

Oregon reigns in Civil War

■ The Ducks continue their regional dominance over the Beavers with a 4-0 victory in Corvallis

By Jeff Smith
Oregon Daily Emerald

Hostile crowd. Aggressive opponent. Same result.

For the fourth time in as many tries, the Oregon women's soccer team held the upper hand in the Civil War rivalry, beating Oregon State 4-0 on Saturday in Corvallis.

The victory pushed the Ducks' record up to 5-8, 1-2 in Pacific-10 Conference play, and dropped the Beavers to 7-6-1, 0-3.

The Ducks quieted the raucous Beaver crowd with an all-around performance, as all four goals came from four different players.

"We came out and played very intense, yet composed," head coach Bill Steffen said. "We kept the ball on the floor a lot, and by keeping the ball so long, we took the crowd out of it."

A key for the Ducks was to come out strong and match the Beavers' intensity. Oregon did just that as less than 11 minutes into the game, freshman forward Julie McLellan scored to give the Ducks an early lead.

McLellan received the ball on the right flank and cut to her left toward the goal. As the Beaver goalkeeper was heading to her right, McLellan fired a left-foot shot into the opposite corner of the net for the score.

"It was nice to get that first goal," Steffen said. "Once that first goal is scored, we started playing a little more relaxed. Our mind set was that we got the first goal and now we have to get

some more."

The Ducks continued to dominate throughout the first half, controlling the time of possession and shots on goal.

In the 35th minute of the first half senior defender Carrie McLanahan pushed her team's lead to two with an impressive 45-yard free kick that sailed over the goalie's outstretched hands into the net.

"I had taken two previous penalty kicks before that so I sat back and looked for the right angle," McLanahan said. "The goalie was sneaking up, and I just placed it behind her, out of her reach. If anything, I just wanted to get the ball in the right place where somebody else could knock it in as well."

"The defense was playing flat, and we were in good position to get a good score off of them," Steffen said.

"I told Carrie to look at the goalkeeper's position and either pass it or try to shoot. She decided to shoot and made a great kick."

Less than five minutes later, Oregon took a 3-0 lead with sophomore mid-fielder/forward Chalise Baysa's acrobatic score from 12 yards out that left both teams in awe.

Baysa handled the ball after a series of bounces and side-volleyed it into the net.

"That was a very pretty goal," Steffen said. "Even if you were an OSU fan, you were clapping after that goal."

Although the Ducks held the three-goal advantage at the half,



Winning the 'War'

Oregon has handled Oregon State since its 1996 inception, winning all four Civil Wars.

- 1996:
OREGON 2, Oregon State 1
- 1997:
Oregon 3, Oregon State 1
- 1998:
OREGON 3, Oregon State 0
- 1999:
Oregon 4, Oregon State 0
*Home team in CAPS

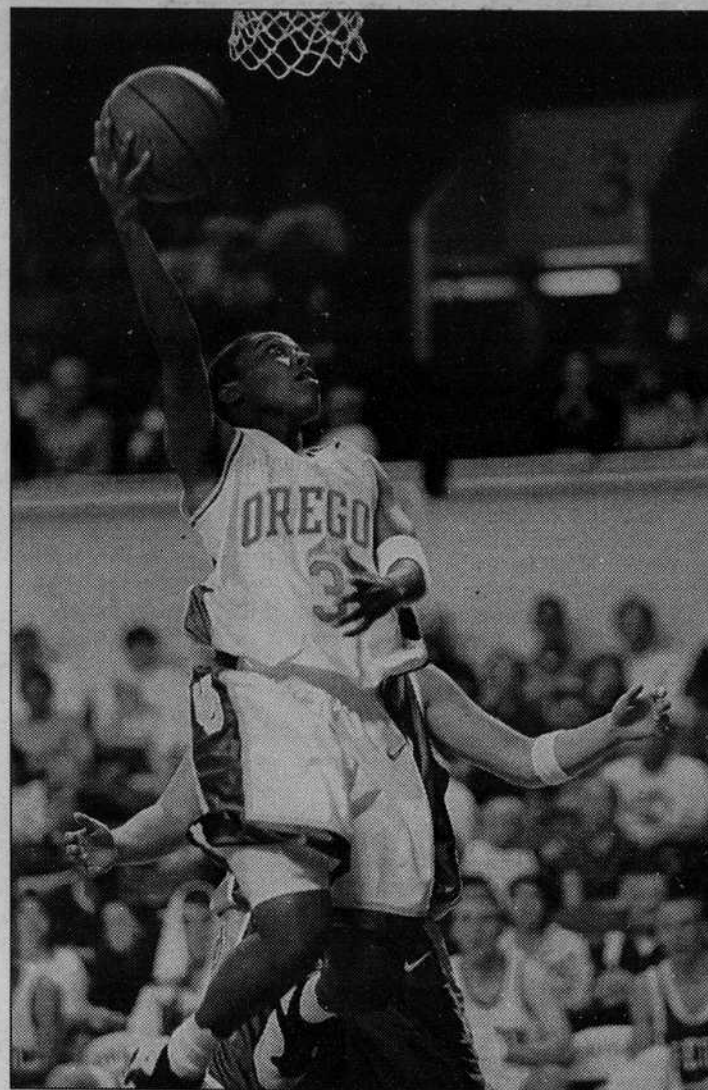
Steffen warned his troops of the Beavers' initial energy in the beginning of the second half and how a quick goal would get them right back in the game.

