

Woods stars for troubled Ducks

□ LaReina Woods has been a bright spot as Oregon's volleyball team struggles for continuity

By Erick Studenicka
Emerald Sports Reporter

Although "inconsistent" would be the best word to describe this year's Oregon volleyball team, that word would hardly apply to sophomore outside hitter LaReina Woods.

While other Oregon players play spectacularly one night and seemingly disappear the next, Woods has established herself as a team leader through her consistent play. Since the start of Pacific-10 Conference play 10 games ago, Woods has led the team in kills four times and has a team high .226 attack percentage.

"Since I'm one of the primary attack players, I have to be fairly consistent," Woods said. "Coach puts a lot of pressure on the outside hitters, so that's good if people feel I've become more consistent."

Woods laughed when she learned that she had one of the team's highest averages in kills and attack percentages.

"That's because no one knows who I am!" Woods said. "I didn't do much last season, so teams don't think I'm much of a threat. They'll put their best defensive blockers on Stephanie (Warren, the Ducks' middle blocker), which makes it much easier for me to score."

Although she might say otherwise, opposing volleyball coaches certainly know about Woods. She was one of the top prep athletes in Oregon history, an all-state volleyball and basketball player, as well as a four-time state champ in the 100- and 200-meter sprints.

Even though she went to high school in Corvallis, Woods said she never felt much pressure to

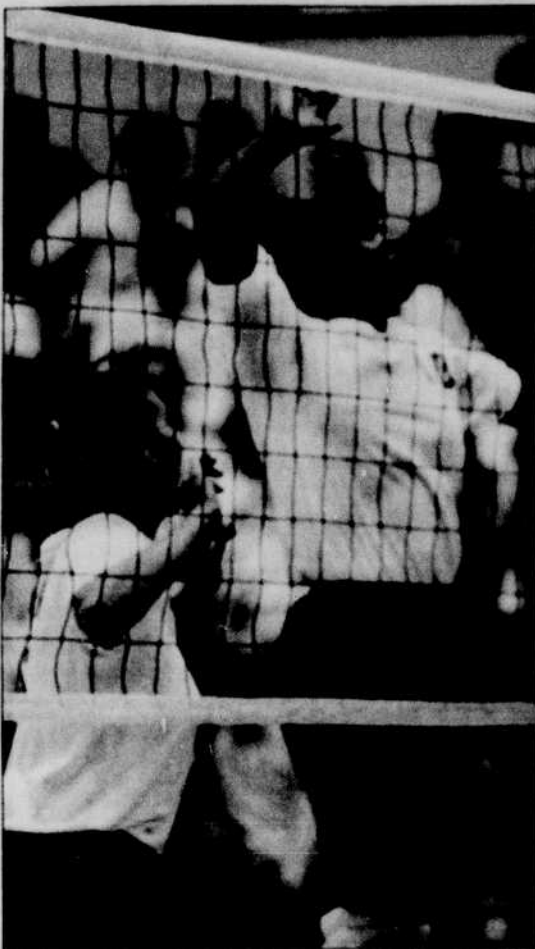


Photo by David Natt
LaReina Woods could possibly be one of the finest high school athletes to ever come from Oregon.

attend Oregon State. Her brother Marcus is a former Duck football player and if she would have attended Oregon State, she wouldn't have been able to run track, as the Beavers no longer have an intercollegiate track team.

In fact, despite her success on the volleyball

Turn to **WOODS**, Page 9

Women's golf heads for Stanford tourney

□ The Ducks go south after two fourth-place finishes

By Steve Mims
Emerald Sports Reporter

After finishing fourth at each of its first two tournaments, the Oregon women's golf team begins play at the Stanford Intercollegiate on Friday.

The Ducks have been impressive so far this season, finishing fourth at the Oregon Invitational and the Ihlantfeldt Invitational. Oregon has been consistent in its first two tournaments, finishing with scores of 945 and 948. The Ducks' low round this year has been 305.

Leading the Ducks this weekend will be Shannon Maier, a senior from Bend, who is averaging 78.2 strokes per round. Maier's best finish this year was a tie for sixth at the Oregon Invitational.

Sophomore Leigh Casey will be the Ducks No. 2 player this weekend. Casey finished eighth at the Oregon Invitational after rounds of 78-73-81. The San Jose, Calif., native leads the Ducks with a 77.3 average.

Oregon head coach Renee Baumgartner has inserted sophomore Shannon Hare at the No. 3 position. Hare will be playing less than an hour from her hometown of Covina, Calif.

Junior college transfer Cappi Mack will be Oregon's fourth player. Mack, a graduate of Central Catholic High School in Portland, transferred back to her home state after two years at Notre Dame. In her first season as a Duck, Mack is fifth on the Ducks with a 79.7 average.

Filling out the Oregon roster will be senior Stacy Jo Smith. Smith transferred to Oregon for her final season and has played in both tournaments for the Ducks.

Oregon junior Amy Elieff and either freshman Leanne Wong or sophomore Karly Mills will compete in the tournament as individuals.

Following this weekend's tournament, the Ducks will have only one more event during the fall season, the Pioneer/Bruin Classic next month. The Ducks will be off until February when they play in at least five tournaments during the spring season.

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