

Jeffrey Stockton Emerald

Middle blocker Laura Norton and the Ducks play for a second straight win tonight.

Upbeat Oregon heads to L

■ Fresh off its streak-busting Civil War win, Oregon now faces first-place UCLA

By Scott Pesznecker

Amy Banducci's hitting hand is probably still warm from her 21 kills against Oregon State last Friday.

Laura Norton and Nicole Allen could still be on cloud nine after blocking out the Beavers' offense.

In fact, the entire team may still have one foot in the clouds after tasting its first conference victory.

But if the Oregon volleyball team (7-16 overall, 1-13 Pacific-10 Conference) is to live through this weekend, it will have to get back to business. The Ducks start a twogame road trip tonight against No. 7 UCLA (22-2, 14-1) at 7 p.m., then No. 16 Southern California (16-6, 11-4) at 7 p.m. on Friday.

This is Oregon's final road trip, which ends at home next Thursday and Friday against Arizona State and Arizona, respectively.

"[Oregon State] was a big win; it

got us up and real confident," Allen said. "Now we all believe we can win. We're all playing like it now. We've always seen it in practice, but now we can carry it onto the court."

But the Ducks know that UCLA is no Oregon State.

"We're not saying we're going to beat them or anything like that," Allen said. "But there's a big difference when we go out and play bad and lose. Even if we lose, we want to play well, rather than just rolling over and dying.

"If we can give them competition, that's our goal right now. If we can play well and carry what we do on the practice floor into the game, that's our goal."

The Bruins slapped the Ducks with a three-game loss at McArthur Court on Oct. 15, dominating the game, 15-5, 15-4 and 15-4.

UCLA sits half a game ahead of No. 2 Stanford in the Pac-10 race. By sweeping California last Saturday, the Bruins were assured their best conference record since 1994, when they finished 16-2.

Kristee Porter continues to lead UCLA's offense. She scored 33 kills combined in the Bruins' last two matches and improved to 1,033 career kills. Her mark makes her 15th-place on UCLA's all-time career-kills list.

Unfortunately, Oregon must face the Bruins without a full roster. Heather Gilmore suffered a sprained right ankle against the Beavers, did not practice this week and is doubtful for both upcoming games.

Monique Tobbagi also did not practice and is doubtful for the remainder of the season. Tobbagi missed four games earlier this season with a stress-fractured fibula and sat out again against Oregon State with reoccurring injuries.

Yet even without two of the team's primary offensive weapons, morale is at its highest. The Ducks believe they can win again.

"We've proven to ourselves that we can do it," defensive specialist Carli Halligan said. "It was good to see that we can still do that, and we're looking forward to doing it again."

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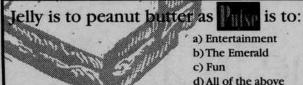
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HOROSCOPE by Linda C. Black

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Nov. 11). This could be the year you go back to school. An idea in November could bring riches by December. Hit the books in January and exceed your expectations by February. Good planning prevents you from being overwhelmed in April. Experience leads to a good choice in May. Fame displaces love around August, but love prevails in September.

To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) - Today is a 6 —You could get an opportunity to advance your career. Also, watch for someone who's watching you! Do everything perfectly, and you might get to take on more responsibility soon.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21) — Today is a 5 — You've been working overtime lately. Complications at work get in the way of everything else. You could be busy, with lots of important decisions to make. Keep your partner posted on what's happening to alleviate tension.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) — Today is a 6
— Work first and play later. Your partner may come to your rescue, but it could be rather late in the program. Your evening's still busy, but you might sneak in a little time for romance, too — or, at least, flirtation.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Today is a 5 — The workload picks up, and the pace increases. This sense of urgency could be downright uncomfortable. A little of this goes a long way with you, but be patient. Get the job done quickly, and that will help, too.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Today is a 6 — Your life should get easier soon. You're one of

the few who'll be relaxed tonight. Romanc will most likely flourish in the privacy of you own home, which is also nice. It cuts down or expenses and increases the possibilities.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Today is a 5 — You've spent a lot of time studying. Now, it's time to do the work. You can attain mastery only by stumbling around for a while first. Too bad, but it's part of the process. Don't be afraid to make mistakes; plan for them.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21) — Today is a 6 — Get advice early, especially on financial matters. Later in the day, you may lose interest, and that could be expensive. Likewise, you should go shopping first thing, too. Later on you won't care as much about getting the best deal.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Today is a 7
— Your life will get easier as the day goes on.
You won't be as concerned about financial maters. The time you spend worrying is not billable, you know. You could worry less and make more, soon.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — Today is a 5 — You might be worried. If so, take a breather. Stand back and look at the big picture. This can work out for the best, especially if you decide right now that's what will happen. After that, all the other decisions will be easy.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) - Today is a 7 — You're getting stronger and more confident by the hour. Your nervousness will fade, and you'll forget all about it. Knowing that ahead of time, you won't be alarmed when the worries show up. Laugh at them!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) - Today is a 4 — You won't get an extension on the upcoming deadline. Travel looks complicated, too. Instead, do what you know how to do — in familiar surroundings. Crank out the requirements first to make your load lighter. Keep gossip to a minimum.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) — Today is a 7
— You should be lucky, especially with foreigners. Don't be afraid — even if you don't meet your own expectations yet. Your friends believe you can even if you don't. Keep on keeping on. Success is near.

095 PERSONALS

AΦΩ and Oregon Literacy Congratulates Ralph Barnhard on being voted Ugly Duck On Campus! Thanks to our other contestants for your help during this fundraiser. Dan Close, Bob Zimmerman, Troy Franklin, and Wylie Chen

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