



CHRIS METZ

Restroom reading a religious experience

So I'm sitting in the corner of Rennie's, ingesting a few pick-me-ups on a sunny Friday afternoon with my esteemed fellow journalist who probably wishes to remain nameless.

Eventually the need arises to make my way to the men's room for the first of many visits. A normally uneventful, basic function was made more interesting that day because of some interesting reading.

Now I'm not one to judge bathroom-stall philosophy. Sure, I can almost force myself to crack a courtesy smile when I see the "This gum tastes like rubber" scribble on the condom machine in the EMU men's room. But little did I know that sunny afternoon that I was about to read something that, for some strange reason, really made me think.

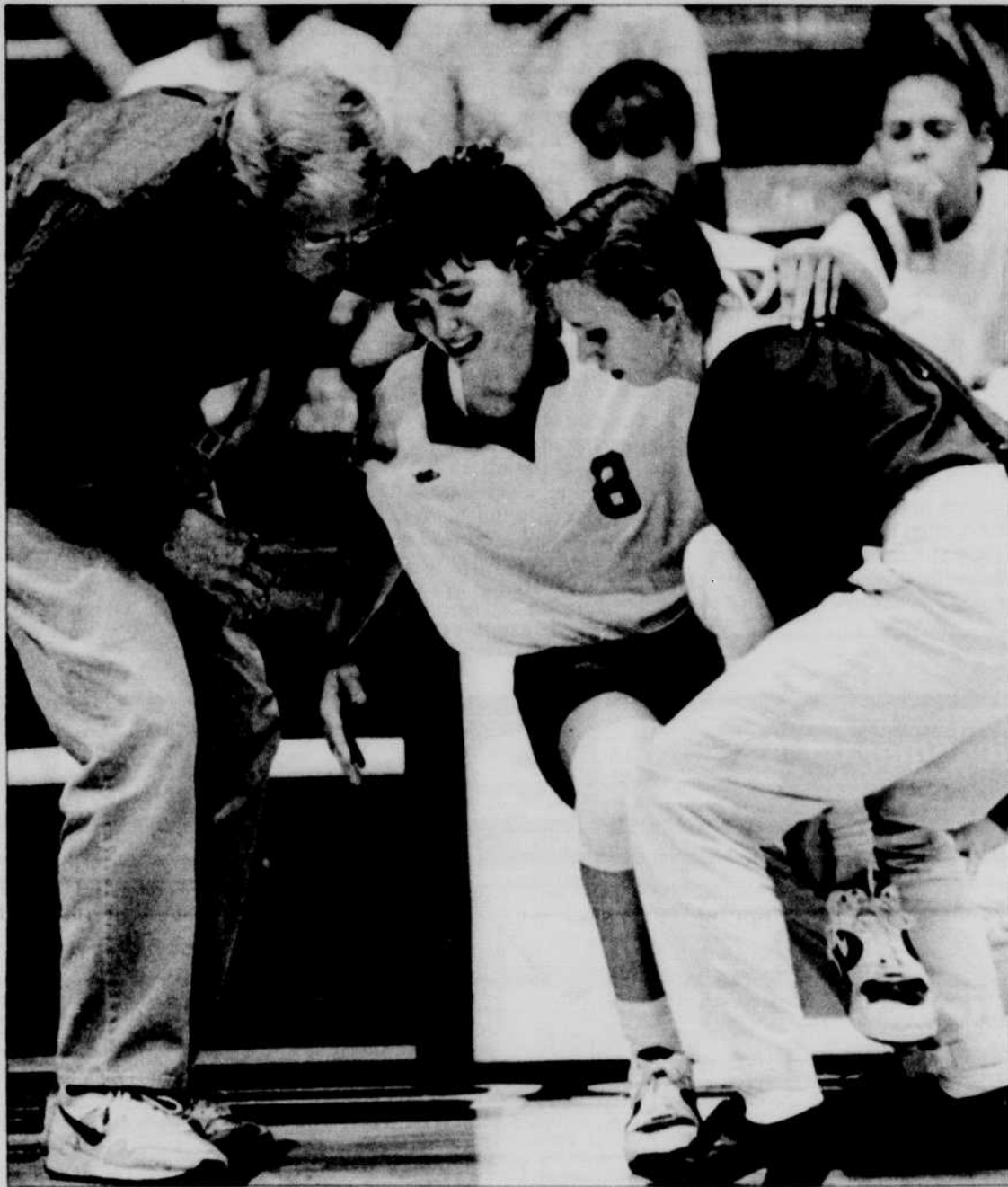
"Jesus saves, but Gretzky scores on the rebound," the bathroom stall read.

Now, I'm not much of a churchgoing man, so I don't know too much about Jesus' goals-against-average (I assume it's pretty darn good, though), but I do know one thing — Wayne Gretzky is a pretty good hockey player who has scored on a lot of goalies. I just wasn't aware that Jesus was one of them.

