

Volleyball

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Cougar defense with five kills, but her .059 hitting percentage was worst on the Ducks' squad.

Ferreira had nothing but praise for the Ducks' two newest players.

"Lindsay and Stephanie are both legit," he said. "In my estimation, we don't give them the ball enough because of our ball control. Lindsay is very quick, agile, and swift and she's much different than Stephanie, but she can cause just as many problems because she is versatile."

As a team, Ferreira's squad hit for a combined .149, had 37 kills to Washington State's 48, and combined for 29 assists compared to the Cougars' 43.

But the Oregon defense was stellar. Led by Martin's 10 digs, the Ducks had 37 as a team, only five fewer than Washington State's 42. They out-blocked Washington State 8-4, including a team block late in the first game that kept them close behind at 24-22.

After the match, Ferreira was disappointed, but saw a silver lining in the Ducks' play. Despite losing in three straight games, he believes the team has played better than before.

"I thought we competed," the coach said after the Ducks lost to the Cougars for the 23rd consecutive time. "In the first three Pac-10 matches we looked like the other team had the edge. We disrupted their side-out offense with our serving, and we blocked well in spurts."

In the first match of the weekend, the Ducks came out flat against the Huskies. The Ducks never led, and

could get only as close as 6-5 in the second game before bowing out in three straight to an underrated Washington offense.

Tobbagi led an anemic offense with 12 kills, but again hit only .114 for the match. Martin opened the weekend strong with 11 kills, but also hit an outstanding .429. Also a strong point for the Ducks was senior Julie Gerlach, who finished with 27 assists and three kills.

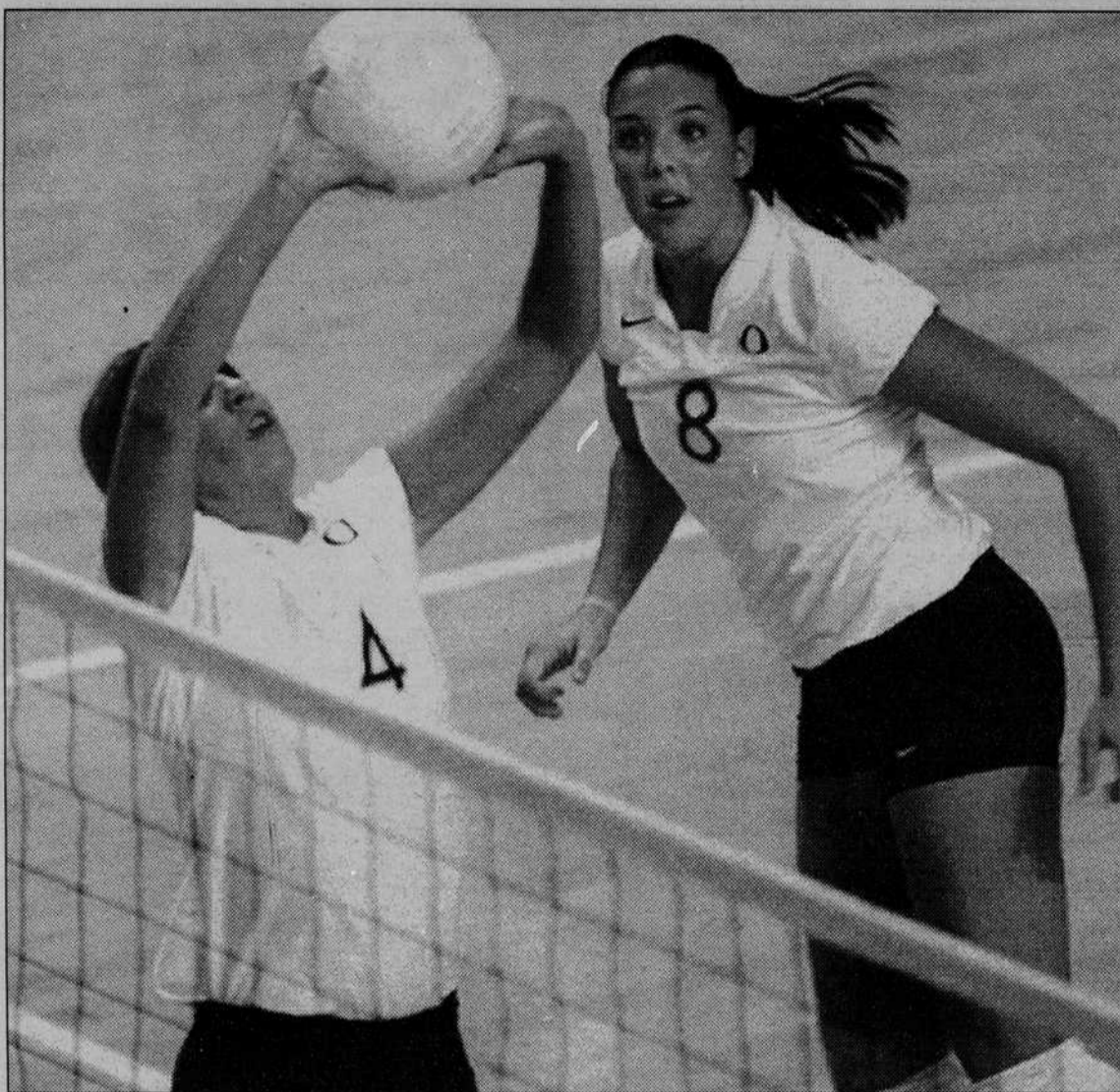
After the match, a somber Tobbagi talked about the team's poor showing.

