



john harris

Trying to build a champ

That "Something Big" duck being built by the University's publicity office is not restricted to football alone. Basketball, a revenue producer, is, of course, a major concern of the athletic department, but the minor sports are also being bolstered in an attempt to make the entire Oregon intercollegiate sports program one of the best in the country.

Women's field hockey, in particular, is one team of which big things are expected. This past Sunday the Ducks beat Washington State 4-0 in the finals of the Region 9 championship and in the process qualified for the national tournament for the fourth year in a row.

Oregon's dominance of the regional tourney is becoming routine. Since the format for the national championship and its regional qualifications was adopted four years ago, the Ducks have won the regional competition and gone to the nationals every year.

Along the way this year, coach Nancy Plantz's charges have compiled a 18-2-1 record overall and are undefeated in 16 games against Northwest competition. In addition to their win over WSU on Sunday, the Ducks whipped Pacific Lutheran and Oregon College of Education on Saturday in the opening rounds.

Yet, despite its success in the Northwest, Oregon has yet to win a game in the Eastern-dominated national tournament. This year the Ducks open with Virginia, who finished the season 18-1, on Nov. 21, at 8:30 a.m. in Ellensburg, Wash., the site of the tourney.

"Really, if they didn't send a representative from every region we probably wouldn't be going," says Plantz. "But I think we can win a game. Virginia will be tough, but they probably don't think we're very good, and anything can happen in the national tournament."

There are nine regions, and each sends one representative to the national with the exception of Regions 5 and 8 which send two teams, and Regions 1A and 1B which send three teams each. The quality of competition within each region determines its number of representatives. For instance, Region 1B is allowed to send three squads because every year the first and second place teams in the national tournament have

come from that area. This season 1B is sending West Chester State, the national champ the past three years, Temple and Delaware.

Region 1A is sending Dartmouth, Connecticut and Massachusetts. Region 5 representatives are Southern Illinois and Davis & Elkins, and Region 8 will send San Jose State and Long Beach State. Region 8, which encompasses California, is sending two representatives for the first time ever, largely because of San Jose State's sixth place finish in last year's national competition. The Ducks fell to San Jose 2-0 earlier this year at Autzen.

"The reason for dominance in the East is that they begin playing field hockey in the seventh grade," Plantz explains. "We don't even have high school field hockey in Oregon at all, so I have to recruit out of state."

Therein lies Plantz's biggest problem. To bring in the players needed to build a national contender she needs to compete with the Eastern powers for experienced players in that area and with schools such as San Jose for the best California players. Unfortunately, Plantz had little scholarship funds this past year and is unsure if she'll have money to offer recruits next year.

"Our biggest problem is the out of state tuition, because I can't recruit in state, says Plantz. "That tripled out of state tuitions (\$600 as opposed to \$800) kills me."

Plantz won't know until Feb. 1 how much money she will have to work with, but she figures she needs to be able to give 11 full-rides in order to build a national champion.

This year her budget was such that she could not offer one full-ride. "I had so much money, and I had to get as many good athletes as I could," she explains.

Six members of the team receive some money, the most going to Belinda Stillwell, who came to Oregon this year with Plantz from Ohlone Junior College in California. She receives full out of state tuition.

"St. Louis (University) gives out 14 full-rides and they're in the national tournament," says Plantz. "How can I compete against a team that has 14 full-rides when I don't have any?"

Plantz is also concerned by the upgrading of the Washington State and Idaho programs, which offer field hockey scholarships. "Unless we maintain a good scholarship program, I'm afraid we won't even dominate the Northwest anymore," she says.

The Oregon athletic department has by no means refused Plantz money. It may be that it is just waiting for Plantz and her team to prove they're worthy of it. A win in the national tournament might help. "I haven't been told that officially, but I've been told it off the cuff," Plantz confirms.



