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# Ducks finally end streak

■ Alyssa White's goal in the final minutes against James Madison gives Oregon its first win in eight games

By Peter Hockaday  
Oregon Daily Emerald

Before Sunday's matchup with James Madison, the Oregon women's soccer team had scored twice in seven games, as if there were an invisible wall in its opponents' nets preventing them from having the scoring flurries they showed earlier in the season.

Chalise Baysa changed all that, scoring at the 16:48 of the first half in Sunday's game. Crystal David and Alyssa White followed her lead, as Oregon came back from a 2-0 deficit to beat the Ducks 3-2. White had the game-winning goal, a rebound shot with 2:09 left on the clock.

"That's the best 90 minutes of soccer we've played this season," Oregon head coach Bill Steffen said.

The win was the Ducks' third of the year, and snapped the team's longest-ever losing streak at seven.

Junior midfielder Annie Murphy broke Oregon's five-game scoreless streak with a goal in the first half against Xavier on Friday, before the Musketeers rattled off three

straight goals to defeat the Ducks. On Sunday, it was the Ducks' turn to come from behind.

After James Madison's Colleen McIlwrath scored two goals early in the game, Baysa put in a penalty kick to move ahead of David as the Ducks' leading scorer this season. Not to be outdone, David scored with just over 20 minutes left in the game to pull Oregon even. With time running down, White completed the comeback with her first goal of the season.

Steffen said his team played hard and earned themselves a victory against James Madison.

"We deserved to win that game," Steffen said. "It's nice for the team to get rewarded for their efforts."

The weekend's games were held in Knoxville, Tenn., where the Ducks were competing in the First Tennessee Bank Classic. The tournament was hosted by Tennessee, who went 1-1 on the weekend.

Two Ducks made the Classic's all-tournament team. Junior Starr Johnson was the only Oregon defender to make the team. White also made the team after her game-winner.

Johnson's election to the all-tournament team illustrates that the play of Oregon's defense had a direct impact on the all-important

victory. The defense gave up only 11 shots on goal in over 80 minutes of play after James Madison's first two goals.

The defense was helped by sophomore goalkeeper Sarah Peters, who was making the saves on those shots. Peters had been sharing time in goal with classmate Jeanine Norstad before Norstad hyperextended her left elbow before a game against Montana last week. Peters has emerged as the Ducks' starter in goal, and improved her goals-against-average to 3.44 after Sunday's game.

The most important statistic from Sunday's match for Oregon was the shot total. The Ducks took only 15 shots, but converted three of them. Steffen has said his team needs to finish its chances in order to win.

"We created plenty of chances but we didn't put any of them away," Steffen said after Friday's game against Xavier, when his team failed on 12 attempts. "We need to focus on finishing things."

Oregon's next game is against No. 18 Florida State next Sunday at Papé Field. It will be only the second home game for the Ducks since they opened the season with two home matches in August.

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## Women's

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there will be times when it's not easy, certainly. But I think she's doing a great job with it right now."

A sophomore last season, Williams helped lead the Ducks to a 23-8 record and a second straight Pacific-10 Conference title. She was the team's high scorer and assist leader with 17.7 points and 4.4 dishes per game, en route to Pacific-10 Player of the Year and Honorable Mention All-America honors. Now, she begins her journey down a path new to her — the road to recovery.

"It's going to strengthen me in other areas; it's probably going to strengthen my mental game," Williams said. "It's probably going to give me a new release and a new love for basketball. If anything, it's going to make me like it that much more."

"The trainers said they're not going to let me do that much, or allow me to reinjure myself by trying to come back too soon. They pretty much closed the door on my face about me coming back this season, so that's not really an option."

Playing in a full-court scrimmage with most of her teammates and Oregon's new recruits, Williams got the ball and ran down court for a fast-break layup, as fans have seen her do in so many games at The Pit.

Only this time, something went terribly wrong.

