

Platt, Brooks lead depleted Ducks at scrimmage

Oregon scrimmaged with 11 players Wednesday at McArthur Court but still ran its offense effectively

By Hank Hager
Sports Editor

Luke Jackson was at a funeral for his late grandfather, Douglas Eusted.

Jordan Kent was held out because

MEN'S BASKETBALL

James Davis went down early clutching his ankle after landing on a teammate following a three-pointer.

So much for a full-squad scrimmage on Wednesday.

"It's hard to give you an exact evaluation because you don't have all your pieces here, but obviously we did some good things with what we have out there right now," head coach Ernie Kent said after the scrimmage. "I was pretty pleased for how hard they pushed it through on this being their fifth day of practice in a row and having to scrimmage with no subs out there."

Officially, the Ducks had 11 play-

ers to work with at the scrimmage. Overall, the lightning and green teams that ran the floor combined for 106 total points during one 20-minute half and one 10-minute half.

Freshman point guard Aaron Brooks wowed the crowd and led the Ducks with 15 points in the first half, which was run with a real-game feel. The second half saw a running clock and no timeouts.

"Right now, I see how deep we are," Brooks said. "Even though we

"It's hard to give you an exact evaluation because you don't have all your pieces here, but obviously we did some good things with what we have out there right now."

Ernie Kent
Oregon head coach

have a lot of banged up people and they're key players, we're still playing hard and (the lightning team) still scored 73 points."

Freshman forward Mitch Platt had 14 points and sophomore Ian Crosswhite posted 10. Platt had

eight rebounds and Crosswhite was second on the team with six.

"I thought it was a good game overall as a team," Platt said. "They did a good job of getting me the ball, and we got the ball around to everybody pretty well."

Short's return

Short was at the scrimmage in a boot, which may be able to be taken off on Nov. 14. If it does come off that day, he will be cleared for some physical activity and will progress from then on.

Tickets remain available

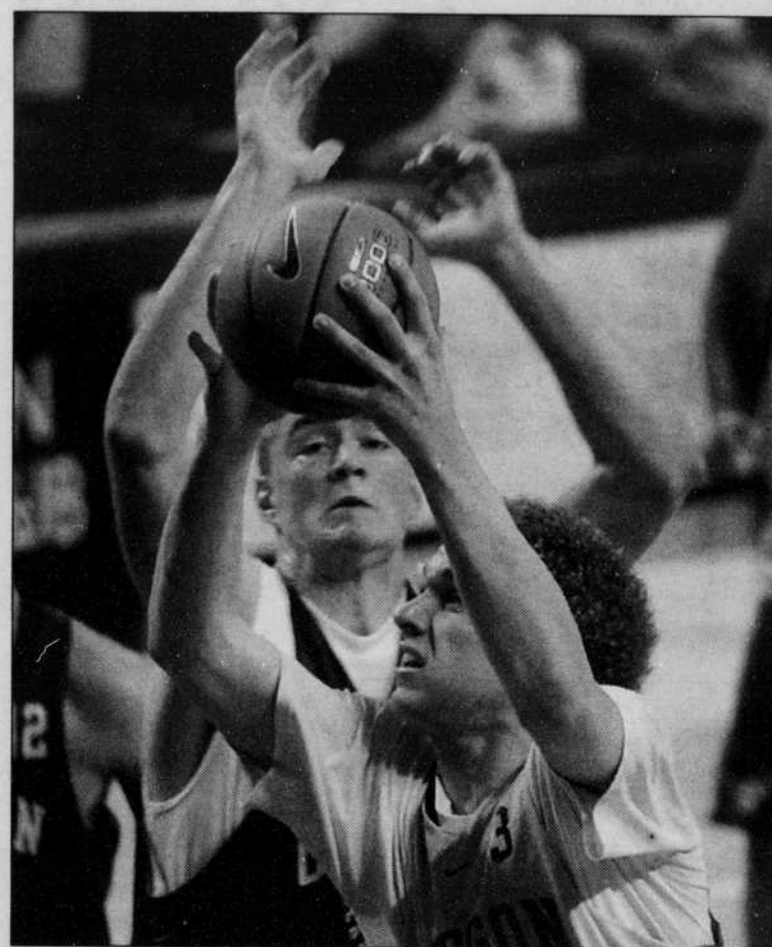
Approximately 300 tickets remain for Oregon's exhibition Sunday against the Basketball Travelers at McArthur Court, which starts at 6 p.m.

Of those 300, 100 are reserved seats and 200 are obstructed view. There are no general admission seats available because students picked up all tickets allotted to them, according to an Oregon official.

In addition, 70 obstructed view seats remain for Oregon's game against Fresno State on Nov. 21, the team's first game of the season.

All obstructed view tickets can be purchased for \$12. They can be obtained by visiting www.goducks.com, or calling 1-800-WEBFOOT.

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Adam Amato Photo Editor

Mitch Platt (with ball) is set to be a key contributor down low for the Ducks this season.

SOCCER

continued from page 13

with the referees or setting up forward Andrea Valadez with the perfect pass, Garbin is always in the middle of the action.

Coaches are "always saying when the ball is at my feet, 'good things happen,'" Garbin said. "I really accept

that responsibility and with that I just try and do the best I can."

Her statistics show that good things do happen. Garbin is already tied for fourth on the career list with 10 goals and tops the list in assists at 12. She also ranks fourth in the points with 32.

Former Oregon star and volunteer coach Chalise Baysa, whom Garbin idolizes, leads Oregon all-time in

goals and points and knows that Garbin could catch her soon enough.