	Conference	Overall
	W L T	W L T
UCLA	6 1 0	8 2 0
Southern Cal	5 1 0	8 1 0
Washington	5 1 0	8 1 0
California	3 3 0	6 4 0
Stanford	3 3 0	6 4 0
Arizona State	2 3 0	6 3 0
Arizona	2 3 0	6 3 0
Oregon State	2 4 0	3 5 1
Washington State	1 5 0	3 5 1
Oregon	1 5 0	1 9 0

Saturday's Results

Arizona 24, Oregon 3
Oregon State 15, UCLA 13
Southern Cal 28, Washington 10
California 22, Washington State 14
Stanford 21, Arizona State 14

This Week's Games

Arizona State at Oregon State
Washington State at Arizona
Stanford at California
Southern Cal at UCLA
Oregon bye
Washington bye

SPECIAL GIFT IDEAS

from Harry Ritchies

DIAMOND
SOLITAIRE
PENDANT



Dazzling diamond pendant is so beautiful she'll never want to take it off! Set in 14 Kt. gold mounting with chain

\$29⁹⁸

Student accounts welcome

Harry Ritchies
JEWELERS

Home of Keopaka
Diamond Rings

Downtown on Mall
Valley River Center

Women play first game

By MARK STEWART
Of the Emerald

Coach Elwin Heiny will get his first chance to evaluate the University's women's basketball team under game conditions in an intrasquad game tonight at 6 p.m. in McArthur Court.

"We'll be looking at the overall play of the team," Heiny said. "Practice is artificial; we've done nothing with officials. There will be more pressure with officials and subs. It will help us show (the coaches) how people will perform in games."

While only four players return from last year's squad, the addition of recruits Bev Smith and Claudia Eaton and transfer Suzanne Washington makes the team stronger than last year, according to Heiny.

"Physical strength and size will be the team's strengths, and the big difference is Bev and Claudia," Heiny said.

Claudia can develop as a top center, one who can present herself as a threat in the Northwest. That's something we haven't had before."

Smith has impressive credentials. She was a starting guard for the Canadian national team that played against the Cuban, Russian, Bulgarian and United States national teams this past summer. Smith also played on the Canadian junior national team last year.

Last season the Ducks were a running team and this year will be no different.

"We have a lot of runners and Bev is super at getting them the ball (off the boards)," Heiny said. "We're going to be hard to contain."

The addition of Washington gives the Ducks a good playmaking guard, according to Heiny.

"Julie (Cushing) was our playmaker last year," and she's effective at it now. I'm not saying Julie doesn't look like a guard-she played center in high school and guard and forward for us-but Suzanne has more court sense."

And, Heiny said, the competition level on the team is higher this year.

"Our practices are aggressive and physical," he said. "They're not designed that way, but it's happening. I hope it will carry over into the games."

Heiny said the team is getting "mighty close" to being in game condition both offensively and defensively, but improvements still have to be made.

"Offensively we still make bad mistakes, but we are getting good shots. We haven't started working against zones, but have stuck to man-to-man and press defenses."

The team will be split into two squads, Green and White. According to Heiny, probable starters for the Green team will be Washington, Cushing, Smith, Lisa Lewis and Kay Schvaneveldt, while Debbie Adams, Kerry Clawson, Claudia Eaton, Tara Smith and Debbie Ware will start for the Whites.

Assistant coach Sheila Strike will head the Green team and assistant Neil Stenseth will coach the Whites. Heiny said he will act as assistant coach, Sheila Strike will head the Green team and assistant Neil Stenseth will coach the Whites. Heiny said he will act as an impartial observer.

15¢ HOT DOGS
8pm till ?
tuesdays and thursdays

3355 E. Amazon

HAPPY HOUR SUNDAY ALL DAY AND EVENING
TAP BEER: REDUCED PITCHER PRICES

BONG AND PIPE SALE

25% off

any bong with this ad



win a bong by guessing the right number
10 bongs given away each week

Lazar's Bazar

1036 Willamette Street

687-9766

M - F 8 - 8 Sat 9 - 5

THE 1¢

OFFSET
PRINTING
SPECIAL

for 500 or more of an original
printed on white 20lb. or 100% recycled
free collation - self service copies

Campus Copy 762 E. 13th 683-1431