



Adam Amato Emerald

Junior Lindsay Closs goes for one of her 10 kills Thursday against California. Oregon lost the match 3-1.



Oregon Volleyball

THURSDAY: lost 3-1 to California
TODAY: vs. No. 4 Stanford
WHEN: 8 p.m. tonight
WHERE: McArthur Court

Volleyball

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took the lead at 16-15, Oregon hung around and pestered Cal with some resiliency of their own. After catching up to the Bears and tying the game at 26, Martin showed her true colors and pushed Cal in the corner with two big kills. Her fifth kill of the match proved to be the back breaker, and gave the Ducks a three-point win.

But Ferreira wasn't particularly pleased with the team's play, especially after their poor start in game one.

"We didn't start out at the same level that we did on our Washington trip," he said. "I thought we had

a grovel win in game two. We hung in there and hung in there and found a way to win."

The Ducks were no match for Cal in game four, losing 30-22 and ending the night with their 14th loss in a row.

Tobbagi led the Ducks on the night with 20 kills and 13 digs. Martin and Closs contributed with 15 and 10 kills, respectively. Also looking strong for the Ducks was senior Julie Gerlach, who posted nine kills and 40 assists, and freshman Lauren Westendorf, with five kills of her own.

The Ducks take on No. 4 Stanford tonight at 8 p.m. The match follows women's basketball in a doubleheader at McArthur Court.

Basketball

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cause it's our coaching staff's sort of style, but I think our philosophy is that we need to play to the strengths of our athletes," Smith said. "Certainly our quickness, shooting and running are going to be solid strengths that we're going to do at both ends of the floor."

The Ducks are coming off a 2000-01 season that saw them finish 17-12 overall (10-8 Pac-10), including a first-round overtime loss to Iowa in the NCAA Tournament.

The team was wrought with turmoil with one week left in the season, when eight players met with Athletic Director Bill Moos to request that then-head coach Jody Runge be fired.

On May 1, Runge resigned from her post.

Now, with a fresh start under Smith, the Ducks hope to create turmoil for their opponents.

Cross country

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er on the team, but after an excellent training summer, she came back much improved this fall.

Most of Zografos' summer was spent in rural Mexico, where she had to train in a location that was less than ideal for an American female. Her training grounds were a park that took her about five minutes to circle. She would train for more than an hour covering the same ground over and over with locals staring and yelling at the foreign girl who was there every morning.

"It was really hard to get out and do it," she said.

But thanks to her dedication at the park, Zografos has led the Oregon team in every race in which she has run this season. But head coach Tom Heinonen said the pressure the team has put on Zografos may not be the best thing for her.

"It really was unfair to Carrie to be placed in the position of being the top runner at Oregon, because our team normally has been so much stronger," Heinonen said. "It is a heavy burden for her to carry when she is such a novice in cross country and in distance running."

"The lack of success of our team has weighed heavily on her."

Zografos is not alone in her relative inexperience in distance running on the women's cross country team, and Heinonen is the first to take the blame for having a crowd of middle distance runners on the long distance team.

"We just weren't able to land the big-gun high school runners who could step right in and help us out, so we're asking people who run a lot shorter distances to try to run cross country for us," Heinonen said.

But Zografos has maintained her motivation throughout the season primarily through memories of the training she put in this summer and her love of running.

"I really love to run. I really do. But this season has been hard because I feel like I'm not supposed to be a six-kilometer runner," she said.

Through the pitfalls of the season, Zografos has retained her hope and her charm. She also has volunteered twice a week at the Brattain House in Springfield, where she is helping children and working on her goal to be fluent in Spanish.

"When you talk to her you see just a buoyant personality," Heinonen said. "She's so much fun to be around."

The NCAA Western Regional Championships on Nov. 10 remain for Zografos and the harriers, and they are looking at the race as a chance to pull it all together and close the season on a positive note.

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