

softball

Ducks' Knox boasts versatility in both her offense and defense

By CHRISTY BODE
Of the Emerald

Oregon softball coach Becky Sisley believes that a good player must be versatile. Shortstop Kim Knox fits that bill perfectly. "You can't just be a strong hitter, you must have good offensive and defensive skills," said Sisley. "Kim has good game sense. She is an excellent shortstop and has extremely quick fielding."

Knox who has a current batting average of .304, can attribute her consistency to eight years of summer league experience in her hometown of Lake Oswego.

She became interested in softball as a sixth grader. At that time her sister coached her grade school team. "It was exciting to be on a winning team," Knox admitted.

She joined the Lake Oswego Lakettes at the right time — when the team was young — and continued to win. Knox remembers playing against people like Shawna Baxter and Vicki Lesh, who both are Duck team members, when she was a Lakette.

Knox describes the transition of going from summer league to college competition as a learning experience.

"In college ball, you practice five days a week. But in summer league you never practice, you play two games a week and the coach tries to get you out of slumps," she said.

Team unity is one more learning experience of concern to Knox. "There is a tendency for players to perform on an individual basis rather than forming a cohesive unit," she stated. "The important aspect in softball," she added, "is learning to work together."

Another experience the Duck shortstop has encountered concerns the different coaching strategies of Lakette coach Irv Hefford and Sisley, the Duck coach. Knox explained it is a matter of learning to adapt on her part.

Presently, Knox is having difficulty adapting to her new position — pitcher. Sisley started training her to pitch last year as a freshman.

"We're working on the consistency part of her pitching and also on varying the pitches," Sisley said.

Knox said although pitching is her main concern, "It is a new aspect that is fun."

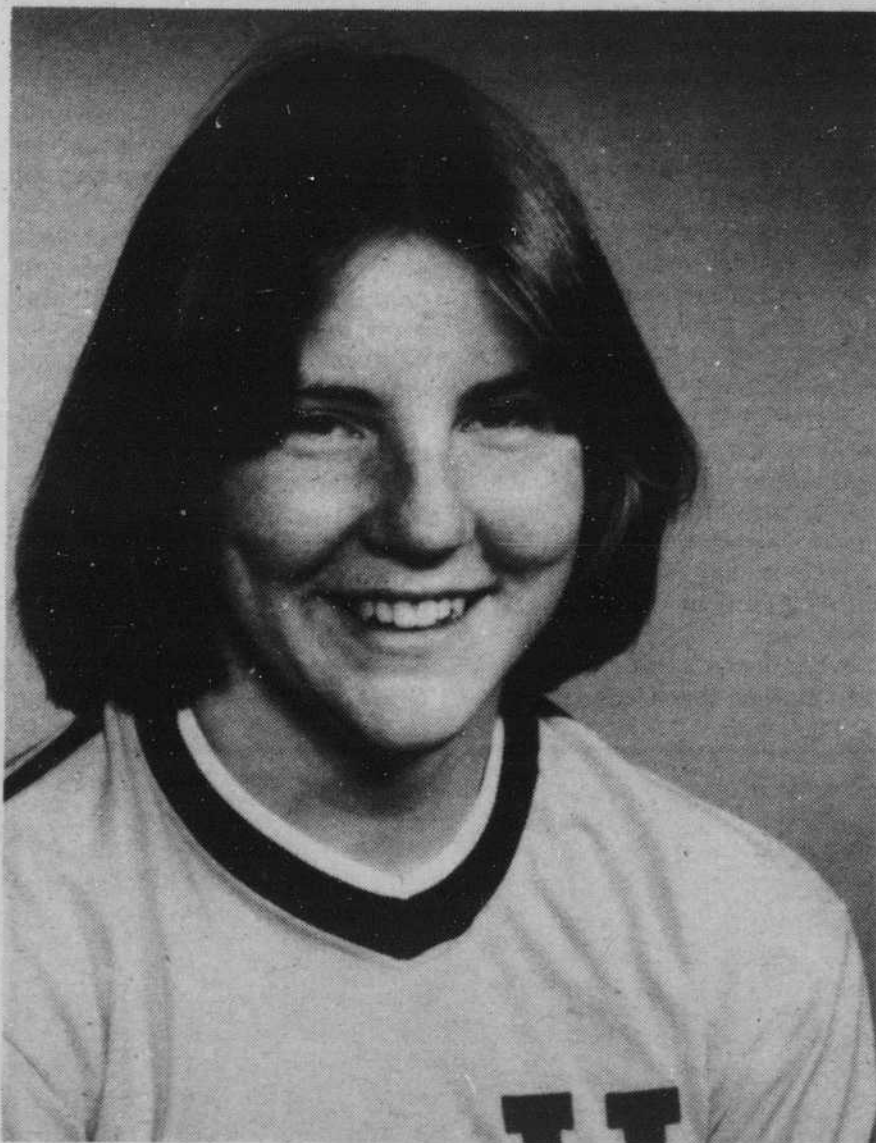


Photo Courtesy of S.I.D.

Kim Knox got most of her softball training in Lake Oswego, and now she's putting it to use for the women's softball team.

"I'm less sure of myself in pitching since there is more responsibility than in playing shortstop," she confessed. "Sometimes I get psyched out."

In softball, playing an aggressive game could end up in suffering broken bones and pulled muscles. However, Knox has remained relatively injury free except for bruises from sliding.

"To slide correctly, there are lots of techniques and you've got to get your confidence up," she said.

Knox related that during summer league competition, teams from Utah and Washington sport knickers. Whether they are fashionable or not is another question; but they would surely serve more protection against painful bruises and skin burns.

If she is pitching or playing shortstop, Kim Knox works hard to be good, and she is good. She will certainly be worth watching at the upcoming home games to be held at Amazon Field April 26, May 3 and 8.

German

AUTO SERVICE

reliable service for your foreign car.

VW'S MERCEDES BMW'S

DATSUN TOYOTA

GUENTER SCHOENER

2025 Franklin Blvd.
Eugene, Ore. 97403
Home Ph. 746-1207

Bus. Ph. 342-2912

Prices effective thru 5-1-78

HIRONS

DRUG STORES

2 CONVENIENT LOCATIONS
1950 FRANKLIN BLVD. — 185 E. 18TH

1.99

'WILSON'

- CHAMPIONSHIP
- PRO 100

TENNIS BALLS
YOUR CHOICE

\$7.59

Box of 40
TAMPAX TAMPONS
Reg. 2.29/1.93

Gold EVEREADY ALKALINE BATTERIES

- pk of 2 'D' size
- pk of 2 'C' size

YOUR CHOICE \$ 7.37

(pk of 4 'AA' size 1.99)

Red EVEREADY TRANSISTOR BATTERIES

- pk of 2 9 volt
- pk of 2 'AA' size

YOUR CHOICE

99¢

BAMBOO HAMPERS

sm. Reg. 5.59
NOW 2.99

med. Reg. 7.59
NOW 3.99

lg. Reg. 9.59
NOW 4.99

Merchandise subject to stock on hand and available reorders

EMU Food Service Cafeteria

11:00 a.m.—1:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.

Assortment of complete meals

HOMEMADE
CHILI & SOUPS

- Desserts
- Salads
- Juices
- Soft Drinks
- Meatless Dishes
- Luncheon Specials
- Sandwiches
- Soups
- Chili