

Fast Break Club: Women's Basketball 2026-27

Meet the B1G: Oregon

By Thomas Santee and Ralph Watkins

Record in 2025-26:

Big Ten: 8-10

Overall: 23-13

Post-Season: Lost to Texas 100-58 in the NCAA Round of 32.

Individual Honors:

All-Big Ten Second Team	Katie Fiso
Big Ten Sportsmanship Award	Sofia Bell
All-Missouri Valley Third Team	Hilary Fuller
Academic All-Big Ten (2025)	Mallory Heyer

Kelly Graves coached Oregon to a second consecutive trip to the NCAA round of 32 in 2026. Graves had to overcome the early loss of lead guard and top on-ball defender Elisa Mevius to a season-ending injury. He developed young guards into a cohesive unit, wove the talents of three transfers into the fabric of the team, and helped a young power forward realize her potential.

Oregon returns four starters from last season's team. 5-11 junior point guard Katie Fiso (All-Big Ten Second Team) is expected to repeat as the team's leader in scoring (16 ppg) and assists (6 apg). Fiso excels at the pick and roll and taking her opponent to the hole. She needs to improve her perimeter shooting skills.

Oregon also returns the off-guard/small forward starting duo of 6-1 seniors Ari Long and Sofia Bell. The two combined for 13 points, 6 rebounds, 4 assists, and 4 steals per game. Long is the better driver while Bell is the more accurate perimeter shooter.

6-0 junior Ehis Etute blossomed in her sophomore season to become the most effective Duck in the paint last season, contributing 13 points and 9 rebounds per contest. She was often matched up against taller players but used her quickness and muscle to win hard-earned baskets at the rim.

Two transfers and a freshman will compete to join Etute in the paint. 6-1 Mallory Heyer sat on the Ducks' bench as a redshirt last season after transferring from Minnesota where she started every game for three seasons and averaged 9 points and 8 rebounds as a junior. 6-2 junior Hilary Fuller averaged 14 points and 5 rebounds at Belmont last season. She has the potential to be a

stretch four with 35% accuracy from the perimeter. 6-4 freshman Emilia “EK” Krstevski will provide much-needed size in the paint.

Depth at guard will come from 6-1 junior Avery Cain and three freshmen: 5-9 Brooklynn Haywood, 5-10 Kennedy Holman, and 5-9 Kylee Falatea. Each has the talent to earn starter’s minutes.

Bio Summaries

4 Incoming Freshmen

#0 La’u Pele Falatea was the Utah 5A player of the year as a senior and was First Team All-State her final three years in HS. As a senior, she averaged 26 points, 7 assists, and 6 rebounds. She is the sister of former Oregon guard Nani Falatea.

#1 Emilia Krstevski was ranked the No. 41 recruit by ESPN. She represented Canada at the U17 and U18 levels in FIBA World Cup competitions. Both of her parents played basketball. She grew up speaking Macedonian at home with her parents and sister in Torrance, California. Her mother was born in Canada allowing Emilia to apply for Canadian citizenship.

#9 Brooklynn Haywood was ranked the No. 26 recruit by ESPN. She was ranked the No.2 player in Washington after averaging 32 points, 6 rebounds, 4 assists, and 2.4 steals. Both of her parents retired as detectives with the Anchorage Police Department in 2021 and relocated to Camas, Washington, to offer Brooklynn a more challenging environment to hone her basketball skills.

#11 Kennedy Holman was ranked the No. 59 recruit by ESPN after averaging 18 points, 8 rebounds, 3 assists, 3 steals, and 1.4 blocks as a senior at Hamilton Southeastern H.S in Indiana. Her mother, Lisa Boyer, ranks in the top ten in Oregon basketball history in both career assists and steals.

2 Transfers

#4 Mallory Heyer transferred to Oregon after fall quarter last season and redshirted the remainder of the season. She started all 102 games of her first three seasons at Minnesota. She averaged 9 points and 8 rebounds in 2024-25. In HS, Heyer was ranked the No. 55 recruit in the nation by ESPN after averaging 19 points, 9 rebounds, 1.4 blocks, and 1.2 steals. She also excelled in volleyball. She was the Max Preps Minnesota Player of the Year in 2020-21.

#7 Hilary Fuller is a junior transfer from Australia. She spent her first two collegiate seasons at Belmont where she averaged 14 points, 5 rebounds, and 1.5 blocks as a sophomore and was named All-Missouri Valley Conference Third Team. She made 35% of her attempts from the perimeter.

3 Returning Juniors

#2 Katie Fiso was named All-Big Ten Second Team after averaging 16 points, 3.5 rebounds, 6 assists, and 1.2 steals as a sophomore. She averaged 1.6 assists per turnover and made 49% of her FG attempts. Her seven points-assists double doubles ranked second in the nation. Her 6.2 assists per game ranked 10th nationally. Her 14 assists in a game against Oregon State tied the second most assists in a game in Oregon history. In HS, she was ranked the No. 31 recruit in the nation by ESPN. She was the Gatorade Washington Player of the Year after leading Garfield to three consecutive state championships. She was named the State Player of the Year in 2023 and 2024. As a senior, she averaged 25 points, 4 rebounds, 4.1 assists, and 2.5 steals per game. Her twin brother is a horizontal jumper and sprinter for Seattle University.