Oregon State did come out hard, but it was matched inch for inch by the Ducks, who continued to control the ball.

In the 65th minute, senior forward Erin Anderson ran up the sidelines and cut in toward the goal at the right time as she controlled the ball after a deflection off the goalkeeper's leg and eluded the goalie to knock in the score.

The defense seemed to be admirers most of the day, as the offense was the show. Whenever the Beavers did attack the net, Oregon goalkeepers Amanda Fox and Sarah Peters were right there to deny. The two combined on the Duck shutout.

With postseason play still a possibility, Oregon must feed off its first Pac-10 win this weekend, when it faces both Washington teams on the road, starting with Washington State on Friday at 2 p.m.



Jeff Stockton Emerald

A lot is expected of Shaquala Williams, last season's Pac-10 freshman of the year.

Women

Continued from Page 11

onship," head coach Jody Runge said. "But I think it's more important having the kind of season that gives us the opportunity to host a first-round game in the NCAA Tournament and be able to pass the stumbling block of the second round. The key for us is making sure we have a great preseason and we get the power rating we need."

Oregon's nonconference schedule is its toughest ever. If the Ducks can survive — or thrive — against the likes of Virginia Tech, UC-Santa Barbara and Western Kentucky, then their hopes for an elusive home bid should receive a definite boost.

"It's gonna be tough," said Jenny Mowe, a 6-foot-5 junior center. "But I don't think it's anything we can't handle. It's always fun to get out there and prove to people that they're wrong."

"Shaq," the Ducks' 5-6 playmaker, spoke of an assault on the nation's top-10 this season after Oregon finished ranked No. 16.

It's no secret that Oregon will depend heavily on Williams herself to direct the team forward.

"I look for her to lead this team," said Runge. "She's going to be one of the top guards in the country, and she should have an opportunity to be a Parade All-American."

Williams will push an offense intended to capitalize on the best group of post players in the Pac-10.

Juniors Mowe and Brienne Meharry (6-1) are both healthy heading into the season for the first time. And Angelina Wolvert, a 6-3 junior, returns to lend more power to the mix.

Intimidating as that trio might be by itself, 6-3 sophomore Alyssa Fredrick — a transfer from San Diego State — adds quickness. Although Fredrick practiced with the Ducks last season, she couldn't compete because of the mandatory redshirt year transfers must endure. "She really did not enjoy her redshirt year, as far as having to stay home and not being a part of the team," Runge said. "So, she's excited to play."

Fredrick certainly looked inspired during the Ducks exhibition scrimmage Saturday, swatting several of her teammates shots back at them or out of bounds entirely.

"Key factors this season are how players like [sophomores] Jamie Craighead, Nididi Unaka and Alyssa Fredrick come in and fill major roles in minutes for us," Runge said. "That will be a major factor in how we're able to deal with injuries as well as having the ability to play at a high level of intensity."

Neither Unaka, a 6-0 forward with a 25-inch vertical leap, nor Craighead, a 5-10 guard with a reputation as a tremendous shooter, has played significant minutes. But they both could be called on to help soften the loss of last season's three seniors, including three-point specialist Natasha O'Brien.

Veterans Strange and junior forward Lindsey Dion (5-10) will start at shooting guard and small forward. Karen Piers, a 5-7 point guard, backs up Williams.

The four freshmen on the Ducks are: Amanda Brown, a Sheldon graduate and 5-9 guard; Alissa Edwards, a 5-6 guard; Kourtney Shreve, a 5-7 guard; and Courtney Moore, a 6-0 forward who was the four-time Nevada 4A player of the year.

Briefs

Wygonowska at Invite

Senior Alina Wygonowska of the women's tennis team participates in the All-American Invitational this week in Los Angeles, to which only the top-64 players nationally are invited. The qualifying rounds begin today and run through Wednesday.

Joiner suspended again

Junior cornerback Tamoni Joiner has been suspended indefinitely from the football team for a repeated violation of team rules, according to head coach Mike Belotti.

Joiner, who also missed Oregon's home opener because of suspension, has started five of the Ducks' six games this season.

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