

"Spirituality, Vocation and Work"

Dr. Lynn Rhodes

Professor, Pacific School of Religion

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For years, students have walked by the Collier House Cafe and thought it was a club for the faculty. Well, honestly, we don't know how that silly rumor ever got started. A few students who know we offer great meals and a downstairs pub, are all laughing at those who still think it is faculty only. They are enjoying a meal and a brew, and we felt you should know.

So next time you walk by the big, old house across from the EMU and feel it's reserved for your biology professor, join the students who've discovered the on-campus pub. Kick back with a Black Butte Porter or Mirror Pond and watch the students go by. It's sure better than being laughed at.

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Equestrians riding into a bright future

By Jeff Smith
for the Emerald

It is a sport that goes unnoticed by many, but it is a sport that is quietly building a strong foundation for the future.

The Oregon Club Sports equestrian team has officially ended its intercollegiate competition for this season, but by no means will the members of the team be taking it easy for the rest of the year.

One member in particular has bigger and better things looming in the future. Megan Robinson, senior co-coordinator, is gearing up for a road trip that will take her to Syracuse, N.Y., on April 23-25 when she will be participating in a national horse judging contest.



"I'm very proud to have the opportunity to represent my team by going to the East Coast," Robinson said.

Robinson's achievements during the season made her the first Oregon rider in four years to make it to regionals, where she placed third. She was the only rider from the Northwest to advance to regionals.

That regional finish qualified her for zones, which included riders from all along the West Coast. Robinson was very proud of her effort in zones, where she placed third.

"I was out there riding against skilled riders from schools such as San Diego, UC-San Diego, California and other Southern California schools," Robinson said. "For me to place as high as I did in both regionals and zones was great."

Even though the intercollegiate competitions have subsided, the other riders will continue to be active.

"Our team never really takes

a break from riding or from each other," Robinson said. "We're really a tight-knit group and we enjoy spending time with one another. We still will be active in putting on local shows around the area, and riders will always be individually working with their horses."

The team is already setting its sights on fall term. In particular, the second week of October. That's when the equestrian team will most likely get the opportunity to host its first horse show in the new Northwest regional league that is scheduled to be formed this May by an Intercollegiate Horse Show Association vote.

"The league will consist of schools in the states of Oregon, Washington, Utah, Idaho and Montana," Robinson said. "The league will be called Zone Eight, Region Three. Even though I'm a senior, I'm excited for the future of equestrian at this school and in the Northwest."

Along with Robinson, the team will be saying goodbye to three other senior riders who have spent all their years at the University on the team: Rachel Turner, Felicity Ayles and Lindsey Cameron, who was co-coordinator.

Men's lacrosse smashes rivals

The Oregon Club Sports men's lacrosse team made quite a statement this past weekend as it cruised to easy victories over Pacific-10 Conference rivals Oregon State and Washington State at Southbank Field.

The Ducks defeated the Beavers, 12-2, before destroying the Cougars, 13-2.

What made the victories even more impressive is that the team's roster has been trimmed down to only 12 players after a recent rash of injuries.

Tennis

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"It's always easier to beat a team that's ahead of you," Petrovic said. "But when you play someone that's behind you, it's really tougher."

The Ducks certainly won't have to fret much about having underdog teams nipping at their heels this week.

On Thursday, the Ducks will play No. 6 UCLA, and they'll face No. 10 Southern California on Sunday.

Making matters more difficult, the Ducks will play without Sarah Colistro, their usual No. 3 singles player, who is out for the season with a knee injury.

"We have some stiff competition coming up," Griffin said. "It certainly didn't help to lose a top-three player. The rest of the team will have to raise its game."

That's what Petrovic — an emotional player — is all about.

"I like to fight on the court," Petrovic said. "When I am on that high, I can be pretty tough. When you're loud and you scream and you're like, 'come on,' you get fired up."

That type of passion benefits the whole team, Griffin said.

"Whether it's in practice or in matches, she brings a lot of fire," he said. "She sprained her ankle and

was out for a couple weeks [earlier this season]. The whole time the young players could see how hard she was working to get back. That's very good for our team."

Dealing with injury wasn't a new phenomena for Petrovic.

During what would have been her sophomore season at Texas-El Paso, Petrovic had to redshirt with tendinitis in her wrist. The injury came at a particularly inopportune time because she was coming off a successful freshman season, in which she achieved a No. 70 national ranking, becoming the first UTEP player ever to be ranked.

Then, instead of returning to UTEP, Petrovic enrolled in dentistry school in Croatia. But that pursuit lasted a mere six months before she decided to give college and tennis in the United States another try.

"I wanted to go back to the States," Petrovic said. "But when I called my coach, he had already given my scholarship away."

So Petrovic had to find another school.

And Griffin, in his first year at Oregon, was looking for another player. He'd seen Petrovic play while working as an assistant coach at New Mexico, so he didn't hesitate to recruit her.

Predictions

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A.L. East

The Yankees, who went 125-50 and swept the World Series last season, added future Hall-of-Famer Roger Clemens to the starting rotation in the off-season, sacrificing David Wells and two others.

Although New York began with a loss at Oakland for the second straight season and has had more than its share of problems of late with manager Joe Torre sidelined by prostate cancer and George Steinbrenner battling Hideki Irabu, this team simply has too much talent to be sidetracked for long.

Besides, when are the Yankees not surrounded by controversy?

With Albert Belle added to the mix and Mike Mussina healthy, Baltimore should rebound after a disappointing 1998 and at least be able to pull a wild card.

National League West

Defending league-champion San Diego went the way of the garage-sale Florida Marlins, while the Fox-driven Dodgers signed super-starter Kevin Brown.

Enough said.

N.L. Central

Houston, which is seeking its third straight division crown, lost run-producing outfielder Moises Alou for the season. But the Astros should still have enough in the Killer B's — Derek Bell, Craig Biggio, Jeff Bagwell — to fend off McGwire and his deck of Cards.

N.L. East

Despite the loss of its biggest offensive cat, first baseman Andres Galarraga, to back cancer, Atlanta looks primed for an eighth straight postseason appearance.

With a multitude of newcomers joining Mike Piazza and company, the Mets should at least challenge for the N.L. wild card.

Postseason

With Galarraga's absence hurting the Braves, the Dodgers should advance to meet the Yankees, just like many old times.

But Clemens, who lost in his only career World Series appearance in 1986, and superior overall talent and depth should boost New York to its third world championship in four seasons.

Yes, things are looking beautifully pinstripe-ish once again.

"Whether it's in practice or in matches, she brings a lot of fire."

Jack Griffin on Andrea Petrovic
Oregon head coach

"I knew that she was a high-quality player," Griffin said, "and that she could really help our program."

But Petrovic wasn't quite so sure that Oregon was the place for her.

"I was pretty hesitant," she said. "I knew it rained a lot. I liked Jack and I knew it was a good school, but the rain depresses me big time. But [Jack] was e-mailing me every day saying, 'Hey, it's sunny today.'"

After surviving a "brutal" junior season in which the Ducks forfeited points in several matches because of injuries, Petrovic has enjoyed her role in Oregon's success this season. Including her three-set win against Washington's Jennifer Svandfeldt, Petrovic brings an overall record of 10-11 into today's match.

How does Petrovic feel about her collegiate journey so far?

"If I had to do it again, I would," she said. "No doubt."