

Sports

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Best Bet
NBA Preseason Basketball
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UO hopes to seize victory against rivals

The Ducks are shooting for a postseason berth and for revenge against Washington and Washington State this weekend

By Brett Williams
Oregon Daily Emerald

The Washington schools have never been particularly kind to the Oregon soccer team.

In the last three years, the Ducks (5-8 overall, 1-2 Pacific-10 Conference) are a combined 0-6 against their Northwest rivals.

Oregon will again test the waters Friday against Washington State and Sunday against Washington.

Duck forward Sierra Marsh — who attended Shorecrest High School in Seattle — considers the Huskies one of Oregon's biggest rivals.

"It's big because a lot of us are from Washington," said Marsh, who is tied with Erin Anderson for the team lead in shots with 25. "We have played with a lot of their players in the past, too."

The Ducks 4-0 win against Oregon State last weekend gave Oregon a big mental boost. Four different players scored against the Ducks' in-state rival.

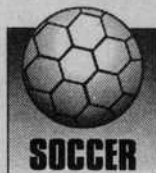
"It was very encouraging because it gives our players confidence to

shoot the ball," defender Carrie McLanahan said. "It gives them courage, too. We can't leave it to two people to score."

That's the way it has been for the Ducks thus far this season, as they have relied primarily on Chalise Baysa and Anderson to provide the majority of the scoring. Baysa leads the team in goals with seven and Anderson is right behind her with five to her credit. No other player has more than one goal this season.

The Ducks will need a full team effort against the Cougars (6-7, 0-3), who edged Oregon 1-0 last season in the first meeting between the schools at Papé Field.

Washington State goalkeeper Lindsay Jorgenson shut out the Ducks last season, and she remains one of the marquee goalies in the Pac-10. The sophomore from North Bend, Wash., leads the conference with 70 saves.



Jeffrey Stockton Emerald

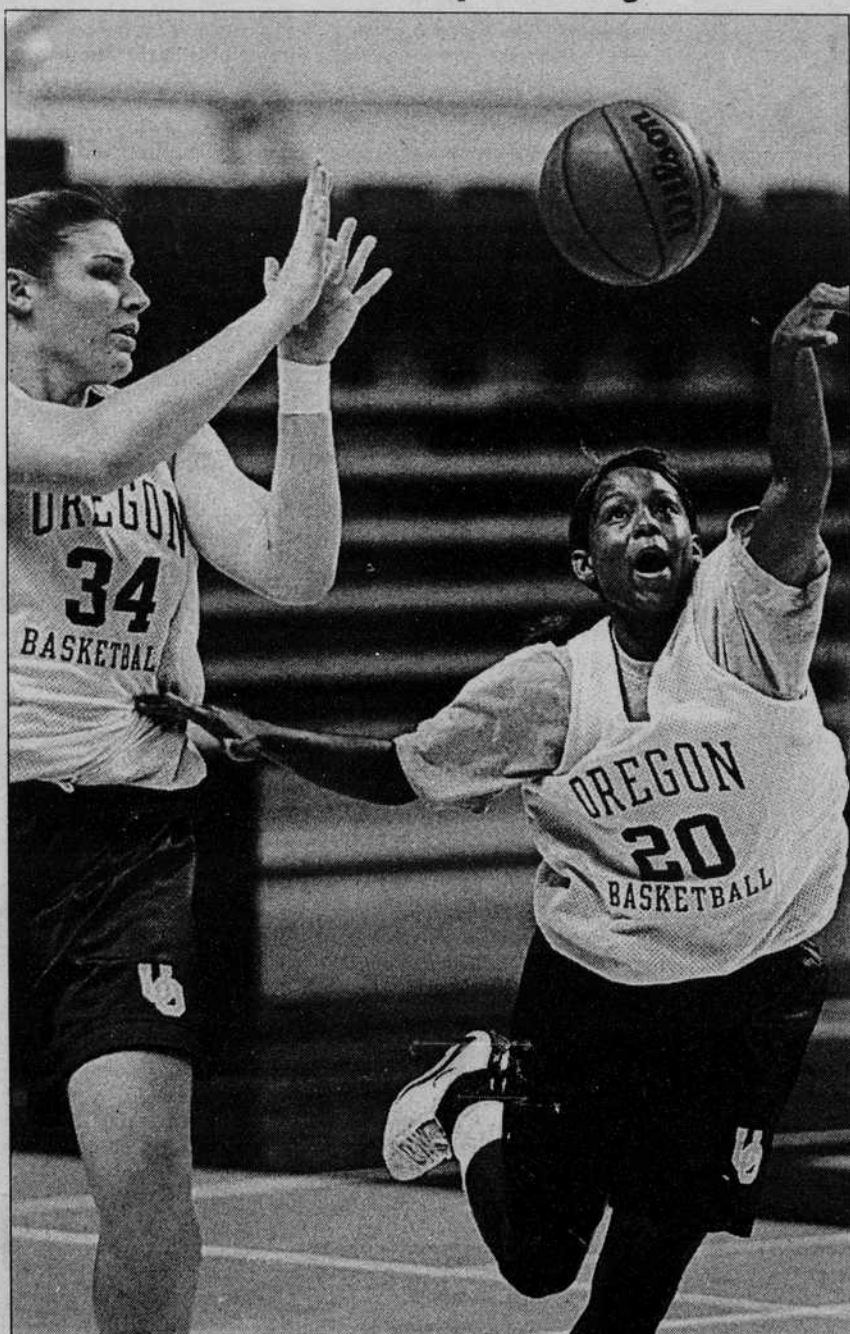
Kristi Morris and her teammates will continue to attack against the Washington schools.

