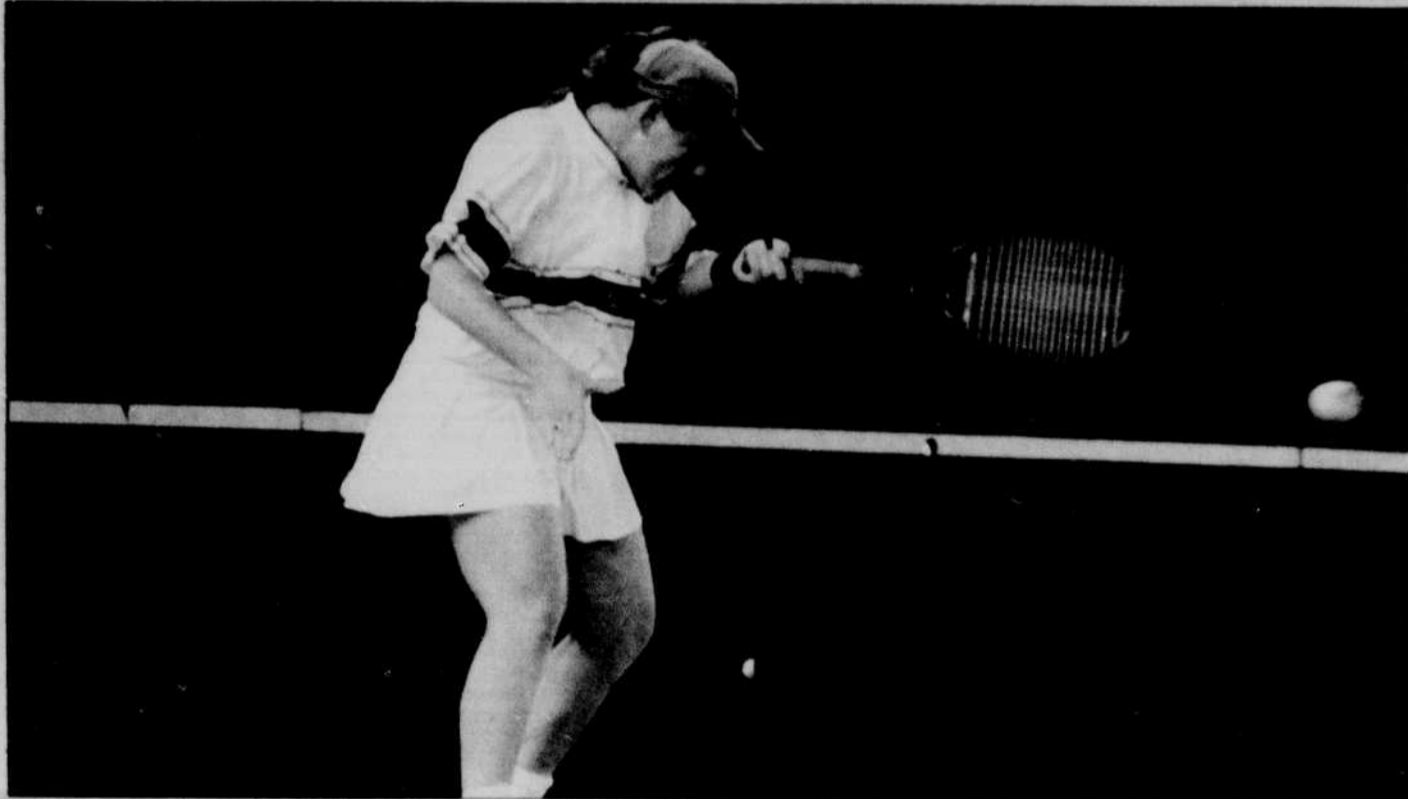




YEAR OF THE DUCK

ALLISON SOSNOW



EMERALD

Sosnow came to Oregon as one of six freshman on the women's nine player roster with the hopes of being able to compete at a high enough level to stay competitive in the Pac-10. From the very beginning, the newcomer made an immediate impact on first-year head coach Wade Judy.

"She is so competitive," Judy said of Sosnow. "When she is at the top of her game she's unbeatable." Sosnow finished her introductory season with a 15-14 record in singles competition. Judy expects Sosnow to be one of the key ingredients for next year's team.

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Foster traded to Carolina Panthers

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Barry Foster, the former Pro Bowl running back whose big contract and lack of durability made him expendable, was traded Monday by the Pittsburgh Steelers to the Carolina Panthers for future considerations.

The Steelers, who shopped Foster around the NFL for months, are expected to receive two mid- to low-round draft picks for their all-time single-season rushing leader.

The addition of Foster, if he stays healthy, solidifies the expansion Panthers' most glaring weakness: the lack of a quality, proven NFL runner to take the pressure off quarterbacks Frank Reich and Kerry Collins.

Hakeem propels Rockets' road win

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Houston won its fifth in a row on the road and leads the best-of-7 Western Conference finals series 3-2 and the home team has yet to win a game in the series.

