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Ducks look to next season

■ The Oregon club hockey team will lose most of its defensive line, but looks to its rookies to fill the gap

By Inge Scheve
for the Emerald

After a season with a less-than-ideal record and a championship tournament on home ice that left Oregon in the dust, the Oregon club hockey team hopes to find some positives to carry over to next season.

"The team has been through a season where two-thirds of the team were rookies," said head coach Garreth MacDonald, who finished his second year with the Ducks. "This season turned out to be more of a rebuilding season than what we hoped.

"The feedback I've gotten from teams that have beat us is that we have an impressive bunch of young players who have the potential to dominate the league in a few years."

Defenseman Jesse Cohen, who leaves the Ducks this spring, agreed: "We are a lot better team than the stats say."

Although the majority of the defensive line is graduating, more than 60 percent of the team members are rookies, and a large group of players plans on returning.

MacDonald will use the off-season to reflect on what this season was supposed to be and wasn't, he said. From there, he will try to find the elements that were missing.

“We're not quite back to square one. We'll be on square two next season.”

Garreth MacDonald
head coach,
club hockey

Switching lines and systems all the time until the last half of the season certainly did not work, he said. But with a fresh team, this was unavoidable in testing where the chemistry between players and systems mixed.

"We're not quite back to square one," MacDonald said. "We'll be on square two next season."

The off-season is also a time when the players can work on their basic fitness and conditioning.

"We lost the game on Friday because we died after two periods," Cohen said.

MacDonald agrees: "We meet when school starts in September, and then we've got two weeks to get ready."

The coach will encourage his

players to work on their skills during the summer and go to the gym regularly to get the physical training they need to be ready for action once school starts again.

Graduating captain Tyler Shaffar estimates that the Ducks will need at least two good seasons of recruiting to make up for the graduating class.

"It will be rough for them to make up," Shaffar said, referring to the six defensemen who are leaving, in addition to himself and the main goalie, Josh Hardin. Shaffar thinks some of the biggest shoes to fill are those of Hardin.

"Joe [Fagliano] will have to get up to Josh's level real quick to raise the game to another notch," Shaffar said.

Each month, MacDonald receives between six and 10 e-mails from prospective students with questions about the hockey program. These are mainly students who have seen the Web site, he said.

Additionally, MacDonald has been in contact with several amateur league coaches. Amateur coaches know and coach players who would like to stay in Oregon and are excited about an opportunity to play competitive hockey while pursuing an education, he said. No other Oregon university has a hockey program.

Finally, MacDonald is looking forward to more assistant coaching help next season. Defenseman Larry Platzke, who is leaving the team as a player, has indicated he would coach defense.

"I'll have some help on the bench, which is what I need," MacDonald said.



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Call for Nominations for Faculty Awards for Distinguished Teaching

Deadline for Nominations: **MARCH 2, 2001**

Faculty, staff, students, and alumni are invited to submit nominations for any faculty members, tenure- or non-tenure related, who have taught at the University of Oregon for a minimum of two (2) years. The *Ersted Award* and *Thomas F. Herman Award* are presented annually at Spring Commencement to University of Oregon faculty members for distinguished teaching. Each award will be accompanied by a recurring monetary reward. (Please note: Graduate Teaching Fellows have their own competition and are ineligible for these teaching awards.)

Eligibility for Awards

Ersted Award for Distinguished Teaching

The late Mr. A. J. Ersted established the *Ersted Award for Distinguished Teaching* so the University of Oregon could annually honor faculty members "who have taught comparatively short periods and have demonstrated exceptional abilities to induce students to reason and not merely memorize." The Ersted Award is presented only to faculty who are early in their teaching careers. This teaching may occur at the undergraduate or graduate level.

Thomas F. Herman Faculty Achievement Award for Distinguished Teaching

This award honors senior faculty members who have achieved outstanding records as teachers. The *Thomas F. Herman Award* is presented only to faculty members who have academic rank at the University of Oregon for at least seven years, and who have demonstrated long-standing excellence in teaching and have contributed significantly to student learning at the undergraduate or graduate level.

Nominations will be accepted either through submissions of the following form *or* by e-mail. If your nomination is e-mailed, please make sure that you include all the information contained on this form.

Send this nomination form to:
Lorraine G. Davis
Vice Provost for Academic Affairs
207 Johnson Hall, University of Oregon

E-mail your nomination to:
Gwen Steigelman
Asst. Vice Provost for Academic Affairs
gwens@oregon.uoregon.edu

I nominate (print clearly) _____ for the

(Please check one) **Ersted Award** **Thomas F. Herman Award**

My reason(s) for nomination are: (you may attach a separate sheet, if necessary)

Signature of nominator _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

Please check your status Faculty Student Alumni Staff

Tennis teams ready for crucial weekend

■ The Oregon tennis teams continue their respective home and road stretches against competitive teams

By Robbie McCallum
Oregon Daily Emerald

As the Oregon tennis teams near the midway point of their seasons, the low-caliber matches become less frequent, and teams begin their runs to the NCAA tournament.

Both the men and women face some of the biggest matches of their seasons this weekend at the Student Tennis Center and in Los Angeles.

The No. 68-ranked Duck men are riding a three-match winning streak and hope to make it five against UC-Santa Barbara and Pacific-10 Conference foe Washington.

In wins against ranked foes New Mexico State and Pacific, Oregon received good output from its top three singles players in Oded Teig, Martin Pawlowski and Buck Mink.

"Oded and Buck really stepped it up last weekend, and Martin is really starting to come along in the No. 2 position," Oregon men's coach Chris Russell said. "We'll need continued output from them this weekend too."

UC-Santa Barbara visits the Student Tennis Center tonight at 5 p.m. The Guachos are 2-5 on the season but have faced a schedule

similar to Oregon's in toughness.

"UCSB is very competitive and has had some tough losses," Russell said. "They're very young, but if you let them get close they'll battle with you."

Russell is a former coach and player for the Guachos.

On Sunday, No. 6 Washington will visit the Student Tennis Center, becoming only the second top-10 team to enter the Ducks' new home. The Huskies are 5-4 on the season but have wins over No. 3 Duke and No. 8 Florida. Washington lost only two players from a team that placed third in the conference last season.

"Washington is as tough as you get," Russell said. "We match up well with them, but we've got our work cut out for us. If we do the things we did last weekend, we'll be fine."

The No. 52 Oregon women continue a vicious Pac-10 Conference road schedule against the Los Angeles schools.

No. 11 Southern California (6-3) hosts the Ducks today at 1:30 p.m. The Trojans are led by No. 31 Jewel Peterson and Anita Loyola.

UCLA, ranked No. 18, has lost four straight matches since ace Sarah Walker went down with an injury. The Ducks and Bruins tangle at 11 a.m. Saturday at the L.A. Tennis Center.

The men's game is free to the public. Free pizza will be served between doubles and singles matches.