

SPORTS

Playoffs depend on win

By Robert Weber
Emerald Sports Reporter

It's do-or-die time for the Oregon volleyball team Friday night as the Ducks play host to Division II rival Portland State.

The Ducks, who are coming off a tough road loss to Oregon State Wednesday night, need to turn things around if they are going to return to the NCAA playoffs.

"This is a must win situation for us," Coach Gerry Gregory said, "because the playoffs are not a given for us. If we lose we would really hurt ourselves as far as the playoffs are concerned."

Pac-10 Volleyball

Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
UCLA	9	0	1.000	—
Stanford	8	1	.889	1
Oregon St.	7	3	.700	2½
Oregon	5	5	.500	4½
USC	4	5	.444	5
Arizona St.	3	5	.375	5½
Washington St.	3	6	.333	6
Arizona	2	6	.250	6½
California	2	7	.222	7
Washington	2	7	.222	7

Oregon is 13-7 overall and 5-5 in Pacific-10 Conference play after losing to the Beavers. They currently reside in fourth place in the conference standings and must hang onto that

spot to guarantee themselves a playoff berth.

Despite the need for a win, Gregory says that he and his team aren't feeling the heat.

"I really feel that the pressure is off of us right now," Gregory said, "and that all we have left to do is go out and play our game."

Gregory said the keys to an Oregon victory center around team defense and the ability of the hitters to make good choices.

"Everybody must have a solid match and our defense must be a little more disciplined," he said. "The hitters are also important because they must make good choices and get the ball onto the court."

Junior setter Molly McGrath believes that the Portland State game is one that cannot be overlooked.

"We learned from our match with Portland that we can't overlook any teams," McGrath said. "We're going to prepare for Portland State like we prepare for Oregon State."

Another factor in the match Friday could be the rivalry that has developed between these schools over the years. Portland State leads the series with Oregon 37-11-1 but has lost the last five meetings.

McGrath says the fact that Portland State is a Division II school may be a motivating factor for the Ducks.

"We don't want to lose to a Division II school," she said, "because it would look bad even though Portland State is a great Division II team."

Portland State enters the match with a 17-6 mark after losing to Oregon State in four games last week. They are an established power in Division II volleyball and proved so by claiming the 1988 NCAA Division II championship.

The Vikings are currently ranked seventh in the Division II national poll and are led by the strong arms of Kim Keith and Leanne Peters.

Oregon will counter with a balanced attack led by junior hitters Mindee Adams, Dawn Charroin and Julie Jeffery. Adams, a middle blocker, is coming off a big weekend against the Washington schools which gained her 27 kills, 15 digs and eight blocks while compiling a .523 hitting percentage.

The Ducks will continue their homestand the following weekend when top-ranked UCLA and powerful USC visit McArthur Court.

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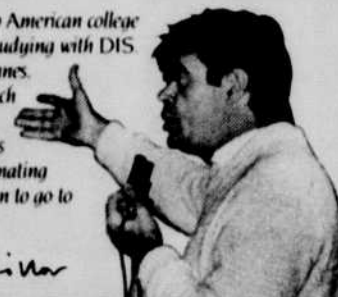


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Whenever I'm in Copenhagen, I run into American college students enjoying a term in Denmark, studying with DIS. We stand in the street and talk about Danes, about cultural differences, about how much we miss peanut butter, and I wind up envying them the experience. Denmark is a small, homogenous society with a fascinating culture, and a good place for an American to go to find out what it means to be us.

Garrison Kellor Garrison Kellor
American Writer and Humorist



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Nicole Ratts, Mount Holyoke College:
The DIS Program has been incredible - a program where I really learned something academically. Copenhagen is great - an active city with so many things going on - I fell in love with Copenhagen! The fact that the teaching is in English is a definite plus.



Mike Whitton, The American University:
An over-all excellent experience. One of the best parts was the family stay. Through my host family I really got to see family and social life in Denmark on a more personal level. The field trips and study tours are excellent; they really showed you what your studies are all about - you got to see for yourself instead of just reading about it.



Damian Geistkemper, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign:
The classes are taught in English - and they are of outstanding quality - it's one of the more difficult study abroad programs, but I chose it because as long as I was going to spend the money overseas I was going to learn something, too.

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