The same Rockets who were blown out by San Antonio Sunday downed the Spurs 111-90 Tuesday to move the defending champions within one victory of a return trip to the NBA Finals.

Houston's Hakeem Olajuwon had 42 points, nine rebounds and eight assists, his third 40-plus scoring performance in four games.

Sam Cassell scored 30 and added 12 assists for the Rockets.

David Robinson had 22 points, 12 rebounds and seven turnovers for San Antonio.

Oregon track teams open NCAA bids

The Oregon men's and women's track and field teams will be represented in five events today in the opening stages of the NCAA Championships in Knoxville, Tenn.

Kelsey Stellick opens for the Ducks in the javelin trials and final while Ray Livingston and Kanon Vanderhoff compete in the men's decathlon.

The women's 4x100-meter relay team of Camara Jones, LaReina Woods, Nicole Commissiong and Jamila Godfrey get their first crack at living up to their season-long hype in the event's semifinals.

Jenna Carlson will compete in the semifinals of the women's 3,000 meters while Pat Johnson will get his first taste of the championships when he takes to the blocks in the men's 200 meter trials.

Above all else, Ducks will entertain

Some things in this world just can't be predicted. Natural disasters, death and the daily weather all seem to be things that the human race just hasn't learned to predict very accurately. As students, we often can't predict our final grades or even where we are going to wake up in the morning. The future is the unknown, plain and simple.

That might explain why the Oregon athletic program is sitting on one of the most successful years it has ever had. Last spring, it seemed nearly impossible for Oregon to be as successful overall as it was this year.

But like I said, the future is the unknown. And as the end of the year approaches, I have to wonder whether this fine university will be basking in the glow of similar glory a year from now, or if it will be forgetting the past and hoping—nay, praying for a better year to come.

I, however, won't even try to predict what lies ahead. What I do guarantee, however, is that there are a few Oregon figures and teams that promise to do nothing but entertain us next season.

Rich Brooks

(I know, I know, he isn't a Duck anymore. But come on, he was the head football coach for like 800 years, so he gets the exception.)

When we get weepy-eyed and reminiscent of this adorable fig-



TREVOR KEARNEY

ure, we need only watch news clips of the Sunday NFL football games and get our fill of Stonewall Brooks' (as my esteemed colleague calls him) ever-so-emotional face. Brooks will be missed in Eugene, however; no longer will die-hard Duck fans be able to blame their team's every mishap on their favorite scapegoat.

And as for the slim chance that Brooks and the St. Louis Rams get on TV out here on the West Coast, it will be kind of refreshing to see that familiar face in a different setting. For the first time, Oregon fans will get the chance to criticize Brooks for something legitimate, something other than the fact that their team isn't very good. And maybe — just maybe — Duck fans will cheer him on. Nah.

Charlie Waters

For those of you who don't know him, meet Charlie Waters, the football team's brand-spanking new defensive coordinator. Complete with weathered cowboy boots and a sarcastic wit about him, he will soon be the

media's favorite post-game interview and is already by far the team's most charismatic coach.

As for his experience — he was a safety for the Dallas Cowboys — it is just what is needed to take former defensive coordinator Nick Aliotti's Gang Green to the next level.

Green Boy

You know, Green Boy. The green guy at basketball games. The one who paints himself up and then goes to games. The one with the cape.

No matter what the basketball team does, I would be entertained solely by the fact that some guy paints himself up and goes to a basketball game. And he doesn't really do anything. I mean, he does a little something here and a little something there, but it is almost like he just comes to the games as if it were the normal thing to do, as if everyone there will be painted up. Now that is entertainment, pure and simple.

With a little experience and notoriety under his belt, he promises to be the fans' cheerleader, the average beer-drinking-out-of-shape guy's cheerleader. No shorter-than-short skirt, no excessive jumping around. He just goes to the game and cheers like anyone else would. At the very most, he gets kicked out of the game. In an ideal world, we would do away with cheerleaders and all paint ourselves green and then go to the games and cheer like we nor-

mally do.

Jerry Green

Anyone who doesn't like Jerry isn't a real Duck fan. Like Green Boy, he is someone the fans can relate to. We are talking about the man who is indirectly responsible for coming up with such snappy slogans as Green-Ball and Green's Gang, and is the only coach who really kisses the fans' butts.

And really, doesn't he look like the stereotypical father? Couldn't he have been a better Ward Cleaver? When he rants and raves up the side lines yelling at the refs, I all but expect him to go up to them, tell them what they did wrong and send them to their rooms without supper after giving them an affectionate pat on the back. Thank God the administration didn't let him go to UNLV. Something tells me that he would have lost that innocent sense about him in Las Vegas, and tainting Ward Cleaver would have forever been on the administration's conscience. Forget the money, the man is Oregon basketball... and his new contract dictates that.

The women's basketball team

All jokes about her feud with the administration aside, women's head basketball coach Jody Runge did something that has gone unmatched here at Oregon: she took on the school

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