



Husky Men's Basketball Blog

Seattle Times staff reporter Percy Allen provides a running commentary on the Huskies.

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Oregon is the last Pac-10 team standing

Posted by Percy Allen

Oregon returned to Matthew Knight Arena down 0-1 and needing a win tonight against Creighton in the best-of-three College Basketball Invitational championship series to preserve its season.

The Ducks took an early lead, controlled the second half and held off the BlueJays for a 71-58 victory thanks to a game-high 18 points from senior forward **Joevan Catron** (*right*).

The series and season finale is 7 p.m. Friday in Eugene, Ore.

Oregon (20-18) will play its 39th game, the most in school history. The Ducks are also assured of their first winning season since 2008.

Since losing to Washington in the Pac-10 Tournament semifinals, Oregon is 4-1. The Ducks have also won six of the last eight games.

Perhaps the postseason experience will help Oregon next season. The Ducks lose Catron, their leading scorer and rebounder, and senior **Jay-R Stowbridge**, the third leading scorer.

They'll add a heralded incoming freshman class rated by most scouting services as No. 2 in the Pac-12 behind Arizona. The group includes Jackson High sharpshooter **Brett Kingma**, Oakland-area standout guard **Jabari Brown**, Portland star center **Austin Kuemper** and Illinois guard **Bruce Barron**.

Last year Virginia Commonwealth won the CBI and the Rams advanced to the NCAA tournament Final Four this season.

Two years ago Oregon State won the CBI and the following season the Beavers finished tied for fifth in the Pac-10 at 8-10 and 14-18 overall.

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