SPORTS Oregon to host OSU tonight

By Jake Berg Emerald Sports Reporter

When the Oregon women's basketball team takes McArthur Court tonight against Oregon State (7:30 p.m.), fans may notice that the series has seriously changed its face from last year's guise.

Not only will 13 of the two schools' 24 players be experiencing their first Civil War game, but the Beavers, who were 5-26 last season, have turned things around and are 8-4 this season.

Two new players have significantly made Beaver believers out of Corvallis basketball followers; junior college transfer Judy Shannon and German freshman Natalia Mattick have raised last year's Beaver team from the Pacific-10 Conference basement.

"OSU is probably one of the most improved teams from last year." Oregon Coach Elwin Heiny said. "With the addition of the new players, they are a very improved team.

While Shannon leads the Oregon State attack with a 21point per game average, and is good for more than eight rebounds a contest, Mattick has averaged 18.8 points and leads the club in rebounding with an 8.6 average.

The Beaver duo will definitely prove an obstacle to Oregon's hope in continuing its 11-game dominance over the intrastate rivals

Heiny said that the Beavers strongest asset will be the play of its inside game, but that Oregon State's obvious weakness is its perimeter shooting

"They have attempted only 12 three-pointers all season. and they have missed all 12." Heiny said.

Both clubs are coming off winless visits to the Bay Area last weekend to open each team's conference season.

Following the Oregon schools' visit to California. Stanford Coach Tara VanDerveer was quoted as crediting



File phote Missy Stowell (25) will be one of three freshmen in Oregon's starting line-up tonight when the Ducks host much-improved Oregon State.

Oregon State as the stronger opponent of the two schools, Heiny said.

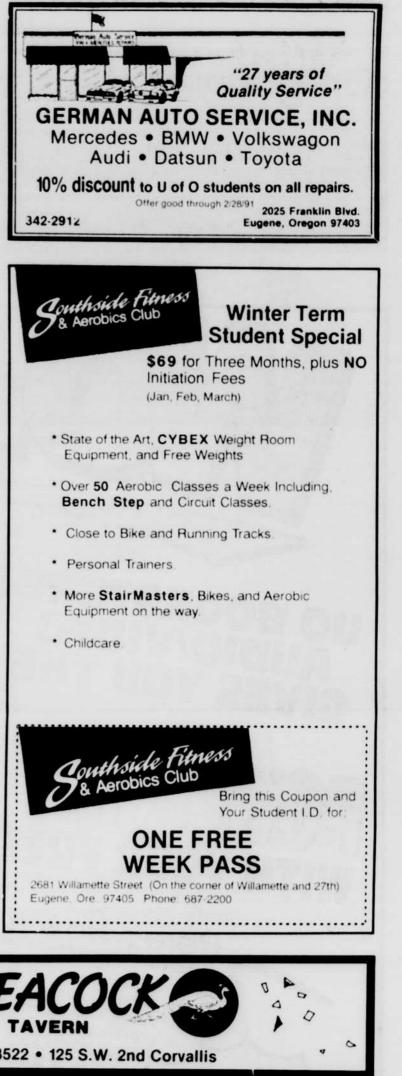
'We definitely will have to play on a higher level than last weekend.'' Heiny said."Winning this game would be a springboard to the rest of the season.

Oregon will counter the Bea-

PRES

own

Debbie Sporcich is the brightest new face for the Ducks as she leads the squad in points and rebounds. The freshman's career-high of 28 points against California and 20 at Stanford improved her scoring average to 16.7 points a game. She also hauls down 10



vers with new weapons of its rebounds a game. PRES That's President Brand's electronic mail address. 745-8522 • 125 S.W. 2nd Corvallis Use it to contact him about issues that are important to you. The internet address is pres@oregon.uoregon.edu

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