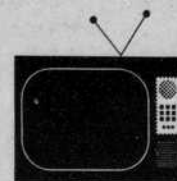


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Second half effort not enough as Ducks fall

■ The Oregon soccer team comes out shooting late in a 3-0 losing effort to No. 4 Portland, but is still confident going into Pac-10 play

By Adam Jude
Oregon Daily Emerald

If only the first 89 minutes had been as intense as the final 90 seconds.

Julie McLellan's signature flip-throw, a convenient bounce and a rare header from 5-foot-2 forward Chalise Baysa nearly netted the Oregon soccer team a goal with 1:30 left to play Wednesday against No. 4 Portland.

The ball, however, ricocheted off the cross bar.

Forty-five seconds later, a rocketed rebound shot off Baysa's left foot appeared to do the trick, but Portland goalie Cristin Shea made her sixth and final save of the game to preserve a 3-0 shutout for the Pilots (8-1-0 overall).

Off to the best start in their five-year existence, the Ducks (5-2-1 overall) appear to be headed toward a similar plateau that head coach Clive Charles has piloted Portland to over the last decade. Bill Steffen and his squad, though, still have some work to do, evident by the first half Wednesday.

"In the first half, we didn't show up to play," said Baysa, who was selected Wednesday to the Soccer Buzz Nation Elite Team of the week. "We didn't execute off the bat."

In the second minute of the game, freshman Nicole Garbin had a chance to put the Ducks on the board first, but a

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Adam Amato Emerald

Wednesday was a day of bad breaks for Oregon. Pictured above, Starr Johnson (12) heads the ball into Beth Bowler (24). The Ducks lost to Jennifer Bosa and the (15) Pilots.

Ducks' hopes for upset crushed, 3-0

■ The Oregon soccer team was overmatched by top-ranked Portland, and the result was a Pilot blowout

By Peter Hockaday
Oregon Daily Emerald

The Oregon soccer team was like a big balloon heading into Wednesday's matchup with No. 4 Portland at Papé Field. The Ducks were confident after wins over No. 19 San Diego and Eastern Washington last weekend, and had the word "upset" on their tongues.

But the Pilots wasted no time in popping the Duck balloon. Portland scored early and often,

and handed Oregon its second loss of the season, 3-0.

"We didn't really show up mentally," Oregon head coach Bill Steffen said. "You have to go 100 percent, 100 percent of the time. We didn't do that."

The Pilot victory ended the Ducks' longest-ever win streak at four, and moved Oregon to 5-2-1 on the season. Portland improved to 8-1-0, with the Pilots' only loss coming to No. 2 UCLA.

Oregon could have scored first and perhaps prevented the Pilot onslaught that occurred early in the first half. In the second minute of the game, Duck freshman Nicole Garbin had the ball with only the Portland goalkeep-

er to beat, but Cristin Shea made a nice save on the try.

"Portland is a very patient team, and if we score first, it forces them to press the issue," Steffen said. "Any time we can get a goal is important, but especially then, against Portland."

Garbin's shot was stopped, and the momentum shifted to Portland. Less than a minute after Garbin's attempt, Oregon defender Lindsey Peterson fouled a Portland player just outside the Ducks' 18-yard box. On the ensuing free kick, Kristen Moore found a streaking Lisa Casagrande, whose shot beat Oregon goalkeeper Sarah Peters to put the Pilots up 1-0.

Ten minutes later, Casagrande struck again. On what would have been a broken play if the Ducks were playing football, Peters tried to clear the ball, but hit a Portland player instead. The ball skidded off the endline, and Casagrande got to the ball and scored before Peters could get into position for the save.

The Pilots still did not let up on the Ducks, playing tough defense on Oregon's offensive stars. With 23 minutes left in the half, Portland struck again, when freshman Christine Sinclair turned in traffic and fired from the top of the 18-yard box, beating Peters in the upper right-hand corner of the net.

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Moretti puts USU behind him

■ After a weekend that drove him crazy, Oregon linebacker David Moretti is looking forward to playing some 'conventional' football

By Jeff Smith
Oregon Daily Emerald

Sounds weird to hear an Oregon defensive player breathing a sigh of relief now that he's able to prepare for a Pacific-10 Conference team's offense as opposed to a winless team from the Big West.

But that's the case this week for Duck linebacker David Moretti as he and his teammates get set to do battle with the Arizona Wildcats on Saturday night in Tucson, Ariz.

Oregon did come away with the 38-21 win over Utah State last weekend, but the unique offensive formations the Aggies ran gave the Ducks' defense the fits.

"Utah State was weird altogether," Moretti said. "That offense they ran was something that I've never seen before and it definitely took me out of my game. It was a little more unconventional than what I'm used to guarding against."

What the Aggies do is try to confuse the defense by frequently switching up their offensive formations and using multiple-re-

ceiver sets that help keep the opposition guessing.

Moretti compared guarding against such a unique offense to one of those neighborhood games played in the cul de sac with a Nerf football.

"You really do have to kind of play street football in a way, with everyone saying,

"OK, I got him, you got him, and then you just have to make it all work," Moretti said. "They make you line up in a lot of different basic coverages. You can't do much as a defender."

Which is exactly why Moretti is excited about studying up on a Wildcats offense and figuring out the best way to defend Arizona quarterback Jason Johnson and halfback Clarence Farmer.

"Hopefully this weekend, we'll get back into some more conventional football," Moretti said. "I'm just glad I don't have to play Utah State again."

As for Moretti's health, the junior transfer from Pleasonton, Calif., said that the broken thumb he suffered in the season-opening win against Wisconsin is almost completely healed.

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Oregon looks to snap streak

■ The Ducks are in California today in hopes of ending a 12-year losing skid against the No. 4 Stanford Cardinal

By Hank Hager
Oregon Daily Emerald

The year was 1989.

Gerry Gregory was the head coach of the Ducks, and after six Pacific-10 Conference matches, his team was 3-3. In came vaunted Stanford, and at the time, Oregon had beaten the Cardinal only once, in 1986.

In five games, the Ducks upset the mighty Stanford women (3-15, 15-9, 9-15, 15-3, 15-8) on their way to a successful 10-6 season. Oregon also qualified for the NCAA Tournament that year, but lost to Arizona in their first match.

It was a season of lasts for the Oregon women. It was the last time the Ducks qualified for the NCAA Tournament, the last time they had a winning record in Pac-10 play, and more importantly today, the last time they beat Stanford.

The Ducks have this in mind when they travel to Maples Pavilion to take on the No. 4 Stanford Cardinal in Palo Alto, Calif., tonight at 7 p.m. The Bay Area squad is 9-1 overall this year, losing only to Long Beach State last week in a hard-fought match. More importantly, the team is 3-0 in Pac-10

play, good enough for first place in the early conference season.

But ask the Ducks whether they care, and you'll get a resounding "No!"

"When I go out there, I don't care what their jersey says," senior Monique Tobbagi said. "I don't care who they are, I don't care what they're ranked. They're just another

opponent on the other side of the net I'm looking to get a win off of."

In fact, most of the Ducks didn't even have it on their mind after their match against Washington State last Saturday.

"I haven't even thought that far," junior Lindsay Closs said.

Head coach Carl Ferreira has taken the Ducks, a perennial cellar dweller in conference play, to new heights this season. While the team is 0-4 in conference play, it is not truly indicative of the potential the squad possesses.

But the Ducks still have a way to go before they can compete at the level of the Stanfords and Arizonas.

"The thing that I told the team is I haven't been 100 percent satisfied with how they've competed," Ferreira said. "Now whether it's an offensive or defen-

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