The Huskies (4-7-1, 1-1-1) dominated the Ducks last season in Eugene. Oregon made itself look respectable with a late goal by midfielder T.J. Johnson, who nar-

rowed the Washington lead to 3-2. Currently, the Huskies are coming off two close matches in which they

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Newcomers quickly learning the ropes



Jeffrey Stockton Emerald

Kristi Morris and her teammates will continue to attack against the Washington schools.

■ Five additions to the women's basketball team are all ready to the help defend the Pac-10 title

By Mirjam Swanson
Oregon Daily Emerald

So they're not as defensively adept as the Oregon coaching staff would have them be — at least not yet.

But no one's worried because the four freshman and one sophomore transfer — Amanda, Courtney, Kourtney, Alissa, and Alyssa — all have the makings of prototypical, ungiuing Duck defenders.

"This is the best group of new players offensively that we've had in the five years that I've been here," assistant coach Fred Litzenger said. "Now, defensively, they're gonna struggle."

"Most high school players don't get taught very much defense. To be a good defensive player at this level, you have to have really good defensive technique. But I think they all have the athletic ability to learn, it's just a matter of how quickly they pick it up."

A week into team practices, and the newcomers already recognize Oregon's defensive fetish.

Courtney Moore, a 6-foot forward who's exchanged a lively Reno setting for laid-back Eugene and a much faster form of basketball, said she plans to bring "defensive intensity" to the team.

"I'd like to play," Moore said. "I'd like to get in there."

Moore was the four-time Nevada state player of the year also led her McQueen high school team to four straight state titles with a career average of 15 points, seven rebounds and four assists per game.

Kourtney Shreve is a 5-7 guard from Albany. She earned second-team all-state accolades after averaging 20 points and four rebounds per game in high school.

"Kourtney has great potential to be able



Ducks want turnaround on the road

■ The return of outside hitter Monique Tobbagi could inspire Oregon to its first Pacific-10 Conference win of the season

By Scott Pesznecker
Oregon Daily Emerald

The sting of last Saturday's 15-0 game three loss to Southern California was still being felt by the Oregon volleyball team on Wednesday.

"That was a pretty difficult time for us," Oregon head coach Cathy Nelson said. "It's been tough. We're gradually putting it behind us and looking at what we need to do."

What the Ducks need to do, Nelson said, is play well against Washington State in Pullman, Wash. tonight at 7 p.m. Oregon's two-game road trip winds down Saturday at 7 p.m. in Seattle, Wash. against Washington.

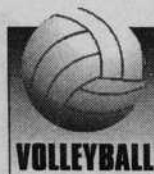
Nelson considers both opponents beatable. The Ducks were swept by the Cougars and lost in four games to the Huskies in the teams' previous meetings, but the return of sophomore phenom Monique Tobbagi could give the Ducks a needed lift.

"Having Monique back definitely provides a spark," Nelson said. "That's something that we need, and having our best player back on the floor is going to make a big difference. That's a real catalyst for us right now, and we need to use that and have everybody focus on what they can do."

"If everyone can play well, with the addition of Monique, then I think we'll be a pretty good team."

As of Wednesday's practice, Tobbagi's athletic activity was being closely monitored. The outside hitter was limited to five jumps on Tuesday and 20 jumps Wednesday.

Tobbagi described her current fitness and playing level at "about 85 percent."



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