Women: Mowe, Meharry anchor experienced group up front

Solution Continued from Page 5

game filling in for the injured Mowe and Meharry last season, to the small forward position next

Sonja Curtis rounds out Oregon's formidable front line. As the Pac-10's leading free-throw shooter last season, the 6-foot-2 Curtis will be one of three seniors on next year's squad.

The others are the Ducks' Australians: guard Lisa Bowyer and guard/forward Natasha O'Brien. Bowyer, a 5-foot-8 defensive specialist, played through several injuries last season while dishing out 82 assists and collecting 42 steals. O'Brien, 5-foot-11, scored 8.7 points a game.

Nicole Strange, a 5-foot-10 junior guard/forward, made solid contributions last season, averaging just over five points in 20 minutes a game.

Oregon also returns sophomore guard Lindsey Dion and a candidate for the starting point guard position in sophomore Karen Piers.

Kirsten McKnight, once a walk-on, played her fourth and final season last year. She'll be back with the team though, returning as an assistant coach.

"I'm really excited to continue in a program I worked so hard for four years to build up," McKnight said. "I feel like I can help emotionally, just dealing with everything you go through as a player.'

With the core of last year's team back, the Ducks think their chances for success are high.

"Everybody's coming back and it's going to be incredible, I think." Mowe said. "Bri and I are coming back in, and we have a big batch of new recruits that will bring a lot to our team too. And then there's the old-comers coming back. It's just going to be real-

McKnight agrees: "We have some amazing inside players coming back strong. With Jenny and Brianne being out last year, they have a heightened sense of desire to win this year."

The Ducks do lose point guard

Natalie Hughes, the only player on the team to average more than 30 minutes a game. In those minutes, Hughes led the team in scoring with 15 points per contest and tallied 89 assists.

"It's going to be weird playing without Nat and just not having her around," Mowe said. "She's

just a great girl and a great teammate. We'll miss her on and off the court."

Although McKnight is sure to miss her former teammate, she said the position will be in capable hands.

66 I think the

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Jenny Mowe

U0 forward

"I'm totally confident that we'll get the job done with Karen Piers coming in," McKnight said.

If the 1998-99 season ends as the Ducks hope for it to, Runge's incoming recruits will have to

make significant contributions to make up for Hughes' absence.

"I know all of them," Mowe said of her incoming teammates. "They all seem very athletic and like very great girls."

Three freshman and a transfer will join the team, one of which is 5-foot-6 Shaquala Williams of

Reynolds High School in Troutdale, Ore., where she scored 26.4 points a game. Williams is rated as the 33rd best player coming out of high school by the Blue Star Report. Another promising

ka, who averaged 13 points and eight boards a game for Saint Bernard High School in Los Angeles, which went to the state finals last year.

Jamie Craighead, a 5-foot-9 guard, should provide depth in the backcourt. Craighead, who arrives from Washington, averaged a triple-double with 12 points, 10 assists and 10 steals a game at Elma High School. Alyssa Frederick, a 6-foot-3 center-forward transfer from San Diego State University, will add size to the roster.

If the team can remain healthy and if Runge can continue to blend her team's talent into wins, the Ducks will justify their lofty goals for 1998-99.

"I think that Pac-10 title is a very attainable goal, " Mowe said. "Everybody's coming back, and it's going to be incredible. We're going to be back."

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Horoscope by Frances Drake

For Tuesday, Aug. 11, 1998 ARIES (March 21 to April 19)

People are looking to you as a role model, and you will not disappoint. Take chances; the odds are better than usual for you.

TAURUS

(April 20 to May 20)
A quiet day for you. It may be advantageous to stay behind the curtain, lurk and observe. You just might learn something. Avoid confronta-

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)

Networking and socializing will go really well, so why not play host? Don't be afraid to spark a controversial conversation with new friends.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Cover all your bases and keep your nose clean. Get everything in writing to protect yourself. Acts of human

kindness aren't always what they

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22)

Organize a team and you may come out on top. Assemble other cohorts that seek a similar goal, as there is always more power in greater num-VIRGO

(Aug. 23 to Sept. 22)

It's your party and you can cry if you want to. Rather than being the ball and chain, you may find that time is better quality when spent

(Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)

Nip a problem in the bud rather than waiting for it to come full blossom. Your significant other may be more demanding than usual, so be

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Be certain all the facts are lucid before embarking on a new project. Thorough exploration now will prevent you from losing your way again. SAGITTARIUS

(Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Think big and speak loudly to make sure your opinion is heard. Being a teacher, rather than drill sergeant, is the best way to organize a team

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) Holes and cracks in the home and

family will require your attention. Putting matters off will insure an insurmountable problem. Sacrifice AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18)
What you find to be a brilliant proposition may fall flat on the ears of others. Don't be discouraged by your unrecognized genius; it may be bed biming.

(Feb. 19 to March 20) Catastrophe and chaos will reign supreme. It's your job to wade through the mayhem and attempt to function normally. Are you wearing your tall

YOU BORN TODAY are energized and feeling wonderful because of physical vitality and an overall sense of good health. Treat yourself to some thing you've been wanting for a long time. After all, it's your birthday. Make amends with someone, even if

the falling out wasn't your fault. Birthdate of: Mike Douglas, enter-tainer, Jerry Falwell, evangelist; Joe

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