

SPORTS

TUESDAY
November 3, 1998

CIVIL WAR

Student tickets for the Oregon-Oregon State football game in Corvallis go on sale at 9 a.m. at the Casanova Center for \$18

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Oregon aims for victory at Mac Court

The UO women play their first game tonight against a Swedish-based team

By Joel Hood
Oregon Daily Emerald

The Oregon women's basketball team begins its quest for a record sixth consecutive trip to the NCAA Tournament tonight with an exhibition match against Alvik at 7 p.m. at McArthur Court.

The Swedish-based team's game against the Ducks will be its third in a nine-game road swing along the West Coast. Alvik played Idaho on Sunday and Washington on Monday.

Tonight's game will be the first for the Ducks, who hope to have a healthier line-up on the floor than what they ended with last season.

Addressing the media for the first time on Oct. 15, 6-foot-5 center Jenny Mowe said she is still hampered by the tendinitis in her right knee that forced her to miss all but four games last season. In 1996, Mowe averaged 6.9 points and 14.5 minutes a game and was voted to the Pac-10 all-freshman team.

Another question mark surrounds the left knee of sophomore forward Brianne Meharry, who filled Mowe's shoes at the center position last season before tearing her anterior cruciate ligament in a game against Arizona State.

With only three first-year players on the current roster, Oregon has experience and proven depth at nearly every position. However, the Ducks are thin at the point guard position where only sophomore Karen Piers returns from last year's team.

Oregon, which finished 17-10 last season en route to its fifth straight NCAA Tournament, continues its pre-season schedule on Nov. 13 with a Pre-season WNIT first round match against Nevada at Mac Court. The Ducks' first conference game is against Cal on Jan. 2.



Natasha O'Brien, who adds depth for Oregon off the bench, drives for a lay-in against Oregon State last season.

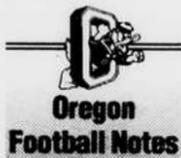
Ducks need answers before this weekend

Oregon failed to play tough against Arizona last Saturday, head coach Mike Bellotti says

By Rob Moseley
Oregon Daily Emerald

Coming into this season, a little bit of foresight could tell you that Oregon stood a decent chance of starting 5-0, then faced just as decent a chance of dropping the next five games.

After the Ducks' 38-3 loss to Arizona on Saturday, Oregon is just one game above that prediction at 6-2.



The Ducks' season-opening win over Michigan State was the only true surprise of the first half of the season, and then only because of the margin of victory. With wins over two nonconference patsies and two of the Pacific-10 Conference's worst teams, players and fans alike were nonchalantly discussing national championship possibilities as though the Ducks were a perennial power.

Now that UCLA, Southern California and Arizona have provided a true test of the Ducks' talent, reality has set in. For the fourth straight game, Oregon will have to answer some serious questions in the week prior to kickoff.

"There was after the UCLA game, but I thought we regained a great measure of emotional pride and intensity with our USC win," Oregon head coach Mike Bellotti said. "We knew we had to come and play tough [at Arizona] and we didn't."

Arizona was obviously the more fired-up team on Saturday. Linebacker Daniel Greer spent nearly the entirety of the warm-up period barking and growling at the Ducks as Oregon's players languidly stretched on

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