

# Volleyball

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istry," Ferreira said. "Everyone has a strong relationship with the coaches, and we all trust each other. It is a 'we' oriented atmosphere."

other teams out of their system," Ferreira said. "But even though we're breaking them down, they're still making the plays."

It is Oregon's transition game, Ferreira said, that is not efficient enough.

"We just have to stuff 'em," he said.

## Leaders of the pack

Oregon's four upperclassmen — seniors Halie Mazza and Amy Banducci and juniors Monique Tobbagi and Gerlach — have stepped it up of late, and are more focused on their roles as leaders.

Earlier in the season, Ferreira was somewhat critical of his team's lack of leadership. Since then, though, the players have molded into their roles.

"Maybe when the program was struggling [the last few years], they were just hanging on for survival and not working on competitive leadership," Ferreira said. "Now they've begun to assume some leadership capabilities."



Kevin Calame Emerald

Oregon seniors Amy Banducci (left) and Halie Mazza have started to display a strong sense of leadership on and off the court.

“We've been serving really well and doing a good job of breaking other teams out of their systems.”

Carl Ferreira  
volleyball coach

## Community service

Oregon is the best serving team in the Pac-10, averaging 1.96 per game. Chute is second in the league with 0.5 aces per game.

"We've been serving really well and doing a good job of breaking

# Ice, baby

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Niedermayer and Scott Stevens, and goalie Martin Brodeur add depth to this strong team. But the surprise team of last year's playoffs won't be a surprise anymore, and if other teams can figure out how to break the Devils' trapping defense, New Jersey could find themselves out of the postseason early.

2. Philadelphia Flyers. 3. New York Rangers. 4. Pittsburgh Pen-

guins. 5. New York Islanders.

## Northeastern Division

1. Toronto Maple Leafs. The best team in Canada will cruise in the NHL's easiest division. When it comes time for the postseason, however, the Leafs will need to play tougher defense than they did against New Jersey last year in order to raise the Stanley Cup. Nobody knows that as well as the Maple Leafs' ownership, who acquired hard-hitting Dave Manson from Dallas and Shane Corson

from Montreal to add the one element Toronto was missing: scari-

2. Buffalo Sabres. 3. Ottawa Senators.
4. Montreal Canadiens.
5. Boston Bruins.

## Southeast Division

1. Florida Panthers. Pavel Bure is the Panthers, and that's just the way they like it. The "Russian Rocket" could add to his growing NHL legend if he can stay injury-free this year. Florida will also be

hoping for Bure to stay healthy, so it can earn another trip to the post-season.

2. Washington Capitals. 3. Tampa Bay Lightning. 4. Carolina Hurricanes. 5. Atlanta Thrashers.

And here are your fearless play-off predictions:

Western quarterfinals:  
Avalanche def. Canucks 4-1, Stars def. Predators 4-1, Blues def. Coyotes 4-3, Sharks def. Red Wings 4-3.

Eastern quarterfinals: Devils def. Penguins 4-3, Flyers def. Rangers

4-2, Maple Leafs def. Capitals 4-3, Sabres def. Panthers 4-3.

Western semifinals: Avalanche def. Sharks 4-1, Blues def. Stars 4-3.

Eastern semifinals: Devils def. Sabres 4-2, Flyers def. Maple Leafs 4-3.

Western finals: Avalanche def. Blues 4-3.

Eastern finals: Flyers def. Devils 4-3.

Stanley Cup Finals: Avalanche def. Flyers 4-2.

Drop the puck, babeeeee!

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## Horoscope by Linda C. Black

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY** (Oct. 4). Flights of fancy capture your imagination this year, but common sense keeps you grounded. Dreams you share with a loved one motivate you in October. Reality rears its ugly head around November. Something new is required, and you'll find it in December. Make the changes you require at home in January. Settle into a routine you can live with and love in February. Travel plans should materialize in June. Do what an older woman wants to gain in July. Do what a little birdie tells you 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 5 — Don't try something you just learned, in a work-related setting. Instead, carefully watch what the others are doing. A breakdown is likely, and you'll look better if you prevent it than if you cause it.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20) — Today is a 7 — Don't let a loved one run off with your money. He or she might spend it foolishly. That includes your kids, of course. You may feel generous, but if the other person's irresponsible, you could end up with buyer's regret.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21) — Today is a 6 — Somebody you live with could be difficult. Be gracious and forgiving, just because you can. Don't worry about who is right or wrong; try to stay cheerful. That will help you come up with a good idea.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22) — Today is a 7 — Carefully review information you're receiving, even if it's from a reliable source. Catch the error before it gets far, and you could save others' time and money. That could make more time and money for you, which would be nice.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) — Today is a 5 — A friend's fabulous scheme sounds great, until you look at it closely. Don't fund it with your savings, or you could lose the money and the friendship! An older person you don't always like could advise you well in this situation.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Today is a 5 —

Try not to get into an ego battle with the person who signs your paycheck. That's not a good idea; even if you win, you'd lose. Watch your words and tone of voice, too. This may seem unimportant in a couple of days, so don't quit over it.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — Today is a 6 — Travel and long-distance communications are fraught with peril. Postpone sending valuable correspondence or packages. Your chances of getting through are better if you start later, even later today. A delay could be a good thing.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — Today is a 5 — Don't trust a friend's recommendation if money's involved. That includes the money you have in investments, as well as the money in your pocket. What at first seems like a fabulous deal could be a huge disappointment.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — Today is a 5 — Some tricky negotiations are going on, and some changes are being made. If you stay on the sidelines, you'll be less-likely to make one yourself. An opportunity may open up for you because somebody above you falls flat. Watch out!

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Today is a 7 — Work could interfere with your travel plans, but that's OK. If you work, you could benefit more than you expected. If you travel, it could cost more than you thought. So, keep working and be happy!

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — Today is a 6 — If somebody at home or a close relative is having difficulties, offer your shoulder to cry on. Don't open your wallet far, however. That might make matters worse. Don't follow a loved one's financial advice, either.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20) — Today is an 8 — If your partner or a close friend is having trouble at work or home, offer support and prayers. Don't get directly involved. You can't fix the situation that way. Besides, this tempest may be past by tomorrow. No point in you getting all upset, too.

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