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New women's team could be added by 2000

Oregon will add another women's varsity team in order to comply with Title IX, but which sport has yet to be decided

By Brian Deka
Freelance Sports Reporter

Despite rumors to the contrary, Oregon athletic director Bill Moos recently said the athletic department has not made a decision regarding the addition of another varsity sport.

The department would like to add another team soon, Moos said, but it does not yet have a list of prospective sports.

"We will be deciding that in the near future," he said.

The University must add one more varsity women's team because of Title IX, the legislation that prohibits gender discrimination, said Sandy Walton, athletic department senior associate.

Because of Title IX, the University cannot add both a men's and a women's team.

"We are not in a position to add men's sports," Walton said.

The department is hoping to add another team by 2000, but "no decisions have been made for the future," Walton said.

The athletic department is taking its time to consider factors such as facilities, scholarships and expenses, Walton said.

Barbara Walker, now at the University of Texas, headed Oregon's addition of women's soccer in 1996 when she was a senior associate director at the University.

The athletic department considered swimming, soccer and crew before making its decision to add soccer, Walker said.

"We asked ourselves, 'What were the girls and young women in the state of Oregon interested in that we didn't offer at the UO?'" she said.

Oregon is the only Pacific-10 Conference school without a varsity women's swimming program, Walker said.

Four Pac-10 schools do not have a vari-

ty women's crew team and six do not have water polo.

When soccer was added, there was only a two-year span between initial planning and the first game, so it wouldn't be out of the question to add a sport by 2000, Walker said.

However, the athletic department will not choose which sport to add this year because the department is swamped with major renovations and construction, which include the construction of the Ed Moshofsky Sports Center, a soccer field and two football practice fields, Walton said.

Club Sports water polo coach Scott McCarty said Club Sports recreation coordinator Sandy Vaughn told him last year that crew and swimming would be two of the

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Barbara Walker
Former UO director

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Jelani McCoy (right), shown here during last season's game at Mac Court, said he could not handle the media attention.

Excuses, excuses, McCoy's just a quitter

It was an active week for Pacific-10 Conference men's basketball, with UCLA's Jelani McCoy at the center of attention.

McCoy, a junior who was a starter each of his first two seasons in Westwood but was a reserve this season, quit the team due to "intense media scrutiny," which had adversely affected his family and his performance, he said.

Far be it from me to pass judgment, but if a Wooden Award-nominee for college basketball's player of the year is suspended to open the season, supposedly for marijuana use as McCoy was, that scrutiny is deserved and should be expected.

It may seem trivial, but as a scholar-

BASKETBALL

Men's Pac-10 Notes

by Rob Moseley



ship athlete at a public school, McCoy had a responsibility to the public to perform capably both on and off court. He apparently did not fulfill those obligations and was rightfully forced to answer up to the charges.

Fortunately for McCoy, he's talented enough to perform in the NBA, as UCLA head coach Steve Lavin noted at the

press conference announcing McCoy's departure from the team.

"Jelani has a bright future in basketball," Lavin said. "He was an integral part of the team's success and has handled himself very maturely."

I hate to disagree with Lavin, but it was immaturity that got McCoy suspended and that caused him to be unprepared for the backlash stemming from the suspension.

Enjoy the NBA, Jelani. Just imagine all the fun that can be had with a multi-million dollar contract.

Rob Moseley is a sports reporter for the Emerald. His men's Pac-10 notes appear Tuesday.

Never mind, Stanford is again the best

OK, it looks like it's time to 'fess up.

It was printed in this column a few weeks back that the Stanford women's basketball team may be vulnerable this season and just might not be a lock to win its fourth straight Pacific-10 Conference title.

Fine, I was wrong. I'll admit I might have been a bit quick to jump the gun on that one, taking a look at immediate events rather than looking at the big picture.

It was true the No. 5 Cardinal struggled in its first seven games, going just 3-4, but I was willing to overlook that because of the fact Stanford played one of the toughest schedules in the nation.

Then came a loss at Arizona and a not-all-that-impressive five-point win at UCLA two games later.

It looked like the Cardinal could have a tough season, or at least be challenged for a change.

Well, since that time, Stanford (15-5 overall, 11-1 Pac-10) has again proven it is the premier women's basketball program in the conference and one of the top in the nation.

Heading into the conference season's final two weeks, the Cardinal is running like a finely tuned machine, having won nine straight games by an average of 23.7 points.

Included in the streak was an 80-71 win over No. 6 Texas Tech and a 20-point win over No. 21 Washington.

Then the Cardinal made a big statement to the rest of the conference when it manhandled UCLA 105-80 last Thursday.

The Bruins actually stayed fairly close to the Cardinal early on, but were outscored 74-36 from 12 minutes left in the first half until 6:31 remained in the game.

That wasn't some bottom-feeder the Cardinal beat up on, either. The Bruins (15-7, 10-3) came into the game as one of the hottest teams in the conference, having won nine of their previous 10 games, and trailed the Cardinal by just one game in the conference standings.

So much for the race for the conference title.

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