

Kent

continued from page 3B

He is calm, always willing to trumpet a player's strengths instead of pick on their shortcomings.

"He's really patient with his players. He lets them come, and that's been really good for me and my development," Ridnour said. "He's got a lot of confidence in us, and it's really key for a player to realize his coach has that confidence."

He is optimistic.

"We feel like we're putting together a team that's capable of winning the Pac-10, and if this team plays like it's capable of playing, it could come this year," Kent said.

Most importantly, he is a Duck. First, last and always.

"He's been through this program, he knows what it's like to go to school here and play here," Oregon center Chris Christoffersen said. "He's got a lot invested in this place."

To hear Kent speak of it, "this place" is now a permanent home, despite any offers that might come his way, like the Notre Dame contract reportedly offered to him two summers ago.

"It allows you to handle pressure, coaching at your alma mater," Kent said. "You have such a personal relationship with the job and your community. Number one, I don't want to let my family down, but I also don't want to let this community down."

Kent's family is an important part of his Oregon story. One Kent offspring, Marcus, is a walk-on freshman Duck. Another, highly-recruited Jordan, signed a letter of intent to come to Oregon — for the track and field team — next year.

Kent, it seems, has his Ducks in a row.

As he enters the winter of his fifth year, Kent has his accomplishments, his records and his team marshaled around him. But his statistical success is only half of the success story of his life as a Duck.

E-mail sports reporter Peter Hockaday at peterhockaday@dailyemerald.com.

Women's

continued from page 7B

stalwarts already leaving the team. UCLA saw Michelle Greco leave first, only to have Kristee Porter leave a little while later for a career in volleyball.



UCLA has beaten up California and Washington State — the teams they should have — but

have been greatly outmatched by the rest of the conference.

9. California Golden Bears (5-8, 0-4)

Head Coach: Caren Horstmeier, 14th year

Player to watch: Ami Forney, F/C

A team that has not been to the NCAA Tournament since 1993 will fail to go once again. Forney can play with just about anybody in the conference, but as a team, the Golden Bears are too inexperienced and lack the necessary depth to remain competitive dur-

ing conference play. Their five non-conference wins are a step in the right direction, though, as this is a program that has not seen much success in its history.

10. Washington State Cougars (2-13, 0-5)

Head Coach: Jenny Przekwas, 11th year

Player to watch: Brittney Hawks, C

There can be only one success



story in Pullman, Wash., this year. Unfortunately for the Cougar women, that title already belongs to the Cougar football team. This squad is devoid of depth and has been beaten by an average of 24 points in its five conference games. Their two wins came against Portland State and Gonzaga. Enough said.

E-mail sports reporter Hank Hager at hankhager@dailyemerald.com.

Men's

continued from page 6B

Among those four starters were the always imposing Collins twins, Jason and Jarron, in the middle.

Still, behind the leadership of hot-shooting junior guard Casey Jacobsen, the Cardinal will always be a threat to win any game they play.

But they will also lose a few that may just keep them out of the NCAA Tournament.

Watch out for them in the Pac-10 tourney, though.

6. Arizona Wildcats (9-4 overall, 2-2 Pac-10)

Head Coach: Lute Olson

Player to watch: Salim Stoudamire, G

Oregon has already feasted on the new-look Arizona Wildcats.

Sure, Arizona's fresh off its appearance in the NCAA Tournament championship game, but much has changed since. Four of the starters that led the 'Cats to the Final Four left for the NBA draft.

What is left is Jason Gardner, Luke Walton, Rick Anderson and a bunch

of younger players who will need to play above their age for Arizona to reach the NCAAs. The most notable is freshman Salim Stoudamire, a Lake Oswego product who is



the cousin of Trail Blazer Damon Stoudamire.

Walton may be the difference, as without him last weekend, Arizona lost to Oregon and nearly lost to Oregon State at home.

7. Arizona State Sun Devils (9-4 overall, 2-2 Pac-10)

Head Coach: Rob Evans

Player to watch: Chad Prewitt, F/C

Injuries deflated the Sun Devils a year ago, but now Arizona State is healthy and playing solid basketball.

Senior Chad Prewitt, a four-year starter, recorded back-to-back career highs last weekend with 25 and 27 points in Arizona State's sweep of the Oregon schools.

The Sun Devils will also receive help from junior college

transfer Curtis Millage, who is becoming more comfortable with the



higher level of play, averaging 12.6 points in a team-high 28.6 minutes per game.

8. Oregon State Beavers (8-6 overall, 1-3 Pac-10)

Head Coach: Ritchie McKay

Player to watch: Philip Ricci, F

Having a healthy Philip Ricci at forward is making a huge difference for this season's Beavers. Ricci, a junior college transfer, never played a game last year after undergoing

preseason arthroscopic knee surgery. He's now back and has already tallied four double-doubles.

Oregon State also has Brandon Payton this year, after Payton sat out last season due to his transfer from UC-Santa Barbara. But Payton, the half-brother of former Oregon State star Gary Payton, is averaging just under four points a game.

