

Sports briefs

Joseph is top newcomer

WALNUT CREEK, Calif. — Oregon junior guard Andre Joseph has been named the 2003 Pacific-10 Conference Men's Basketball Newcomer of the Year, Commissioner Tom Hansen announced Wednesday.

Joseph, from Houston, Texas, is averaging 10.1 points, 3.3 rebounds and 1.9 assists for the Ducks. He provided an instant spark after transferring to Oregon from Lee Junior College (Baytown, Texas). He has played in 26 of 27 games for the Ducks in 2003, including four starts. On Feb. 2, Joseph posted a career-high 18 points and five assists at USC.

A sharpshooter from behind the arc, Joseph has hit a three-pointer in 13 consecutive games, and connected on 20 of his last 43

(.465) three-point attempts. In Pac-10 play, he's ranked sixth in the Conference in three-point field goal percentage (.427). He has scored in double-digits fifteen times on the season.

The award is presented to the Conference's top newcomer, as selected by Pac-10 radio play-by-play announcers. The honor is named the Fred Hessler Award, in honor of the late UCLA broadcaster.

— From staff and wire reports

Broncos sign Plummer

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — Ending one chapter of their quarterback saga and starting another, the Denver Broncos reached an agreement with Arizona free agent Jake Plummer on Wednesday.

Plummer, who visited the Broncos on Monday, will return to Denver on Thursday to sign a seven-year contract worth just more

than \$40 million, including a \$7 million signing bonus.

Plummer will get about \$2 million in base salary during his first two seasons.

The agreement includes a \$6 million roster bonus due in March 2005. At that point, if the Broncos don't want Plummer as quarterback, they would cut him and save approximately \$31 million, albeit with salary cap implications.

The Broncos also received NFL approval for their contract with defensive tackle Daryl Gardener, who signed his six-year \$30-million deal Wednesday.

Plummer, 28, will be the Broncos' starting quarterback next season, replacing Brian Griese, who will either be traded or cut after June 1.

— Kamon Simpson, Colorado Springs Gazette (KRT)

Women's

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strong ball handling and scoring from junior Giuliana Mendiola.

But for the Ducks, who they play doesn't seem to matter, because they have to reach the title game first.

"Whoever we play I'm going to be just fine and we will have to deal with that," Oregon head coach Bev Smith said. "If we get in the final, hey, we could play Connecticut for all I care. We would just be ready to beat anyone that we're in there with."

The scenarios are all hypothetical but what is true is that Oregon has three tough opponents to surpass to before stepping back into McArthur Court.

Injuries continue

Just when the Ducks thought things were full steam ahead again with a full bench, another injury came along.

Junior Kayla Steen tore her anterior crucial ligament in her left knee in Saturday's game, which leaves her teammates wondering how they will fare with just nine eligible players.

"She comes in and does a great job and is a very steady player," said Gunderson, who was Steen's roommate in Los Angeles. "We're definitely going to miss her. It's tough and I have to give her a lot of credit because she is handling it really well."

"It's going to be a loss. I know it's tough on her and tough on this team. We've been through a lot but at the same time we have got a job to do."

Could be a sellout

As of Monday morning, the State Farm Women's Basketball Pac-10 Tournament had sold 4,344 all-session tickets and 894 single-session tickets.

The arena seats just 6,828 for the tournament, which provides the possibility for a sellout and



Jeremy Forrest Emerald

Kayla Steen, seen in action earlier this season, won't play again this year.

more hype.

"If the Pac-10 Tournament sold out, that's all the better," Gunderson said. "That's definitely playing

in our corner, we are used to having big crowds."

Contact the sports reporter at jessethomas@dailyemerald.com.

seating should have been re-calculated at that time, but, obviously, it wasn't.

"I would describe it as an evolutionary thing," McBride said.

McBride said next year's basketball contract will likely be altered to exclude some of the band's seats, but not all of them. He explained that extra seats have traditionally been given out because not everybody who picks up a ticket shows up for the game.

"The analogy everybody will understand is what airlines do,

they over-book," McBride said. "Most of the time they get it right and nobody knows the difference. It's only when it's your seat that you notice."

Kranzush said the ADFC doesn't know how many seasons the 140 tickets have gone to waste.

"We thought about looking into past years, but thought we'd have a better chance to recover our money from this season if we just focused on that," Kranzush said.

Contact the sports editor at peterhockaday@dailyemerald.com

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Gerlinger Annex 352
1 workshop: \$5
2 workshops: \$8

Opportunity for the campus community to present oral and written comments on proposed amendments to the:

SPECIAL FEES AND FINES FEE BOOK

academic year 2003-04

March 11th, 3 p.m. EMU Walnut Room

Written comments will be accepted by the
Office of Resource Management
Room 1, Johnson Hall
until 5 p.m. on March 11th

Proposed Fee Book is available online at
<http://ormweb.uoregon.edu/SpecialFees/>

Questions: Donna Chittendon 346-3044, Office of Resource Management

Tickets

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money, then they said that it would never happen in basketball. Well, here it is five years later, and it happened."

McBride explained that the Athletic Department learned of the discrepancy in football when the band was moved out of the student section entirely, and the Athletic Department was forced to re-calculate the number of student seats. He said the basketball

FUN

stuff in the
ODE Classifieds
(Off The Mark,
your daily horoscope
and of course
the crossword.)