injury is quite as bad as we thought on Saturday."

Finley said Taylor, who ranks second in the Pac-10 in the 118-pound weight class, will sit out the Southern Oregon Open on Saturday, but that the knee injury might not force him to miss

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ARIZONA STATE



COURTESY PHOTO

Ryan Kealy has picked up right where Jake Plummer left off. With two games remaining on their schedule, the redshirt freshman quarterback is fifth on the all-time conference passing list for freshman quarterbacks.

Kealy is making a name for himself

Sun Devil redshirt freshman Ryan Kealy has already bettered Jake Plummer in three passing categories

By Ryan Frank
 Sports Editor

The comparisons were inevitable. Arizona State quarterback Jake Plummer led the Sun Devils to a perfect regular season and within a few minutes of a possible national title last season.

The senior started every Sun Devil game since the middle of his freshman season and was a huge part of what Ari-

zona State had become.

So when he graduated at the conclusion of the 1996 season, the search began for a new quarterback.

There were no obvious candidates, but there were a few guys who could work out.

Little did head coach Bruce Snyder know that the player who would eventually win the job would surpass Plummer as the top freshman passer in school history.

Ryan Kealy may be a redshirt freshman, but he plays with confidence of a four-year starter, which draws to mind a quick comparison to the aforemen-

tioned Plummer.

Kealy, a hometown hero who grew up in Phoenix, is already fifth on the all-time Pacific-10 Conference passing yards list for freshman quarterbacks and could realistically finish second.

He has already bettered Plummer's numbers in touchdowns (13), completions (140) and passing yards (1,871).

Those numbers helped Kealy earn conference player of the week honors twice this season, making him the first freshman quarterback to win the award

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