



**Jon Roetman**  
Roughing the passer

# Post players direct Oregon

With impressive victories over Valparaiso and then-No. 9 LSU, the Oregon women's basketball team established itself as a force to be reckoned with.

The Ducks proved to be more than adequate in every facet of the game, but one area has stood out as exceptional.

Oregon post players have excelled both offensively and defensively and have sent a message to opposing teams: If you're going to bang with Oregon's "biggs," you better pack a lunch.

Senior Cathrine Kraayeveld has played larger than her 30-foot by 12-foot "Home Court Advantage" banner on the side of McArthur Court. After missing 13 games last season with a staph infection in her right knee, Kraayeveld hasn't missed a beat. The 6-foot-4-inch forward is averaging 25.5 points per game, scoring both inside and outside. There is no better example of her offensive versatility than the nine three-pointers she drained in two games during the Women's Sports Foundation Classic last weekend.

Kraayeveld, who hails from

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# Stanford dominates Ducks, takes sweep

The Ducks are swept by Stanford, leaving them winless in 17 Pac-10 matches this season

By **Jon Roetman**  
Sports Reporter

The Oregon volleyball team dropped its 18th consecutive match Thursday, falling to No. 7 Stanford, 3-0 (30-10, 30-20, 30-20) in front of 1,035 fans at Maples Pavilion.

Oregon's overall record is now 3-23, including a 0-17 ledger in Pacific-10 Conference matches. The

Ducks were simply overmatched by Stanford, which out-hit Oregon percentage-wise, .449 to .054.

Stanford (20-6 overall, 13-4 Pac-10) was led by junior outside hitter Ogonna Nnamani, who finished with a match-high 14 kills, while hitting at an impressive .560 clip. Freshman outside hitter Kristin Richards added nine kills and 11 digs, while junior outside hitter Jennifer Hucce had eight kills.

Oregon managed to tie game one at two before being overwhelmed by Stanford. The Ducks didn't reach double digits in game one until a kill by junior outside hitter Lauren Westendorf made the score 25-10 in

favor of Stanford. Oregon finished with a game one hitting percentage of negative .172, including six kills and 11 attack errors.

The Ducks improved slightly in games two and three, but failed to achieve an attack percentage of .200 in either game. Oregon pulled to within five in game two when a Westendorf kill made the score 14-9, but Stanford scored six consecutive points to take a commanding 20-9 lead.

Oregon jumped out to a 6-4 lead in game three after a service error by Hucce. The lead was short-lived, however, as the Cardinal scored six of the next seven points to take a

