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Oregon head coach Jody Runge signs a basketball for an adoring fan at the NCAA pairings party at Mac Court on Sunday.

Matt Hankins/Emerald

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The Oregon Daily Emerald is accepting applications for the position of Editor in Chief for the 1999-2000 academic year

Editor in Chief is responsible for all editorial operations and all editorial content of the newspaper.



Application packet, and job description available at the ODE front desk in Suite 300 EMU or call 346-5511 for more information. Applications must be turned in to the ODE office by 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 30, 1999.

Applications for other staff positions will be available after the new editor is selected April 13th. Watch for ads announcing staff openings.

Oregon Emerald

The Oregon Daily Emerald is an Equal Opportunity Employer and is committed to a culturally diverse workplace.

Women

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the Year for the second time in her tenure at Oregon. Runge led the Ducks to their best overall record since she arrived at Oregon. This season marks the first Pac-10 championship for the Ducks.

Freshman point guard Shaquala Williams was a large part of Oregon's successful season. The Troutdale, Ore., native became Oregon's first player in history to be named Pac-10 Freshman of the Year.

Even more impressive, however, was Williams' selection to the All-Pac-10 team. Only four freshman have earned that honor since the conference's inception in 1986-87.

"I was more excited about making the All-Pac-10

team," Williams said. "It's like in professional basketball, they can say you're the rookie of the year, but to say you're one of the 10 best players in the league, that's a big honor."

Williams averaged 14 points per game and three assists since becoming a starter on Jan. 15. Not only does Williams run Oregon's offense, she is solid from the free throw line as well, converting 78 percent of her shots, which is third-best in the conference.

Sophomores Meharry and Jenny Mowe and senior Natasha O'Brien received honorable mention votes for the All-Pac-10 team.

Allison Ross is a sports reporter for the Emerald. She can be reached via e-mail at aross@gladstone.uoregon.edu.

Padres' Hoffman signs for 32 million

By Bernie Wilson
The Associated Press

PEORIA, Ariz. — San Diego Padres closer Trevor Hoffman became baseball's highest-paid reliever Monday when he agreed to a \$32 million, four-year contract extension through 2003, the Associated Press learned.

The deal, which also is the largest in club history, followed an offseason of change for the Padres. They lost several marquee players after the New York Yankees swept them in the World Series, some because they couldn't afford them, and others in order to get younger and faster.

The Padres now have the two relievers with the highest average annual salaries in baseball. Randy Myers is owed \$6 million this year in the middle year of an \$18 million, three-year deal he signed in November 1997 with Toronto.

Acquired Aug. 6, Myers was ineffective and has been on the trading block, but the Padres would have to eat some of his salary in any potential deal.

Hoffman's extension includes a \$10 million club option for 2004 which, if exercised, would make the deal worth \$40 million over five years. The club has a \$2 million buyout and, for the first time ever, has granted a no-trade clause.

Either way, Hoffman, the premier closer in baseball last year with 53 saves in 54 chances, gets what he wanted — an \$8 million average annual salary. His last two deals have been at the so-called San Diego discount, and Hoffman, who wanted to remain with the Padres,

made it clear that a new deal would be on his terms. He set a deadline of opening day for completing an extension.

Hoffman, 31, will be paid \$4.1 million in 1999, the final year of an \$8.4 million, three-year extension he signed in August 1996.

The largest previous deal in Padres history was the \$15.5 million, three-year contract given to left-hander Sterling Hitchcock, the MVP of the NL championship series, on Jan. 27.

General manager Kevin Towers, who attended the Padres' game against San Francisco at Scottsdale on Monday, wouldn't confirm or deny the deal. A source familiar with the deal, speaking on the condition he not be identified, said San Diego planned to announce it Tuesday.

Hoffman was not at Monday afternoon's game, but said earlier in the day that talks were "moving in the right direction."

Just a few days ago, Hoffman wondered whether a deal would get done. But talks proceeded at a remarkable clip after Hoffman met this weekend with owner John Moores and club president Larry Lucchino, who were in town for the club's board of directors meeting on Saturday. Hoffman summoned his agent from Florida, and negotiations went late into Sunday night.

"Really, it's been a lot of KT's (Towers') input in regard to getting stuff started," Hoffman said. "I don't know if they want to wait until the start of spring."

Hoffman's .981 save percentage last year was the best in major league history and his 53 saves

tied the NL record. He made the All-Star team for the first time and was runner-up to Atlanta's Tom Glavine in the NL Cy Young balloting.

The Padres were 62-4 in games in which Hoffman pitched. His only blown save came on July 26, when he allowed Moises Alou's first-pitch homer in the ninth. That came one day after he matched Rod Beck's big league record with 41 straight saves, a mark later surpassed by Boston's Tom Gordon.

Retaining the popular reliever is certain to be a hit with the fans, who saw Kevin Brown, Steve Finley and Ken Caminiti leave as free agents, and Greg Vaughn and Joey Hamilton depart via trades.

The Padres traded Vaughn in part because of his potential free agent status, and Hoffman feared he might be traded for the same reason. Now he becomes the first player locked up through 2002, when the club is scheduled to move into a new downtown ballpark that was overwhelmingly approved by voters two weeks after the World Series.

Even with all the offseason moves, the Padres project a player payroll of about \$48 million, a \$3 million increase from the figure they opened 1998 at.

The Padres might have signed Hoffman for an average of \$6 million a year in November, but the team broke off talks. The market moved substantially when the division rival Los Angeles Dodgers signed Brown to a \$105 million, seven-year deal in December.