#35 Ehis Etute had a break-out sophomore season for the Ducks. She started 20 of 35 games and averaged 13 points, 9 rebounds, 2 assists, and 1.3 steals. She was often matched up against much taller opponents. Her signature move involved taking defensive rebounds the full length of the court for layups. Over the season, she developed an effective mid-range jumper. She represented Luxembourg at the FIBA U18 Women's European Championship. Her sister Isi is a freshman on the University of Texas women's basketball team.

#42 Avery Cain transferred to Oregon after her freshman season at UCLA. She averaged 4 points for the Ducks last season. She is a dangerous perimeter shooter and improved as a defender during her sophomore season. She was ranked the No. 20 prospect in the country as a senior in HS.

3 Returning Seniors

#3 Sofia Bell received the team's sportsmanship award following her junior season during which she started every game for the Ducks. She averaged 7 points, 3 rebounds, and 2 steals last season and made 35% of her attempts from three-point range. In HS, she was ranked the No. 26 recruit in the nation by ESPN and was a McDonald's All-American. Her father, Greg Bell, played basketball at Oregon from 1981-85.

#14 Ari Long transferred to Oregon after spending her freshman season at the University of Washington. She averaged 7 points, 4 rebounds, 2 assists, and 2 steals as a junior for the Ducks. Long ranked sixth in the Big 10 in steals. She was ranked the No. 46 recruit in nation by ESPN after leading California high school girls in scoring with 35 points per game on 47% FG accuracy.

#21 Filippa Tilliander improved as a rebounder and defender during her junior season for the Ducks. She played for Sweden's U16 Junior National Team.

Head Coach

Kelly Graves is in his 13th season as head coach of the University of Oregon, highlighted by a Final Four appearance for the Ducks in 2019. Prior to his arrival in Eugene in 2014, Graves was Head Coach at Big

Bend Community College (3 seasons), Saint Mary's (3 seasons) and Gonzaga (14 seasons). He was an Assistant Coach at the University of Portland for 5 seasons. Graves was the Pac-12 Coach of the Year in 2019 and 2020 after being honored as West Coast Conference Coach of the Year ten times during his tenure at Gonzaga. Graves played two seasons at New Mexico. Kelly's oldest son Max graduated from the University of Oregon in 2017 and worked with the Dallas Mavericks. He is currently a high school teacher and basketball coach in Arizona. Kelly's middle son Jack is an Assistant Coach for the Lane Community College women's basketball team. His youngest son Will played basketball for three seasons for Gonzaga before transferring to Southern Oregon University. Four of Kelly's former Assistant Coaches are currently Head Coaches at NCAA teams: Mark Campbell at TCU, Lisa Fortier at Gonzaga, JR Payne at Colorado, and Nicole Powell at UC Riverside.

University of Oregon Women—2026-27 roster and stats for 2025-26:

Returning starters:

2 Katie Fiso, 5-11 Jr, Seattle, WA

15.5 points, 3.5 rebounds, 6.2 assists, 1.3 steals, FG 49%, 3PT 28%, FT 77%

35 Ehis Etute, 6-0 Jr, Dudelange, Luxembourg

12.5 points, 9 rebounds, 1.5 assists, 1.3 steals, FG 52%, 3PT 100%, FT 71%

3 Sofia Bell, 6-0 Sr, Portland, OR

6.7 points, 2.6 rebounds, 1.9 assists, 1.6 steals, FG 39%, 3PT 35%, FT 77%

14 Ari Long, 6-0 Sr, Moreno Valley, CA (Washington)

6.6 points, 3.8 rebounds, 1.8 assists, 1.9 steals, FG 37%, 3PT 31%, FT 82%

Returning Bench:

42 Avary Cain, 6-1 Jr, Santa Maria, CA (UCLA)

3.8 points, 1.1 rebounds, FG 35%, 3PT 35%, FT 75%

21 Filippa Tilliander, 6-1 Sr, Malmo, Sweden

1 point, 1.3 rebounds, FG 41%, FT 90%

Transferred In:

7 Hilary Fuller, 6-2 Jr, Brisbane, Australia (Belmont)

14 points, 4.6 rebounds, 1.2 assists, 1.5 blocks, 1 steal, FG 41%, 3PT 35%, FT 71%

4 Mallory Heyer, 6-1 R-Sr, Chaska, MN (Minnesota)

8.6 points, 8.1 rebounds, FG 43%, 3PT 30%, FT 62% (2024-25)

Freshmen:

9 Brooklynn Haywood, 5-9 Fr, Anchorage, AK (ESPNW # 26)

1 Emilia Krstevski, 6-4 Fr, Torrance, CA (ESPNW #41)

11 Kennedy Holman, 5-10 Fr, Fishers, IN (ESPNW # 53)

0 La'u Pele (Kylee) Falatea, 5-9 Fr, Salt Lake City, UT (Utah 5A Player of the Year)