

Volleyball

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matches.

At times, however, the right arm of Tobbagi has proved to be somewhat inconsistent. Against Arizona State last Friday, Tobbagi had her worst performance of the season, posting a minus-.167 attack percentage on just five kills and 10 errors. The next night, though, she stepped up to tally 12 kills and a .421 hit percentage.

Freshmen phenoms

Four of Oregon's five freshmen have received playing time this season. Outside hitter Lindsay Murphy has started all of the Ducks' Pac-10 matches and is fourth on the team in digs. In high school, the native of Spokane, Wash., led her team to the state championship and was named the area's female athlete of the year.

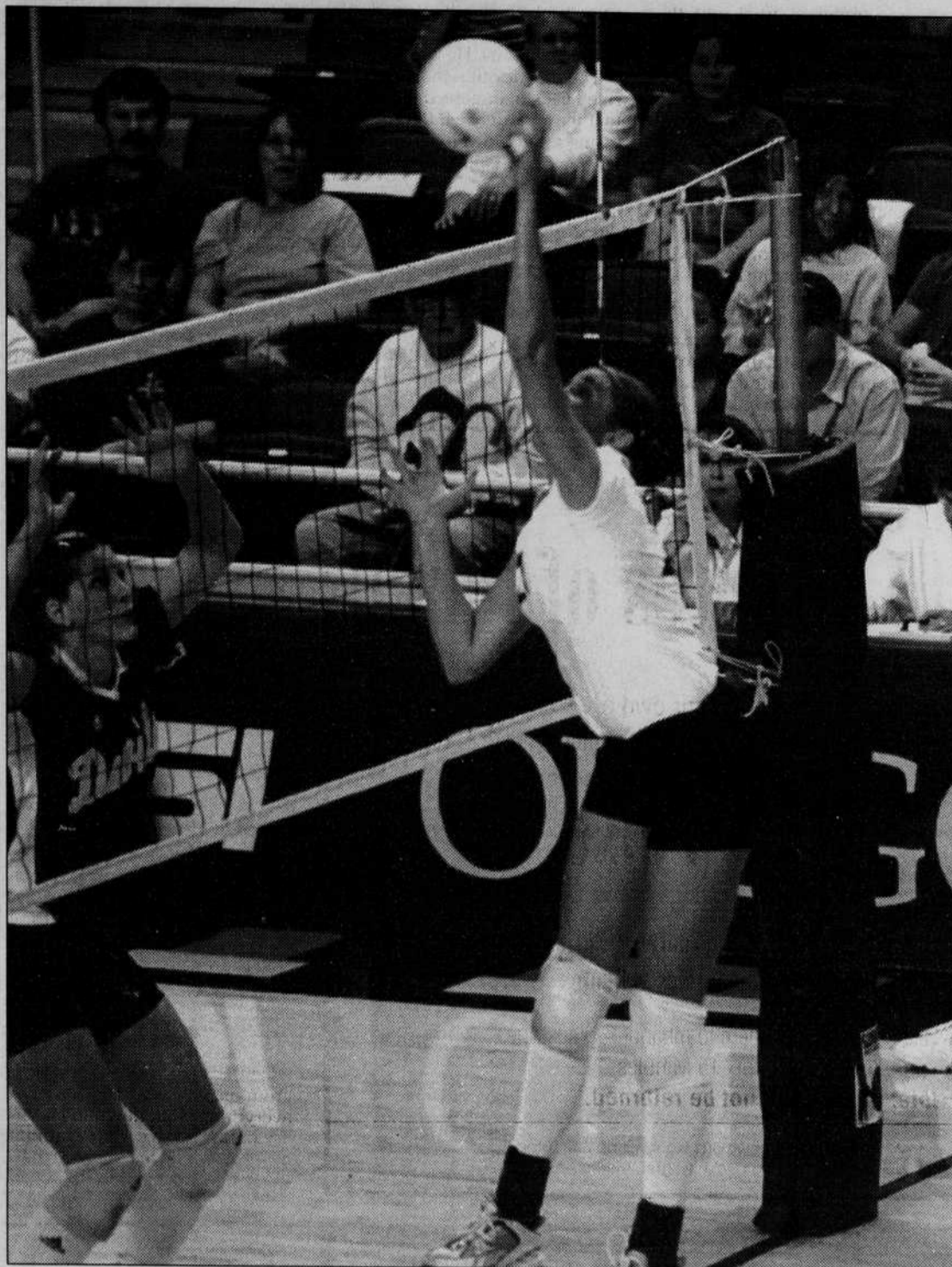
Stevens got her first collegiate start against No. 5 Arizona last Saturday. She recorded six kills and hit .250 in that match. The previous night, Stevens led the Ducks off the bench with a phenomenal .615 attack percentage, nine kills and four blocks.

"Alisha has come a long way this year, and she's just now getting the opportunity to play," Ferreira said. "She's going to be a very talented player."

A Pac-10 thriller

Although it's only halfway through league play, the Pac-10 championship may be decided this Friday in Arizona. No. 1 USC (13-0, 7-0) puts its undefeated mark on the line against No. 5 Arizona (14-1, 7-0). The Wildcats have not lost since the first match of the season.

"I don't like USC," Arizona's Allison Napier told The Arizona Daily Wildcat. "To me, it seems they haven't earned the respect that they have been given. I think that some teams like USC are put up there on this pedestal where they don't belong."



Sophomore Sydney Chute records one of her seven kills against Arizona State last Friday. The Ducks hope to pick up their first Pac-10 win in Washington this weekend. Kevin Calame Emerald

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Cross Country

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21:05), Mosey ran in 18:50 for 34th place at Willamette.

On the men's side, freshman Chris Clancy lowered his 8,000-meter personal best from 26:00 to 25:06.

In the polls

After an unexpected drop in the coaches poll two weeks ago, the

Oregon women rose two spots in the latest edition of the rankings. Following their dominating win at the Willamette Open, the Ducks find themselves at the No. 22 spot.

"The rankings are a fair indicator of what's what," Heinonen said. "But they don't have a direct bearing on who gets picked for an at-large bid."

The Duck men dropped two spots to 18th after holding its top seven runners out of Willamette.

Looking ahead

Despite competing in only three meets this season, the Oregon cross country teams will enter their home stretch next weekend. After the pre-NCAA meet this weekend, the Ducks will travel to the Pacific-10 Conference championships in Seattle, Wash., on Oct. 28, followed by the NCAA Western Regionals in Fresno, Calif., two weeks later. The season ends with the NCAA Championships on Nov. 20.



Oregon women's cross country head coach Tom Heinonen prepares to take his 22nd-ranked Ducks to the Pre-NCAA meet. It boasts the largest field of runners ever assembled for a meet and will provide a great test for Oregon as it embarks on the home stretch. Emerald

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