"I just think the past couple of matches we haven't been able to show up," she said. "The scoring system makes it easier for any team to get runs off points. We just have to be stronger mentally and have more confidence."

Tobbagi alluded to the Ducks' inability to keep a streak going in either match. Whenever Oregon had a chance to get back in the game, the Cougars and Huskies responded with a powerful drive, essentially killing any opportunities the Ducks had at coming back. At one point in the third game against Washington State, the Cougars had a seven-point run that sealed Oregon's fate.

After the match against Washington State, the team's mood was somber, but there was also a little bit of magic in the air. For the first time in a Pac-10 match this season, the Ducks looked strong and had an energy level to counter with.

"It's a disappointing feeling," Closs said. "No one likes to lose no matter the circumstances. But we had the energy in the beginning and we just have to sustain it through the whole game."



Julie Gerlach (4) sets the ball for Lindsay Closs (8) in their three-set loss to the Huskies on Friday night.

Adam Amato Emerald

Soccer

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made a statement about their ability to beat good teams this season.

"That game, we really came together," said senior midfielder Chalise Baysa, who had a goal Friday and two Sunday. "We played really well."

Baysa opened the scoring Friday with a goal in the first minute of the second half. Twenty-eight minutes later, senior Beth Bowler rocketed a free kick into the upper left corner of the San Diego net, and sophomore Ann Westermarck added another score with 15 minutes left on the clock. When the final whistle sounded, the Ducks jumped up in celebration of the upset.

The win over USD vindicated Oregon's 6-1 defeat last year in San Diego.

"The kids were very motivated. They were upset about how they played last year," Steffen said. "It was very redeeming for them."

Sunday, the Ducks took care of business against an overmatched Eastern Washington team.

Freshman Nicole Garbin opened the scoring in the fifth minute with a chip-shot over the head of Eagles goalie Jonna Melton. The play was set up by Bowler, who stole the ball at midfield, and junior Julie McLellan, who crossed the ball to Garbin. Thirteen minutes later, Baysa struck after a pass from Westermarck. Senior Crystal David made it 3-0 at halftime

with a well-placed header, then Baysa and junior transfer Sarah Denner added goals in the second half.

Baysa broke her second major Oregon record with her first goal Sunday. The senior broke Errin Anderson's all-time Oregon points record, after she shattered Anderson's career-goals record last year. Garbin also felled an Oregon mark with her fourth game-winning goal Sunday, which broke the old school record for game-winners. Garbin leads the team with five goals this season.

Baysa, despite the impressive record, said she was most excited about her team's play over the two games.

"I don't really know which (records) I have," Baysa said. "If

the team's doing well, I'm happy."

On the other side of Oregon's offensive explosion this weekend was a solid defense. Goalkeeper Sarah Peters recorded her second- and third-career shutouts this weekend, with help from freshman Dominique Lainez, who played the second half Sunday.

"We have more confidence this year," Peters said. "And I know the team has more confidence in me as well."

Oregon's big wins this weekend set up an intriguing matchup between the Ducks and No. 5 Portland on Wednesday. Oregon will face the formidable Pilots on the friendly turf of Papé Field, where the Ducks are 4-0 this season. Oregon will take on Portland at 3 p.m. on Wednesday.

Football

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Injury update

Both starting receivers — Keenan Howry and Jason Willis — left the game with injuries. Willis suffered what appeared to be a concussion after a 28-yard reception in the second quarter. Bellotti said Willis still had a headache Sunday, but is likely to play for this weekend's game at Arizona.

Howry has a "contusion" in his ribs after a 34-yard punt return late in the first half. He did not return to the game, but it is "day-to-day," Bellotti said.

Perhaps most seriously injured after the game was back-up tailback Allan Amundson's ankle. "The good news is there's no break," Bellotti said.

Amundson is likely out two to six weeks, though.

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