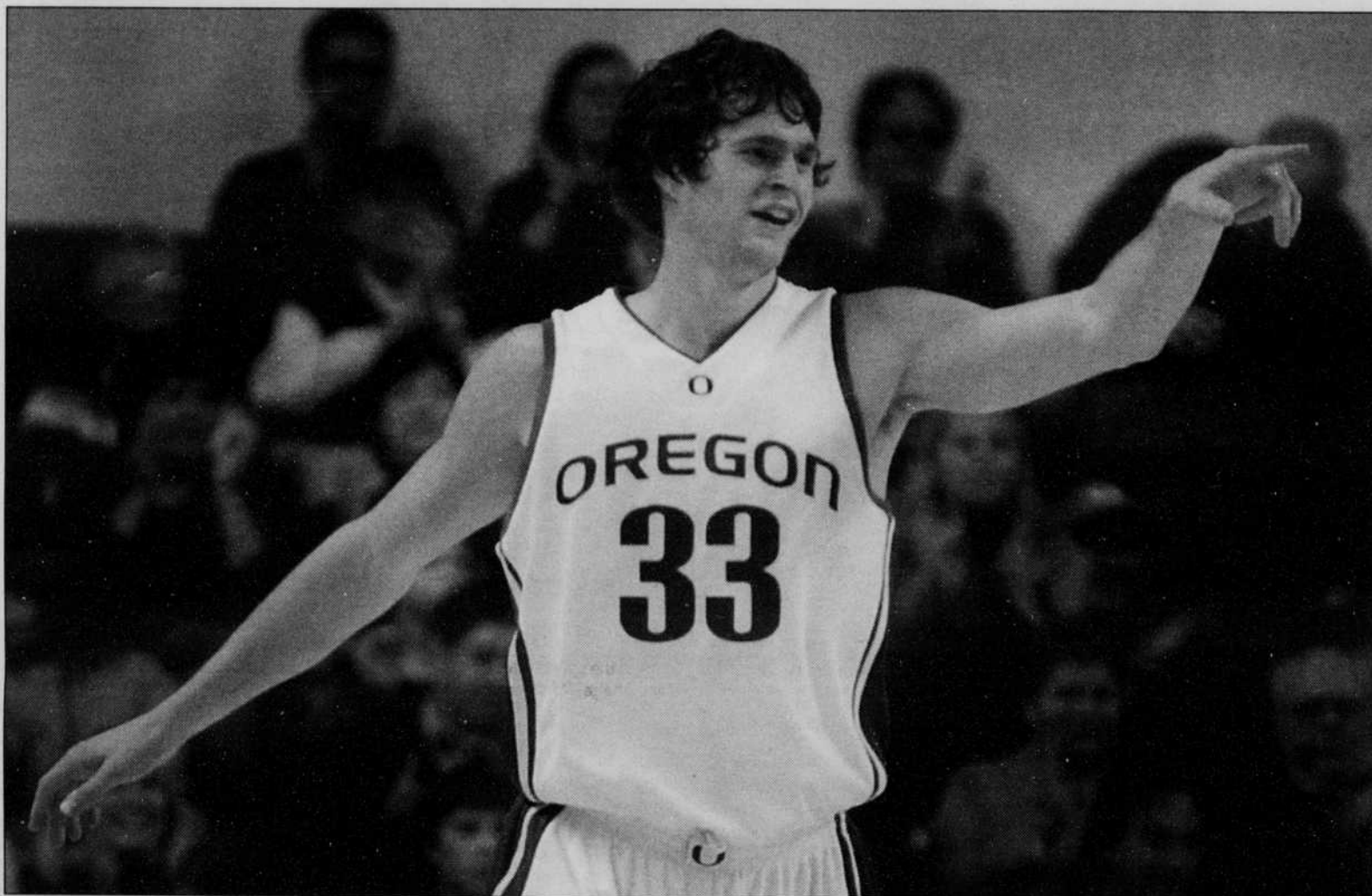
10-7 lead that it did not relinquish.

"I thought we started off very slow in game one," Oregon head coach Carl Ferreira said. "But in the second half of the match — in games two and three — I thought we played with maximum effort and got into a bit of a rhythm."

Westendorf led Oregon with eight kills and nine digs and freshman setter Heather Madison dished out a match-high 25 assists.

Oregon's most notable bright spot was freshman outside hitter Erin Little, who finished with seven kills.

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Adam Amato Photo Editor

Senior guard Luke Jackson will lead the Ducks this season after finishing the 2002-03 season averaging 16 points per game and 6.9 rebounds per game.

## BASKETBALL

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McArthur Court. The Ducks don't expect to change that.

"The bottom line, you want to see them get the 'W,'" Oregon head coach Ernie Kent said. "All the other stuff will take care of itself. The biggest thing is get the win, because these are counting games. Obviously, you would like to see your team play extremely well, focus and defend better, but the bottom line is get the 'W.'"

Defense and free throw shooting have been focal points for the Ducks

through this week's practices. Oregon shot 5 for 14 for 35.7 percent from the line Monday night. Oregon still has the same run-and-gun offensive nature as last year, but defense remains a key point.

"Defensively, we need to communicate a lot better," Kent said. "There were some times out there (Monday), it was so quiet on that floor, it was almost eerie. I thought our stance and technique and some of those things could sharpen up."

Oregon is expected to bring the same starting lineup tonight of guards Andre Joseph and Brooks, forwards Ian Crosswhite and Jackson, and cen-

ter Mitch Platt. Jackson averaged 16 points per game and 6.9 rebounds per game last season.

Brooks and Platt will be making their first career starts for Oregon and their peers feel they are ready.

"They're going to be kind of nervous but kind of hyped up inside," Joseph said. "They're not normal freshmen; they are mature on the court beyond their years."

If the game is close it will follow precedent. Each of the eight games in the series has been decided by 14 points or fewer. Three of the last five meetings have been decided by three points or fewer.

The game begins at 7 p.m. as the 99th season of Oregon basketball gets underway. The Ducks begin another quest to the NCAA Tournament.

What is there to expect from Oregon tonight?

"Our game plan is we need to defend people so we can get out and run in transition," Kent said. "If we can get out and run, people don't have a chance to do anything, man-to-man or zone (defense), the pressure continues to be on them. The biggest thing for us comes back to defense again and shutting people down."

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