

Men: Hostile Husky crowd could be 'eye-opener' for UO

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his buckets. We just need to go out there and play our regular defense and we can contain him."

Oregon head coach Ernie Kent said the matchup between Brooks and Robinson will be a good one but it shouldn't be the focus of the game.

"People are going to see two great point guards," Kent said. "Hopefully Aaron won't get too hyped up going home. This is his first opportunity to do that (because of last year's injury). We can't get caught up in too many one-on-one battles. We have a game plan that we have to stick with."

Tr Simmons (16.9), Brandon Roy (13.6), Bobby Jones (11.5), Jamaal Williams (10.3) and Will Conroy (10) are also averaging double figures for the Huskies.

The Ducks will also be battling a raucous Washington crowd, with its student section located directly

behind the opposition's bench.

"It's going to be brutal," Kent said. "It's going to be an eye-opener for these kids which is good. For us and our program, the next step forward is to take this team on the road in conference play. We've been pretty good at home and we need to go out on the road because the adversity will force us to grow."

How Oregon's freshmen react to the pressure of a conference road game will also be a focal point tonight. Guards Bryce Taylor and Malik Hairston will face plenty of pressure from a Husky defense that has held opponents under 70 points seven times and is quick to jump passing lanes.

"We know we already let one slip away against UCLA," Taylor said. "We're going to try to be as prepared as possible for this game and try to steal a 'W.'"

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Women: Kraayeveld missed both Washington matchups last year

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matchup with the Huskies as she missed both opportunities last season. The Kirkland, Wash., native is second in the Pac-10 in rebounding, behind only Washington State sophomore Kate Benz.

"It's always fun to play Washington," Kraayeveld said. "It's definitely a game I look forward to, but I think we have to treat it like any other game."

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Wrestling: Oregon's success dependent on youth

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I'm not nervous. I know I have a good shot at a win."

Hochstrasser will most likely wrestle Oregon sophomore Joey Lucas, who recorded two wins last weekend including a pin of South Dakota State's Marcus Waters. In the same dual, freshman Stewart Bogart (157) and sophomore Chris Dearmon (Hwt.) also recorded pins for the Ducks.

The most exciting match of the night might be in the heavyweight division as Smith faces either Dearmon or sophomore Cody Parker, pending a match-time decision by Oregon

head coach Chuck Kearney. Another coaching decision yet to be made is whether senior Luke Larwin (165) will wrestle. Larwin suffered a knee injury early in the season that sidelined him until Friday when he wrestled for the first time this season — he won two close matches by decision.

Like most duals the Ducks have wrestled in this year, a win over Boise State will weigh heavily on how well Oregon's underclassmen wrestle. The juniors and seniors have had little trouble this season notching wins, as illustrated by the success of standout veterans Shane Webster (174), Joey Bracamonte (157), Scott Barker (197)

and Chet McBee, who has stepped in at the 174- and 184-pound divisions.

Although the upperclassmen have had a prosperous season, the Ducks have been on the losing end of many close duals in which they fell short by a single match win. This is where the performance of Oregon's younger wrestlers has become pivotal. Recently, freshman Nick Cautrell (141) stepped up and helped the Ducks grab a win over Fresno State two weeks ago. Sophomore Cyle Hartzell has also pulled his weight in clutch matches.

The Ducks continue their homestand Jan. 28 when they wrestle Cal State Fullerton.

Tennis: Men's team begins season this weekend in Honolulu

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he said. "We know she's going to go out and have a chance to beat anyone. Three of four titles. There's not many people who have done what she's done already."

Panova said one of her biggest competitors is freshman Nicole Leimbach of USC. Leimbach defeated Panova in straight sets, 6-4 and 6-1, in the first round of the ITA National Indoor Championships in November.

"I really want to beat her (this time)," Panova said.

Another Duck who has a promising chance at succeeding this

weekend is sophomore Dominika Dieskova. Last season, Dieskova finished with a 20-17 overall record and was ranked as high as No. 51 nationally.

"I feel prepared and ready to start the new season," Dieskova said. "I was working out pretty hard in the fall."

Schyllander said his second-year player is "one of the best and most improved players in the country" this season.

"She took huge strides in the fall and she's really coming into her style of game and wanting to play and has bought into it," Schyllander said. "Any given day, she can beat any given player."

Men kick off 2005 campaign in Hawaii


The Oregon men's tennis team will begin its first season under new head coach Kevin Kowalik when it battles Hawaii and Florida State this weekend in Honolulu.

Kowalik said he is "extremely excited" about taking over the Oregon program after former head coach Chris Russell left to become associate head coach at Washington in September.

"The team had a lot of highs and lows last season but is ready to compete and win in an excellent Pac-10 Conference," Kowalik said.


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