

WORLDWIDE

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Soccer

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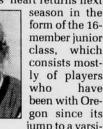
"[That was] tremendously exciting with the crowd and new field and everything," Steffen

Other highlights included a 3-0 win over Oregon State on Oct. 9 that kept the Ducks undefeated at 3-0 all-time in the Civil War, and Oregon's first conference sweep, which came with consecutive home victories against the Arizona schools on Oct. 30 and Nov.

Senior midfielder Melissa Sherman is the lone Duck whose eligibility has expired. She transferred from Portland State after

her freshman year in 1995 and served as a co-captain throughout her tenure at Oregon.

The Ducks' heart returns next



SHERMAN

form of the 16member junior class, which consists mostly of players have been with Oregon since its jump to a varsisport in

1996. Forward Erin Anderson, who is the program's all-time leading scorer with 38 points, and goalkeeper Amanda Fox, who has defended the Ducks' goal in every game, are included

Three sophomores and seven freshmen are also slated to return next season.

With nearly all of his team coming back, Steffen expects his team to continue progressing toward a first NCAA Tournament appearance.

'Our ultimate goal is to get into the playoffs, and I think we're getting a better understanding of what we need to do to get there," Steffen said.

Oregon's greed will not subside until that goal is scored.

Sports briefs

Oregon crew

Four top-10 finishes in the Head of the Lake Regatta in Seattle last weekend proves the Oregon men and women Club Sports crew teams can likely compete with any school in the country.

Competing against national powers Washington, Seattle Pacific and Puget Sound on Saturday, the Ducks scored top 10 finishes for all four of their varsity boats. The lightweight men finished second behind Washington State with a time of 17 minutes, 37 seconds, while the lightweight women finished third in their race with a time of 20:08, only one minute behind Lake Union Crew, which won the race with a time of 19:08.

The open-weight men and

women also finished strong, the men netting a 10th-place finish in a time of 19:51, and the women finished ninth with a time of 48:40.

During a downpour at South Bank field Thursday afternoon, the Oregon men's Club Sports soccer team tied Lane Community College 3-3 in the typical fashion of a crosstown rivalry

The Ducks, who improved their season record to 8-1-3, were led by goals from Olaf Wolf and Taka Osawa. The contest against Lane was the second-to-last test for the team as it tries to prepare itself for the national championships next week in Georgia.

Ice hockey

Washington and Western Washington were simply no match for the high-powered Oregon offense last weekend as the Ducks cruised to 1-0 and 5-3 victories over the Huskies Friday and 10-3 victory at Western on Saturday.

The Ducks' 1-0 victory was the result of a forfeit by Washington, who provided only one official for the game. The Huskies must have wished they had pulled the same maneuver on Saturday, rather than have to face an Oregon team that has swept them two years in a row.

"Both teams just didn't match up skill-wise," second-year Oregon coach Geoff Norman said. "We were able to score when we needed to this weekend.'



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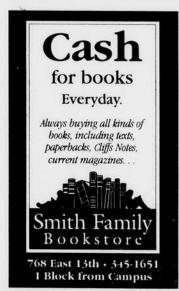
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