

# Ducks need holiday cheer(s)



**From the Sidelines**  
Erick Studenicka

**S**anta said it would be a federal offense if he were to let me read the exact letter the University athletic department sent to him, but he said it reads something like this:

Dear Santa,  
Like most people, we've had our share of ups and downs this year. As you know, we've been very bad at times. Maybe you caught that record 104-56 home loss to Arizona in men's basketball in February or saw the 2-16 volleyball team play this fall. Please, Santa, don't just leave us coal in our stockings on account of those teams!

You have to remember, Santa, that we've been very good in some areas and have been trying to improve in others. Just look at our men's and women's conference-champion cross country teams and our Independence Bowl-bound football team.

We finally fired that old grinch Don Monson, and complaints about the little statues

in front of the Casanova Center have all but disappeared with Bill Byrne's departure to Nebraska.

So, Santa, please overlook our occasional mistakes and just come through with a few necessities. All we really need is:

**1. A good show of support at the Independence Bowl.** While we're playing in the Independence Bowl, other 6-5 teams like UCLA and Arizona State are staying home. This is mostly attributable to our strong showing of support in Shreveport in 1989, when more than 5,000 free-spending Duck boosters traveled to Louisiana to watch the first Oregon bowl appearance in 23 years.

But with three bowl games in four years, people are not as eager to travel cross-country to watch the Ducks play anymore. Local travel agents are predicting only 2,000 to 3,000 people will make the trip this time.

Please, Santa, could you put about 2,000 travel packages to Shreveport in people's stockings this year? Otherwise, if only 3,000 people make the trip, the next time we finish a season 6-5, we'll be left at home just like most of the other Pacific-10 Conference also-rans.

**2. Renewed interest in the men's basketball team.** As you

know, Santa, football and men's basketball are the only revenue-producing sports we have at the University. These sports help subsidize the costs of the other sports, but with attendance at men's basketball games dropping to its lowest level since 1983 this past season, the revenue generated by men's basketball these days wouldn't even pay for new nets on the baskets.

We've hired Jerry Green to install an up-tempo type of game that the fans will be attracted to. But Green inherits a team composed of players ex-coach Monson recruited, which means we might have another 6-21 season at hand. It remains to be seen if fans will back an exciting but losing team.

Please, Santa, could you please give about 3,000 people basketball season tickets for Christmas? It would eliminate a lot of our worries whether or not men's basketball can remain a substantial generator of revenue for our department.

(While you're at it Santa, could you please give Green about six more Division-I caliber players. That would double the number he has now.)

**3. Replacement for McArthur Court.** As you've heard,

Turn to **SANTA**, Page 12

# Controversy swells over alleged remarks

CINCINNATI (AP) — A spokeswoman for the National Organization for Women's local chapter said Monday she finds Marge Schott's alleged racial remarks strange, coming from a woman who is a minority as a baseball owner.

Kathy Helmbock said the Cincinnati Reds owner had to fight to keep her car dealership after her husband, Charles, died in 1968. Schott inherited several businesses after his death.

Helmbock said men at General Motors Corp. thought a woman should not run a dealership.

"Those men at GM who tried to take away her dealership from her exhibited the same attitudes toward women years ago that she is showing now toward blacks, if in fact all that has been said about her is true," Helmbock said. "It's the same thing. It's all part of the same discriminatory pattern. It was just as offensive when it happened to Marge as it is now coming from Marge."

"You would think she would have a heightened sensitivity to discrimination," Helmbock said.

Schott did not return phone calls to her office or home Monday.

GM spokesman John Maciarz declined to comment.

"Matters concerning the operation of Mrs. Schott's dealerships and our relationship with her are considered to be private and not subject to public discussion," he said.

Former Reds employees and people outside the organization have said they heard Schott refer to people variously as "niggers," "Jew bastards," "money-grubbing Jews" and "Japs." At least three people have said they heard Schott refer to several of her former players as "million-dollar niggers" or "dumb, lazy nigger."

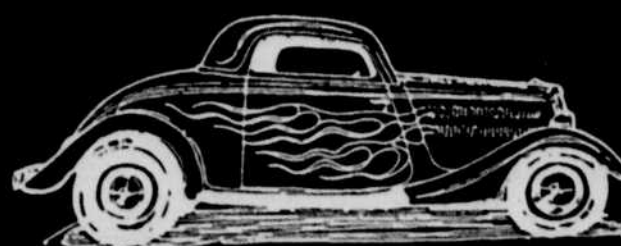
Meanwhile, CBS reported Sunday that Schott will face a heavy fine and could be suspended during this week's baseball winter meetings at Louisville, Ky.

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Look in December 9th's issue for the



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