9. Washington State Cougars (4-8 overall, 0-4 Pac-10)

Head Coach: Paul Graham

Player to watch: Mike Bush, G

A key for the Cougars will be whether senior shooting guard Mike Bush's body can hold up af-

ter playing a key role as a receiver for Washington State's Sun Bowl

champion football team. In 10 games so far, Bush has averaged 11 points.

The Cougars will also be boosted by the play of sophomore point guard Marcus Moore, but they'll still have a tough time competing with the Pac-10.

There is some promising home-grown talent on this Huskies team. But it's going to take another couple of years for these Washington products to shine and win consistently in conference play.

While the play of sophomores Curtis Allen and Doug Wrenn will be exciting to watch, there's not much that can be done to save Washington from a cellar-dwelling season.

E-mail assistant sports editor Jeff Smith at jeffsmith@dailyemerald.com.

ter playing a key role as a receiver for Washington State's Sun Bowl

champion football team. In 10 games so far, Bush has averaged 11 points.

The Cougars will also be boosted by the play of sophomore point guard Marcus Moore, but they'll still have a tough time competing with the Pac-10.

There is some promising home-grown talent on this Huskies team. But it's going to take another couple of years for these Washington products to shine and win consistently in conference play.

While the play of sophomores Curtis Allen and Doug Wrenn will be exciting to watch, there's not much that can be done to save Washington from a cellar-dwelling season.

E-mail assistant sports editor Jeff Smith at jeffsmith@dailyemerald.com.

There is some promising home-grown talent on this Huskies team. But it's going to take another couple of years for these Washington products to shine and win consistently in conference play.

While the play of sophomores Curtis Allen and Doug Wrenn will be exciting to watch, there's not much that can be done to save Washington from a cellar-dwelling season.

E-mail assistant sports editor Jeff Smith at jeffsmith@dailyemerald.com.

There is some promising home-grown talent on this Huskies team. But it's going to take another couple of years for these Washington products to shine and win consistently in conference play.

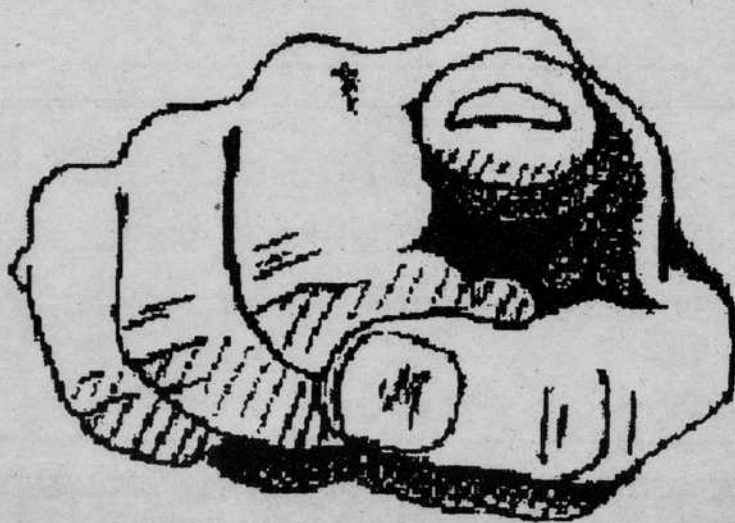
While the play of sophomores Curtis Allen and Doug Wrenn will be exciting to watch, there's not much that can be done to save Washington from a cellar-dwelling season.

E-mail assistant sports editor Jeff Smith at jeffsmith@dailyemerald.com.

There is some promising home-grown talent on this Huskies team. But it's going to take another couple of years for these Washington products to shine and win consistently in conference play.

While the play of sophomores Curtis Allen and Doug Wrenn will be exciting to watch, there's not much that can be done to save Washington from a cellar-dwelling season.

E-mail assistant sports editor Jeff Smith at jeffsmith@dailyemerald.com.



STEP DOWN OR LOSE YOUR SEAT!

Agreement Between UO Athletics and ASUO:

"New bleachers, installed in 1997-98, were designed so that students could stand without obstructing the views of others. However, students are now standing on their seats, instead of the floorboards, thus again obstructing the views of others... If, at any time during the 2001-02 season, despite the urgent efforts of the ASUO and the Athletic Department, students continue to stand on their seats rather than the floorboards, **STUDENT SEATING WILL BE CURTAILED** in the top two rows of section 10, 11, and 12. If the students again stand on their seats rather than the floorboards, the **SEATING IN THE TOP TWO ROWS of Section 10, 11, and 12, WILL BE ELIMINATED.**"

In Student Terms:

Students will **LOSE STUDENT SEATING** in the sections on the floor at Mac Court for two games (one week) if students continue to stand on their seats. If the problem continues after the probation, two rows of seating in those sections will be **LOST TO STUDENT SEATING FOR THE REST OF THE SEASON AND THOSE ROWS MAY BE ELIMINATED FOR THE ENTIRE 2002-03 SEASON.**

Students are a driving force in representing the University of Oregon at athletic events!

DON'T LOSE THE BEST SEAT IN TOWN... YOURS!

Questions? Comments?
Contact the ASUO Athletic Department Finance Committee at:
adfin@gladstone.uoregon.edu

**NO
STANDING
ON THE
SEATS...**

or

**NO
SEATING
ON THE
FLOOR.**