"If she can catch me, better to her," Baysa said. "If you have any given moment to try and break records, do it. It's probably more of an honor for someone to break your records, even though it's a little disappointing not to have it anymore, but if it means someone else is at the top of their game then better for them."

Off the field, Garbin is the least serious person around. She always likes to make her teammates laugh and she says her most unique quality is her ability to mock people she knows.

"She's probably one of the funniest players I know," Baysa said. "She's able to make anyone laugh at any given time. She's there to listen if you have problems. She's crazy, she's out of control at times, but she

brings smiles to everyone's faces."

And that's just Garbin.

Whether she is dancing in the locker room, dancing on the field, mocking her teammates, making the game-winning goal or even getting a yellow card, she can't be stopped from making everyone smile.

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GOLF

continued from page 13

knock Texas A&M and Oregon down to fifth and sixth, respectively. Oklahoma took home the team title, finishing two strokes ahead of Wash-

ington, which finished with a score of 891.

The Oregon men's golf team ended its season on a much different note. The Ducks struggled to a 14th-place finish at The Prestige at PGA West on Tuesday, played at the par-72, 6,841-yard LaQuinta Mountain

Course at LaQuinta, Calif.

The Ducks opened with a respectable first-round 297, but followed it up with second and third-round scores of 302 and 309, respectively, to only finish ahead of Yale.

Mike Sica, Gregg LaVoie and Dustin Pewarchuk all finished the tournament

tied for 49th at 11-over 227. Matt Mat tied for 59th with a three-round 75-75-80 and ended at 230, and Jimmy White finished tied for 64th with a 76-79-78 (233).

No. 4 UCLA won the tournament at 859, followed by No. 7 TCU at 860. The Horned Frog's Colby Beck-

strom earned medalist honors with a 10-under 206.

Both teams return to tournament play in February.

Brian Smith is a freelance sports reporter for the Emerald.

WOMEN

continued from page 13

pointers. Davis finished 4 of 6 behind the arc, her final three giving the Ducks their largest lead of the night, 69-53, with a little more than eight minutes remaining.

Along with offensive execution, Smith has said prior to the game that defense and rebounding are vital to Oregon's success. The Ducks

contended almost everything in the paint when they were able to set up defensively, but were often guilty of getting burned in transition.

"We didn't do a good a very good job in their semi-transition," Smith said. "(Strakonice is) certainly a European team that runs very well, that passes very well, that plays off of each other very well, and I think we learned some things tonight about ourselves in terms of awareness."

Oregon out-rebounded Strakonice, 42-33. The Ducks utilized their size and strength inside as the visitors from the Czech Republic simply lacked the muscle to bang with Oregon. The Ducks finished with 32 points in the paint, compared to 18 for Strakonice.

Kraayeveld and Bills finished with a game-high nine rebounds each while sophomore forward Carolyn Ganes grabbed five.

Oregon jumped out to an 11-3 lead

after five minutes, including a 9-0 run to open the game. Strakonice responded with a 12-2 run to grab its only lead of the game, 15-13.

After falling behind by two, the Ducks built a 35-20 lead with just under eight minutes to go in the first half. Strakonice got no closer than eight the rest of the way.

Vendula Mackova led Strakonice with 20 points and eight rebounds. Jitka Musilova finished with 18 points

while Blanka Petrovicka added nine.

Despite some sloppiness, Kraayeveld said she's happy with the Oregon's performance. She added that practice time should cure any problems.

"It's our first game," Kraayeveld said. "I think we did a pretty good job of trying to adjust and push ourselves through our mistakes."

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DEFENSE

continued from page 13

"I think we did all right (defensively)," forward Cathrine Kraayeveld said. "I think we could have done a little bit better job. Our communication fell through a little bit."

"I don't think our defense was that bad, just the communication part of it. We didn't talk toward the end of the shot clock. We were good (about communicating) at the beginning, and I

think we just kind of let it down a little bit. I think we still went hard."

The Ducks gave up four fast-break points — all in the second half — and 16 points off turnovers.

"We were a little tired, and we're going to have to make sure we pick it up," forward Kedzie Gunderson said.

They also blocked four shots — two by Kraayeveld, one by center Andrea Bills and one by Gunderson.

"We've got a lot to work on," Gunderson said. "I think our defensive

transition is our biggest thing. I think (they got open looks from) our transitions and over-rotating."

The Ducks had eight steals, an improvement on their 6.75 steals per game average from 2002-03.

Oregon also had the typical opening-game rust that appeared throughout the game, missing a pick on a pass through the paint or running too far and leaving a Strakonice player wide open on transition.

"Defensively we were OK, but I

thought transition was the biggest thing for us," guard Brandi Davis said. "Just us getting back and making sure they didn't get too many easy layups. I think that's something we're definitely going to work on in practice."

On the boards, Oregon out-rebounded the traveling team, 25-23, defensively, with the Ducks' two tallest starters — 6-foot-4-inch Kraayeveld and the 6-foot-3-inch Bills — leading the way. Each had six defensive rebounds and nine total.

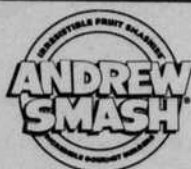
The players were happy to be facing a new set of players — women that they weren't completely sure what to expect from.

"I think this game was good for us," Kraayeveld said.

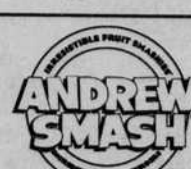
General sentiment from the team was that the defense needs work, but it's actually running pretty well.

"Overall, I think our defense was better than last year," Gunderson said.

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