

## Commentary

### No funding means no wind for sails

Mike Marino

If you've ever been down to Dexter Reservoir, you've probably seen, off in the distance, what amounts to a shack and a few boats.

That's what some folks on the Oregon sailing team call home.

Oregon sailing team? You probably didn't know about it unless you've enrolled in Intro to Sail Racing in the past, or happened to see the racing team practicing while on your way to McCredie Springs.

You could have even seen them in Hawaii earlier this month, which may have brought about the kind of shock that comes when you see any Club Sport at a national competition.

"We're not a varsity sport," said coach Charles Howard, "and the Club Sports office has decided that national competition is something that they're not oriented towards."

The team made it to Maui, and logged a second-place finish in the Captain Cook Invitational, a meet that included the top competition from eight districts in the nation.

Then the next week they finished seventh overall in the North American Sloop nationals — seventh out of the 210 schools that were eligible.

But the team — skippered by senior Peter Powell with crewmembers Kevin Dobroth, Andrew Freeman, and Kay Doering — still has to scramble despite success.

"We almost didn't get to go," Powell said, "because the Club Sports people wouldn't pay for the trip. I had to get a grant from the Seattle Sailing Foundation for one half, and the rest we will have paid ourselves."

The team did get a loan from the Club Sports office — \$1,000 — which Powell and his mates are currently working to repay. As if money problems weren't enough, the team constantly finds itself up against "political" foe — the University of Washington.

"They have a million-dollar sailing center and we have the shack," Powell sniffed. "And then they play politics by not telling us where the national elimination races were."

Maybe it's a leftover from the fervor caused by "Moon over Michigan," but the folks in Seattle have been rather snobbish of late at least on the high seas. When the Ducks venture north for a regatta, the Huskies stick them with crummy boats. For you that haven't sailed before, if you have a crummy boat, you're not going to win.

And as far as having money for new craft, the Oregon team doesn't. "I don't want to rattle the cage or anything," Howard said. "But we've done a helluva lot with what we have. We took the loan so we could have the ability to send people places."

The question is, though, should they have to secure a loan for that purpose? "National competition is something that the Club Sports system is not oriented toward," Howard explained. "It's more towards the local duffer stuff."

By now you've probably guessed that the team, like most club sports teams, has a budget — funds that are controlled by the IFC. Sometimes members of the Committee are sympathetic to the Club Sports, other times not so.

"We were lucky in that this year, they were sympathetic," Howard said. "But we don't spend out budget badly, and last year we turned back money that we didn't use. But if we're going to be allowed the ability to use our budget, we should be allowed to use it when we choose, as long as its spent wisely."

This is definitely the year to do that. With the team under veteran skipper Powell having proved their status against the best, they'll be set up for the season come spring. And the national meets then will also be accessible, providing the team wins the region — and they've proven that, having crushed Washington all but once with Powell at the helm.

Now all they need is a little help in the pocketbook. And other Club Sports, given the opportunity to attend national events and given the power to budget wisely, should get that help, too.

### Ducks face Oregon State but likely without Closs

It looks like Oregon will probably have to face Oregon State Saturday without the services of junior starting guard Rob Closs, at least if the report of trainer Larry Standifer is correct.

Closs injured his leg in the first four minutes of Oregon's 63-62 Pac-8 basketball loss to Southern Cal. Since that time, Closs has been on crutches.

"Status quo. There's no change from yesterday," said Standifer of Closs' condition Wednesday.

X-ray's taken Monday showed no fracture in Closs' right leg, but soreness and tenderness indicate the possibility Closs suffered a stress fracture in the lower fibula. "We're just treating him for the symptoms," Standifer said.

If Closs is unavailable against Oregon State, the Ducks must face the red hot Beavers with only three full-time guards. Mike Drummond, the only member of Dick Harter's squad to play consistently well, is a sure starter. Harter has John Murray, who has started three games this year, and freshman Stu Lyon, who has started two games, to choose from.

Another person who has seen backcourt action for Oregon this year is freshman Felton Sealey. He could be called on to see some action at guard, though Harter has been using him at forward as of late. Harter has also mentioned using 6-7 freshman forward Phil Barner at guard, if the occasion arises.

Whether they have Closs or not, Oregon will be facing an OSU team that has been playing very good basketball as of late. The Beavers surprised everyone, and maybe even themselves, by placing second in the Far West Classic, even after losing star center Steve Johnson for the year.

Through the first two weeks of Pac-8 play, Oregon State finds itself in second place in the conference. Their only loss at the hands of UCLA, and everyone knows what they can do.

The Ducks are looking to come back from a lost weekend, in which they dropped two decisions to USC and UCLA. Oregon hopes to improve on their 2-2 Pac-8 record.

**DUCK NOTES — Junior center Dan Hartshorne continues to lead Oregon's bal-**

anced scoring with a 10.8 average. The 6-10 postman also averages 6.3 rebounds per game, which ranks him second on the squad. Kelvin Small leads the rebounding category, grabbing off 6.9 a game. Small is fourth in scoring at 8.6.

Through the first 16 games, Oregon has outscored its opponents, 72.5 to 65.7 points per game. The Ducks have held those sixteen opponents to a .412 shooting percentage from the floor.



Rob Closs

## sportfolio

### Rally squad promotes spirit

The Oregon rally squad is promoting a spirit-consciousness week in preparation for this Saturday's game with Oregon State. In addition to the wearing of green and yellow, and cowboy hats, they have other things planned. See Friday's classified section.

### Ski Team in weekend meet

The ski team will be at Mt. Bachelor this weekend to compete in a ten team meet. The traveling squad list is posted by the Club Sports office. All those on the list are requested to meet in the EMU, Thursday, at 3:30.

### Handball squad in Gresham

Oregon's Club Sports handball team will travel to Gresham this weekend, to compete in the Oregon State singles Tournament. The team is coming off a split of eight matches last weekend with Oregon State.

### Outdoor Program offers tours

The Eugene Park and Recreation's Outdoor Program is offering three advanced ski tours this season. The fee for each is five dollars. On January 28 at 7:00 a.m. in the Campbell Center, a Survival Skiing class will be offered. The fee is six dollars. Waldo Lake Overnight Ski Tour will be held Feb. 11 and 12. For more info, stop by the Parks office, 858 Pearl, or call Mary at 687-5307.

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