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## Soccer faces OSU rivalry in final game

The Ducks will take on the Beavers at Papé Field in the final game of the season for both teams

### Soccer

Jesse Thomas  
Sports Reporter

It has all come down to this moment.

After this, it's all over. The NCAA tournament isn't an option for the Oregon women's soccer team, and the one thing at stake is pride.

Oregon will face Oregon State tonight in the seventh edition of the Civil War. The Ducks dominate the series with the Beavers, and have a 4-1-1 record overall. Oregon's only loss came last year in Corvallis, but now the Ducks are at home and have something to prove.

"There is a certain amount of redemption that goes into the players thinking about this game," Oregon head coach Bill Steffen said. "With it being the seniors' last match, the players are very excited about the game."

In 2001, the Beavers rolled over Oregon for an easy 4-1 victory. For Oregon, now-senior goalkeeper Sarah Peters faced 22 shots and recorded seven saves, while now-seniors Lindsey Peterson and Robi Thayer also accounted for shots.

Oregon (2-13-2, 1-6-1 Pac-10) comes off a rough weekend in Los Angeles, where it took a 1-0 overtime loss to No. 15 USC and held No. 2 UCLA to a scoreless first half before the Bruins went on to a 2-0 victory.

The Beavers haven't fared well, either, and sit at the bottom of the Pac-10 at 1-6 and 8-9-2 overall. Oregon State also took on the Southern California squads on the weekend and walked away with a 2-1 overtime loss to the Trojans and a 4-1 loss to UCLA.

"We match up really well, we both play the same style, and we are both pretty aggressive on the ball," sophomore defender Christine Mintz said.

Freshmen Katie Abrahamson, Mele French and Carlie Ashcraft have all contributed solid efforts to Oregon's offense. Peters will take care of goal duties, as she leads the conference with 5.71 saves per game and ranks second with 97 total

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*"With it being the seniors' last match, the players are very excited about the game."*

**Bill Steffen**  
Oregon soccer head coach

## Fab freshman

Jodi Bell has made a difference wherever she has played, and this season with Oregon has been no different

### Volleyball

Hank Hager  
Sports Reporter

The world of Pacific-10 Conference volleyball can be a fickle place sometimes.

Take former Sam Barlow High School coach Terry Folen's case, for instance. The former mentor to Oregon freshman Jodi Bell was on the losing side when the Ducks defeated Oregon State last Friday. You see, Folen's daughter, Nikki Neuburger, is a junior libero for the Beavers.

Kind of a touch of irony, isn't it?

"I think (Bell) was definitely a huge part of the win," Folen said. "She made all the difference against Oregon State."

Without a doubt, Bell, a Boring native, has had a major impact on the Ducks this season. One of four freshmen to put on an Oregon uniform, she has contributed to the tune of a team-leading 727 assists and 25 service aces, good for second on the team.

Yet, Bell's story is not one of finding talent when reaching the collegiate level. She has been one of the most consistent high school performers in the state of Oregon for the past four seasons, helping lead Sam Barlow to consecutive state runner-up finishes in 2000 and 2001.

On a personal level, Bell has received the recognition that naturally follows the type of talent she possesses. In 2000, as a junior, she was the 4A Player of the Year. Then, after last season, Volleyball Magazine named her one of its Fab-50 athletes in the nation.

"I thought that without my teammates, I couldn't have gotten on that Fab-50 list," Bell said. "There's no possible way I could have done it by myself."

"It was reassuring to know that I was one of the top-11 setters in the country."



Jeremy Forrest Emerald

Oregon head coach Carl Ferreira has called freshman setter Jodi Bell "legit."

That's always nice to have because I've worked at it for the past nine years."

Bell's dominance on the high school court led to a spot on the Nike NW Juniors Volleyball Club last season. While Bell was there, Jim Hartner, director of operations for the club, had a chance to watch her play.

He had nothing but good things to say

about her.

"Physically, she's just a gifted volleyball player," he said. "When the match gets down to crunch time, she's a gamer. During our club season, no matter who we played, Jodi's game went up."

It came as no surprise to Hartner that

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## Ducks prepare for test in first exhibition game

Horsholm BBC visits McArthur Court in this unofficial showing on Saturday as the Oregon women begin the 2002-03 season

### Women's basketball

Hank Hager  
Sports Reporter

The game won't show up in the standings, official records won't be kept, and quite frankly, when all is said and done, Horsholm BBC probably won't even be remembered.

But right now, Oregon women's basketball is treating its opponent as the next best thing. The Ducks take on their overseas competition 5 p.m. Saturday at McArthur Court in the team's first exhibition of the season.

First exhibition. Otherwise known as the first test. "We just want to see where we're at," head coach Bev Smith said. "It's a great test for a number of reasons: to see how our execution is, to see if what we're running is good for this team."

"And then we're just trying to find five people that play the best together. Not necessarily our best players, but five that play the best together."

Oregon returns three starters from a team that went 22-13 a year ago. Sophomore Andrea Bills and junior Cathrine Kraayeveld are expected to form a formidable duo down low, while senior Shaquala Williams has moved back to her natural position at point guard.

A fourth returner — senior Alissa Edwards — is set to play in the backcourt after splitting time last season with the since-departed Ednisha Curry.

That would leave one starting spot open — the wing. Sophomores Brandi Davis and Kedzie Gunderson lead the way at the position.

Davis has the hot hand from beyond the 3-point arc, while Gunderson is better from close range. Both played strong in the team's first scrimmage Friday — Gunderson had 13 points while Davis pitched in with eight.

For Davis, the exhibition represents her first game as a Duck after sitting out last season because of academic reasons.

"We're just hoping to go in there and do what we have to do," Davis said, admitting she will be nervous when she first steps on the court Saturday. "Just use this for when Pac-10 comes around."

Davis leads the list of players who will step onto the court for the first time as a Duck. Freshmen Carolyn Ganes and Yadili Okwumabua — both from

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Adam Amato Emerald

Sophomore Kedzie Gunderson and the rest of the Ducks are looking to begin their season with a bang Saturday night at McArthur Court against Horsholm BBC.