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CLUB SPORTS

TUESDAY: Baseball, Crew

Women's water polo struggles at regionals

The club women's water polo team returned from the regional tournament in Berkeley, Calif., last weekend with no wins and four losses.

The Ducks lost to UC Santa Barbara 17-3 and Stanford 18-3 Friday. Oregon then lost to Washington and Pacific 11-9 and 10-8, respectively, Saturday.

Oregon was also the only club team of the eleven at the tournament; the rest were varsity teams.

Tina Wickens led the Ducks in scoring with eight goals, while Sarah Federspiel added six goals for Oregon.

Oregon head coach Scott McCarty found this season to be learning experience for him and

the team.

"This was our building block year," he said. "We didn't expect to do well [in the tournament]."

Oregon will lose no athletes to graduation this year, and according to McCarty, the Ducks have strong commitments from six or seven high school athletes from accredited water polo teams in California.

Women's crew earns first-place finish

Oregon Club crew had another successful regatta this weekend at the Cascade Sprints in Tacoma, Wash.

The women's varsity open four placed first in a field of seven boats, finishing the 2,000-meter course in 7:31.9. Humboldt State was second in 7:34.3, and Puget

Sound finished third in 7:36.0.

"The women really clicked," head coach Phil Holmes said. "They got aggressive and just went after it."

The men's varsity heavyweight four finished second to Western Washington by a length. Pacific Lutheran was third. Times for the that race were not available.

"This was a big step," Holmes said. "We showed some real speed. Western beat us by 17 seconds in Seattle [April 5], but only by about five seconds this time."

Next up for the Ducks is the Opening Day Regatta in Seattle this weekend. Along with racing the four person boats, as they have all season, Oregon will also enter eight-person boats

— compiled by Rob Moseley
and Jesse Sowa

Warriors give Adelman pink slip

■ **COACH:** Former head coach was 66-98 in his two seasons and 30-52 this season

The Associated Press

OAKLAND, Calif. — The Golden State Warriors, who slumped to a 30-52 record this season and failed to make the playoffs for the third straight year, fired coach Rick Adelman and his assistants on Monday.

The firing of Adelman, who had a 66-98 record in two seasons with the Warriors, had been expected.

"I bought the team just over two years ago," Warriors owner Chris Cohan said in a telephone interview. "I asked myself, 'Are we better off today than we were two years ago?' And my answer was, 'No.'"

"I felt we had a problem and needed a change."

Adelman is the third NBA coach fired since the end of the season, joining Dick Motta of Denver and Johnny Davis of Philadelphia.

There were six firings during the regular season: Bernie Bickerstaff in Denver, Jim Lynam in Washington, Brian Winters in Vancouver, Garry St. Jean in Sacramento, Brian Hill in Orlando and Bob Hill in San Antonio.

Cohan said the contracts of assistant coaches John Wetzell, George Irvine and Rod Higgins will

not be renewed.

There was no immediate decision on the fate of general manager Dave Twardzik, who hired Adelman for the Warriors' coaching job in May 1995 just nine days after getting his own position with Golden State.

"I did not put any time pressure on myself as far as analyzing Dave's performance," Cohan said. "I felt our immediate need was to get the coaching situation settled."

Twardzik and Adelman have shared much of the blame for questionable personnel moves and disappointing performances by the Warriors in the two seasons they've been with Golden State.

The Warriors traded Tim Hardaway and Chris Gatling to Miami for Kevin Willis and Bimbo Coles in February 1996. Hardaway and Gatling both played in this year's All-Star game, while Willis is in Houston and Coles is a backup for the Warriors.

Golden State also got little in return when it dealt unhappy center Rony Seikaly to the Orlando Magic before this past season for three players.

And, after taking Joe Smith with the No. 1 pick in the 1995 draft, the Warriors fared poorly in the 1996 draft. First-round pick Todd Fuller has been a disappointment, and second-round selection Marcus Mann left the team during training

camp to become a teacher in his native Mississippi.

"We set goals for this team and the organization, and unfortunately we didn't achieve the levels I expected on the basketball court," Cohan said in a prepared statement. "Because of this, we felt a change was necessary."

Adelman, who took the Trail Blazers to the NBA finals twice while coaching six seasons in Portland, has a career record of 357-252. His .586 winning percentage is 12th on the NBA career list.

Adelman came to Golden State two years ago preaching defense to a team that had allowed an average of 111.1 points the previous season. The Warriors improved in Adelman's first season, allowing 103.1 points a game for their lowest total in two decades.

But the Warriors regressed this season, allowing 104.4 points per contest. They were one of only six NBA teams to allow more than 100 points a game.

Adelman acknowledged at the end of the season that it was his most frustrating year as an NBA coach.

"We're disappointed that we didn't do well, that we didn't do better," he said. "I think I know the strengths and weaknesses of this team. You try to do what's right and you come up short, and that's frustrating."

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