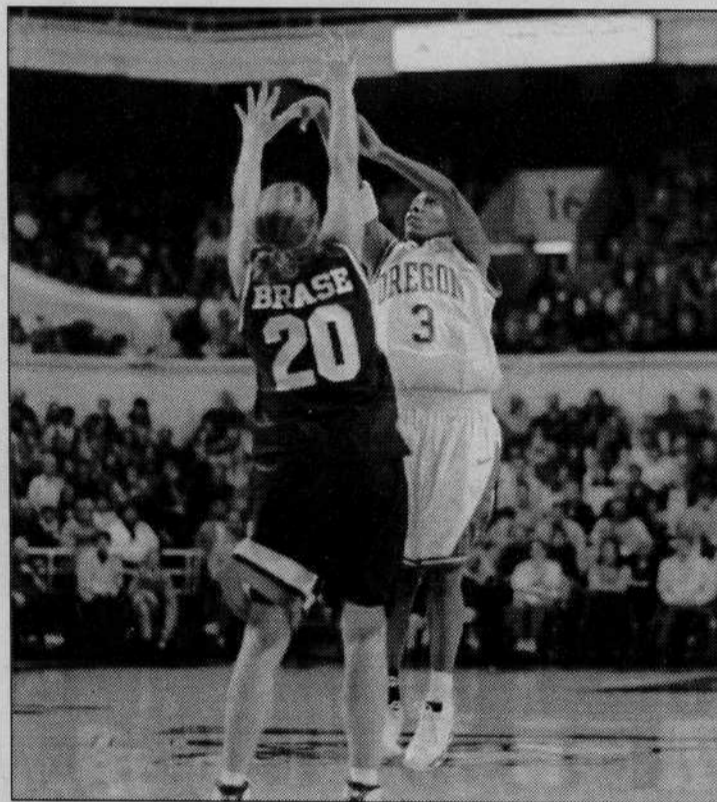
Oregon center Jenny Mowe, who was behind Williams, said Williams put some extra mustard on the layup, going side-to-side as she planted her left foot to jump — but to everyone's surprise, Williams hopped, limped, then went down.

"I was really disappointed," Williams said. "I was like, 'No, this can't happen to me.' At the time I was really devastated."

"I knew, and everybody else was just trying to stay optimistic, saying maybe it won't be that, but I knew it was. I wasn't going to try to convince myself it really wasn't."

Williams played as a true freshman in 1998-99 and will use this season as her medical redshirt year. She will have two seasons of eligibility remaining.

The injury leaves the Ducks inexperienced at the point. Sophomore Courtney Shreve, whose min-



Shaquala Williams is the youngest Pacific-10 Player of the Year in history.

*Emerald*

utes at the point and as shooting guard increased through last season, will take the role of starting point guard.

Last season, Shreve had a breakout game against Arizona State, scoring 10 points in 16 minutes in the win. Last February, Shreve played the point in the final minutes of the Ducks' come-from-behind win over Washington after Williams fouled out.

"Since last year I've learned so much, so now I know what it takes to play out there as a starter," Shreve said. "I feel like I can play the role, but I'm a little worried because I played some last year but I didn't start."

But reserve point guard Karen Piers quit the team and returned to her homeland of Nova Scotia in Canada during the summer, leaving Oregon without a designated point guard behind Shreve.

Runge said that shooting guard Jamie Craighead will back up Shreve at the point this season. Craighead, a skilled three-point shooter and defender who demon-

strated talent last season in breaking the full-court press, played point guard at Elma High School in Elma, Wash.

Also seeing some minutes at the point will be guard/forward Lindsey Dion, regarded by Runge as the Ducks' emotional leader. Dion, whose head and knee injuries sidelined her off-and-on last season, can shoot from anywhere on the floor and has excellent defense and penetration skills.

Shreve doesn't expect to shoulder the void in the offense Williams left. She considers herself more of a passing point guard and said she'll try to set up Oregon's post players — seniors Angelina Wolvert, Brianne Meharry and Mowe — for more scoring opportunities.

"I've told her I don't expect her to score 22 points a game, but I think she's going to help a lot of other people get the ball a lot more effectively than maybe Shaq did," Runge said. "It will be a different look, but I have every confidence in her being able to run this team."

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