



The Civil War

Facing the Adversary

■ A win against the surprising Beavers would give the struggling Oregon volleyball team a momentum-booster into the second half of the season

By Adam Jude
Oregon Daily Emerald

How sweet it would be. A victory over the Beavers. You gotta love the sound of that.

But, as an educated reader, you must be thinking that it would take a miracle for the Oregon volleyball team to win its first league match against a Beaver squad that is the biggest surprise in the Pacific-10 Conference this season.

Impossible, you say? Hardly.

In their first meeting of the season, back on Sept. 19 at McArthur Court, the Ducks (7-10 overall, 0-9 Pac-10) nearly defeated their heated rival. First-year head coach Carl Ferreira's club took a quick 2-0 lead and was confident it was on its way to a successful start to the Pac-10 season.

Then the bottom fell out. In a tenacious effort, the Beavers (14-6, 5-4) deflated Mac Court and the Ducks in a come-from-behind 3-2 win

(12-15, 12-15, 15-11, 15-10, 15-12). The two teams haven't been the same since.

Oregon State has gone on to win five conference matches, including a win at then-No. 5 UCLA. The Ducks, on the other hand, are still searching for their first Pac-10 win.

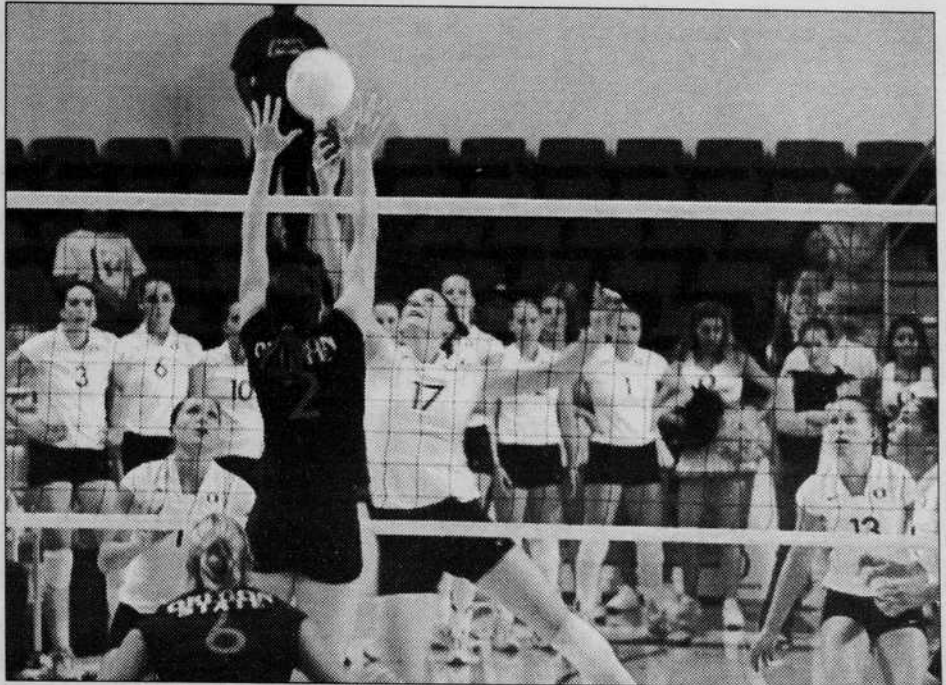
"Early conference confidence is crucial," Ferreira said. "And what we failed to grasp, they snagged."

What the Beavers grabbed is their best start since 1993 and a fourth-place ticket in the Pac-10, behind three of the nation's elite — USC, Arizona and UCLA. The Beavers were projected to finish eighth in the conference.

Tonight's Civil War rematch will be broadcast on Fox Sports Northwest at 7 p.m. The teams have split each season's series the past two years.

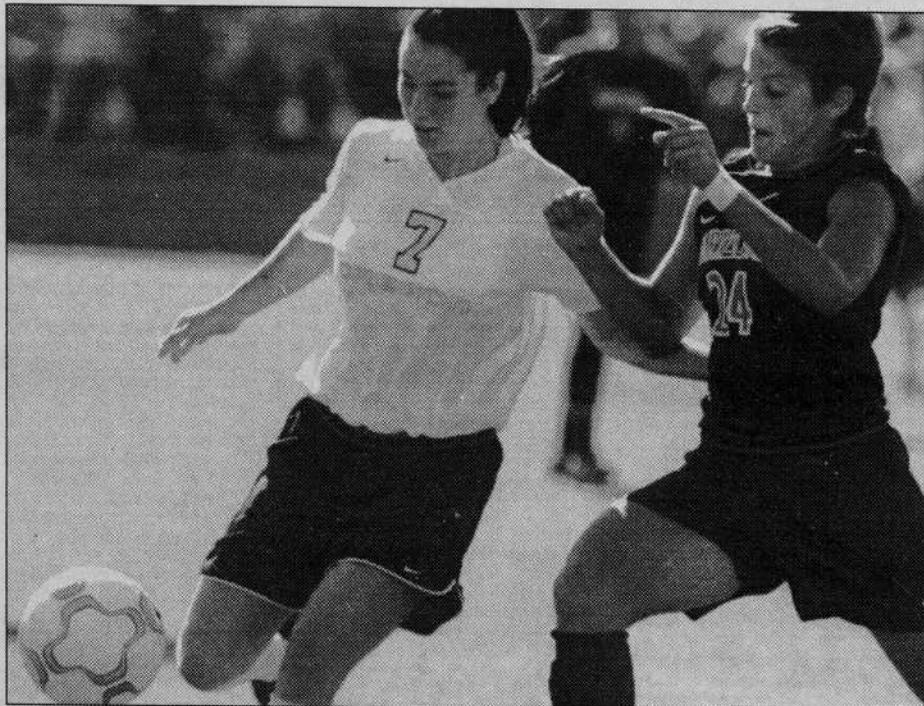
"We are struggling right now," Ferreira said. "We need an injection of energy. And being live on Fox Sports and going up against our number-one rival