It's interesting to contemplate just what the artist had in mind with his statement. Does it mean Jesus saves lives, but on the other hand this hockey player shows an exceptional ability to place a black rubber disc into a net after another player has already shot the aforementioned disc at the net but it was not allowed to enter because it's another player's job to reject said disc and he did so only to fail on an ensuing attempt by this man, Wayne Gretzky? If this is the intent, is he saying that Gretzky is maybe a bit better than Jesus? I think our graffiti man is being a bit rough on Jesus, though, if that's the case.

Or, maybe this statement is supposed to read like a play-by-play of the waning seconds of the seventh, and deciding, game of the 32 A.D. Stanley Cup: "There's 30 seconds left and the Edmonton Oilers have the puck with one last chance to break the scoreless deadlock before overtime. Kurri headmans to

Turn to METZ, Page 14



GARY GRASS/Emerald

Sophomore swing hitter Amy McNeel gets a boost from Oregon team trainer Carrie Taecker after twisting her ankle at a pivotal moment in the third game of Wednesday's loss to Oregon State 15-7, 15-9, 15-13.

Volleyball team spiked by Beavers

Kris Henry

Oregon Daily Emerald

Oregon State proved to be too much for the Ducks to handle as the Beavers dropped the Oregon volleyball team to 0-7 in Pacific-10 Conference play in a three-game heartbreaker Wednesday night.

The Beavers, 10-6 overall and

2-5 in conference play, escaped Mac Court with a 15-7, 15-9, 15-13 victory as the Ducks were unable to come up with a third-game heartbreaker.

Oregon, 6-9 overall, went up 12-5 in the third game and looked poised to turn the match into a five-game thriller before Oregon State regrouped and

outscored the Ducks 10 to 1 to end the match.

"I think our offense was clicking more in the third game," said Oregon coach Gerry Gregory. "We blocked more and won long rallies. We played with a lot of spirit the entire match but I think if we win the third game,

Turn to VOLLEYBALL, Page 14

Brooks prepares for Cougar defense

Chris Metz

Oregon Daily Emerald

The Ducks take their 1-0 Pacific-10 conference record on the road again this week as they take on the Washington State Cougars and their stingy defense.

The 22nd-ranked Cougars also are 1-0 in the conference and 3-1 overall, based largely on the strength of the defense. It ranks third in the nation, something Oregon head coach Rich Brooks has noticed. "It's a great defensive team is what it is," Brooks said. "I don't think we're going to play anybody, and I don't think that there is anybody in the country, that has better speed at the linebacker than Washington State has."

Brooks has had great success against Washington State, winning seven of the last eight against the Cougars, including the last three contests.

"We try to play good football each week," Brooks said, "and what we did last week or last year doesn't have any bearing on this game coming up."

"Washington State's a brand new team. They're playing great football and we're starting to play better football, so it's going to be a real challenge for us."

Sophomore quarterback Tony Graziani will once again be forced into action while senior Danny O'Neil recovers from the hand infection that kept him out of the USC game as well.

"Tony, I think, showed that he isn't overwhelmed by the pressure of being a starting quarterback," Brooks said. "I think he showed that he can handle playing against a ranked team in an opponent's stadium."

Brooks stressed that the Washington State offense is something the Ducks can't afford to overlook, even though they've had trouble scoring in their first four games.

"What they do on offense has always been a problem for us," Brooks said. "It's not like we've shut them down in recent years, so our work is really going to be cut out for us."

Blazers sign McKie

PORTLAND (AP) — The Portland Trail Blazers signed first-round draft pick Aaron McKie to a six-year, \$7 million contract on Wednesday, two days before the start of training camp.

McKie, who teamed with Eddie Jones at Temple to form one of the best backcourts in college basketball last season, will receive \$650,000 this season, the only salary slot the Blazers had available.

The 6-foot-5 guard, the 17th player selected in the draft, started all 92 games in his three seasons at Temple, averaging 17.9 points per game. Last year, he averaged 18.8 points and 7.0 rebounds.

Jordan lectures boy

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. (AP) — Michael Jordan, sharpening his baseball skills with the Scottsdale Scorpions of the Arizona Fall League, was puzzled when a young fan approached him for an autograph.

"How come you're not in school?" Jordan asked Chris Ulloa, a fourth grader.

"I came out to see you," replied the 10-year-old, who was accompanied by his father. "You can't be skipping school," Jordan told the boy, who was wearing an Air Jordan cap and a Michael Jordan T-shirt. "I can't help you get a job 10 years from now."

Pistons balk at Robinson

AUBURN HILLS, Mich. (AP) — Former Michigan star Rumeal Robinson won't be joining the Detroit Pistons after all.

The Pistons had said they were interested in seeing the 27-year-old point guard work out, but he apparently was unwilling to sign for the \$150,000 minimum salary the club has available.

"We've decided not to invite Rumeal to camp," coach Don Cheney said Tuesday. "We're still looking for a backup point guard. We've got some other things on the fire ... and we hate to keep him here if he can go to somebody else's camp."

Robinson is an unrestricted free agent. He played 31 games last season with the New Jersey Nets and the Charlotte Hornets.

The Nets traded him to the Hornets for forward Johnny Newman. Robinson finished the season in Charlotte, averaging 2.1 points in 14 games.