



UO soccer opens Pac-10 play this weekend

■ The Ducks will try to get off on the right foot against the Arizona schools this weekend at Oregon's Papé Field

“We're trying to be better on the mental details. We need a good physical effort and a good mental effort as well.”

Bill Steffen
Oregon head coach

By Peter Hockaday
Oregon Daily Emerald

For the Oregon soccer team, there is no preseason or postseason right now. There's only pre-October and post-October.

This month, the Ducks have already stood up to No. 21 Florida State and lost in their last preseason game, but now they start a second season of sorts.

The Pacific-10 Conference season. Oregon opens up Pac-10 play this weekend at Papé Field against Arizona State and Arizona, two Pac-10 foes that stymied the Ducks last year. Arizona State beat the Ducks 2-1 last year in Tucson, while the Wildcats played Oregon to a tie in double overtime.

“It's important for us to get off to a good start,” Oregon head coach Bill Steffen said.

The Ducks will start the season against Arizona State on Friday, and the Sun Devils should make that good start Steffen speaks of more difficult than he hopes. Arizona State has scored 32 goals and given up seven goals in 10 games this year, which has led to its impressive 9-1-0 record.

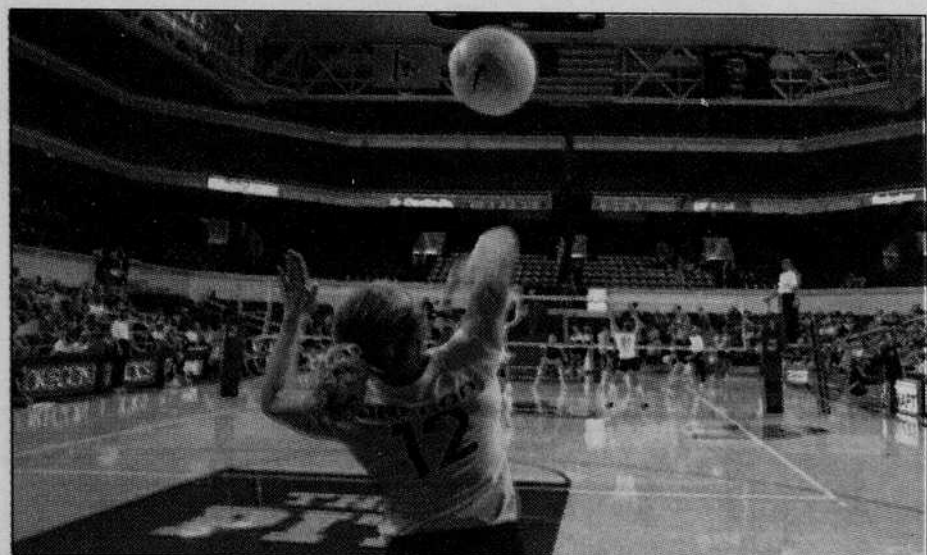
Many of the Sun Devils' goals have come from All-American candidate Stacey Tullock, last year's Pac-10 Player of the Year. Tullock has 10 goals this year, making her the eighth most effective goal-scorer in the country with 1.11 goals per game.

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Dan Brunell Emerald

Junior sweeper Starr Johnson and the rest of the Ducks' defense will concentrate on Arizona State's All-American forward, Stacey Tullock.



Dan Brunell Emerald

Sophomore Kristin Ferris and the Ducks hope to serve up some tough competition in a wild environment at McArthur Court against Arizona State tonight.

UO volleyball hoping to find fate against Arizona schools

Volleyball team wants its fans to create an 'electric atmosphere' for an advantage at Mac Court

By Adam Jude
Oregon Daily Emerald

The Oregon women's volleyball team will be on the lookout this weekend for a rare sighting in McArthur Court: fate.

As of late, the Ducks (7-6 overall, 0-5 Pacific-10) have not heard from the mysterious spiritual leader.

But now would be a good time for it to make an appearance.

If fate does make its way into McArthur Court for the two-game home stand against Arizona State and Arizona, it will likely not

bring Oregon its first Pacific-10 Conference win easily.

In tonight's matchup, Arizona State (11-4, 3-2) brings its undefeated road winning streak to Eugene with some momentum. Last week, the Sun Devils defeated No. 21 Stanford for the first time since 1993. Senior Amanda Burbridge recorded 24 kills, 18 digs and four service aces in the Sun Devils' win and will look to make her presence known against the Ducks.

And that, on paper, is as easy as
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Pac-10 football heats up with important contests

■ The Pacific-10 Conference football season continues as teams try to position themselves in the middle of the Rose Bowl race

By Jeff Smith
Oregon Daily Emerald

The ninth-ranked Oregon Ducks may not be on the gridiron this Saturday, but that doesn't mean there isn't Pacific-10 Conference football taking place.

This is the point in the season where the contenders begin to separate themselves from the pretenders.

Granted, the month of October just began, but if teams don't begin to assert themselves now, it may just be too late to do so later on.

Arizona (3-1, 1-0) at USC (3-1, 0-1)

You can be sure that Oregon head coach Mike Bellotti and his team will have their eyes fixed on ABC at 12:30 p.m. on Saturday.

The Ducks get the luxury of checking out their next opponent from the comforts of their own homes in Eugene.

While Oregon will be focusing its attention on No. 18 USC, the Trojans have much more pertinent problems to worry about.

The Trojans are coming off a 31-21 defeat at the hands of Oregon State — the first time in 33 years that the Beavers had beaten USC. Now the Trojans must find a way to score against an Arizona defense that ranks fourth in the nation in rushing defense, ninth in scoring defense and 20th in total defense.

“This week, we play the best team that we have played so far this year,” USC head coach Paul Hackett said. “This is about the time of the year that we knew we had to pick up our game.”

Arizona, on the other hand, is beginning to believe that it is a legitimate Rose Bowl contender. Last week's 27-3 shellacking over the defending Pac-10 Champion, the Stanford Cardinal, has only bolstered such thoughts.

“We have improved ourselves markedly from a year ago,” said Arizona head coach Dick Tomey, in regard to last season's 4-7 record. “USC is a team

with pride and ability and I know we will probably face the best USC team that anyone has faced this season.”

USC's Sultan McCullough missed some of the Oregon State game with a bruised knee but is expected to play. If he does, and the Trojan defense contains Arizona freshman running back Clarence Farmer, then USC will win the game. But it will be close.

California (1-3, 0-1) at Arizona State (3-1, 0-1)

The bad news for Arizona State is that quarterback Ryan Kealy injured his knee in last week's loss to UCLA and could be done for the year. The even worse news is that Kealy's back-up, Jeff Krohn, is out with mononucleosis.

But the good news is that third-string quarterback Griffen Goodman gets to pass against a California secondary that was eaten up by a so-so Washington State aerial attack.

Should the Sun Devil receivers begin to click with Goodman, it mean a long day for California. But the Golden Bears' defensive
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