Turn to Volleyball, page 8A



Senior middle blocker Halie Mazza (17) and the Ducks are looking for revenge after an emotional 3-2 loss to the Beavers Sept. 19 at McArthur Court.

Erin Swanson-Davies Emerald



Angela Romero (7) and the rest of the Ducks could grab a fifth straight win against the Beavers tonight.

Erin Swanson-Davies Emerald

■ The Ducks have had the upper hand in soccer's Civil War, winning the last four meetings by a combined score of 12-2

By Peter Hockaday
Oregon Daily Emerald

This weekend could be very kind to the Oregon soccer team.

While the Pacific-10 Conference's top programs battle it out on other fields, the Ducks get to return home and face Oregon State, a team that has been an automatic "W" on Oregon's schedule for four years.

But that doesn't mean the Ducks are overlooking the Beavers.

"It's intense, but in a different manner," Oregon head coach Bill Steffen said.

The Ducks (4-11-0, 1-3-0 Pac-10) will take on Oregon State (6-9-1, 0-3-1) at Papé Field today at 3 p.m. Oregon has beaten the Beavers in the teams' last four meetings, and the Ducks have outscored Oregon State 12-2 over that stretch.

Oregon's one Pac-10 win this season came on Papé Field, a 3-0 victory over Arizona two weeks ago.

Last week the Ducks were roughed up in Los Angeles, losing to No. 13 Southern California, 3-0, and No. 7 UCLA, 8-0. Oregon State fared nearly as poorly against

On Tap:

Who: Oregon soccer vs. Oregon State
When: Friday at 3 p.m.
Where: Papé Field

those schools, losing 3-0 to UCLA and 5-2 to the Trojans.

Oregon State is one of two teams in the Pac-10 — Arizona being the other — with a worse record than Oregon. The Beavers have gone six games without a win, although they did tie Arizona 1-1 in Corvallis. Oregon State's last win came Sept. 26th against Portland State.

The Ducks could be the beneficiaries of a Pac-10 mix-up this week if they can beat the Beavers. No. 3 Washington will take on the ranked Los Angeles schools, while No. 20 Stanford and No. 8 California will take on Arizona and Arizona State. When the dust clears, Oregon could find themselves back in the thick of the Pac-10 race.

That's just what Steffen and his team

Turn to Soccer, page 6A

Hoops teams set to perform before football game

The Oregon basketball programs will be making their first appearances of the season on Saturday

By Jeff Smith
Oregon Daily Emerald

Are you ready for some basketball?

Yup, the Oregon hoops season is approaching and on Saturday, both the men's and women's teams will be giving fans an opportunity to check them out for the first time.

The basketball teams will be a part of the pre-game festivities scheduled for the No. 7 Oregon football team's Pacific-10 Conference clash with No.

21 Arizona.

Both the men and the women will be holding an exhibition-type practice at 4:15 p.m. in the Moshofsky Center. Admission is free, but only for those who have tickets to the football game.

"It gives the fans the opportunity to see these guys," men's basketball head coach Ernie Kent said. "And it gives the new guys the opportunity to perform in front of a new environment and new people to maybe get

some of those jitters out as we head toward our season."

Kent enjoys showcasing his team on a football game day and is thrilled with the football team's success.

"As an athletic department, it's just a great time right now to be a Duck," Kent said. "I've gone to school here back in the '70s, and I've never seen it like this, where there's just so much success all the way around."

The teams will run through a few short practice drills, then

take part in shooting and skill competitions for the enjoyment of the fans. There will be autograph opportunities available for kids when the session concludes at 5 p.m.

The women open their exhibition season Nov. 3 at home, and the men take the floor of McArthur Court Nov. 6.

Harrington to chat on ESPN.com

ESPN just can't get enough of the Ducks.

Today at noon, junior quarterback Joey Harrington will be taking part in a chat with fans from across the nation on ESPN.com.

To get straight to the ESPN chat page go to: <http://espn.go.com/community/chat>.

Harrington is coming off a week in which he completed 27 of 42 passes for a career-high 382 yards while leading the Ducks to a 28-17 road win over USC.