

# Challengers step up to knock off Stanford

The Cardinal will be challenged by upstarts like UCLA, but any Pac-10 title run goes through Palo Alto, Calif.

**Mindi Rice**  
Freelance Sports Reporter

With two-thirds of last year's

starters returning for another season with their teams, the Pacific-10 Conference again looks strong and poised to make a run in the NCAA Tournament.

Stanford, the perennial favorite, is back at it again, and Washington, Arizona and UCLA all want to make

the Cardinal put up a fight.

On the other end, Washington State just wants to win a Pac-10 game, after going 0-18 last season, the first time a Pac-10 team went winless in league play.

## 1. Stanford Cardinal

Head coach: Tara VanDerveer

Player to watch: Nicole Powell, F

The Cardinal return three starters from a team that went 18-0 in Pac-10 play and won its second straight conference title. Stanford is outscoring opponents by an average of 12.9 points.

Powell is a Kodak All-American and her squad's top returning scorer as a junior.

## 2. Washington Huskies

Head coach: June Daugherty

Player to watch: Andrea Lalum, C

Washington is the only Pac-10 program with all five starters returning this season. With a third-place conference finish last year, Daugherty is looking to improve in all the right places.

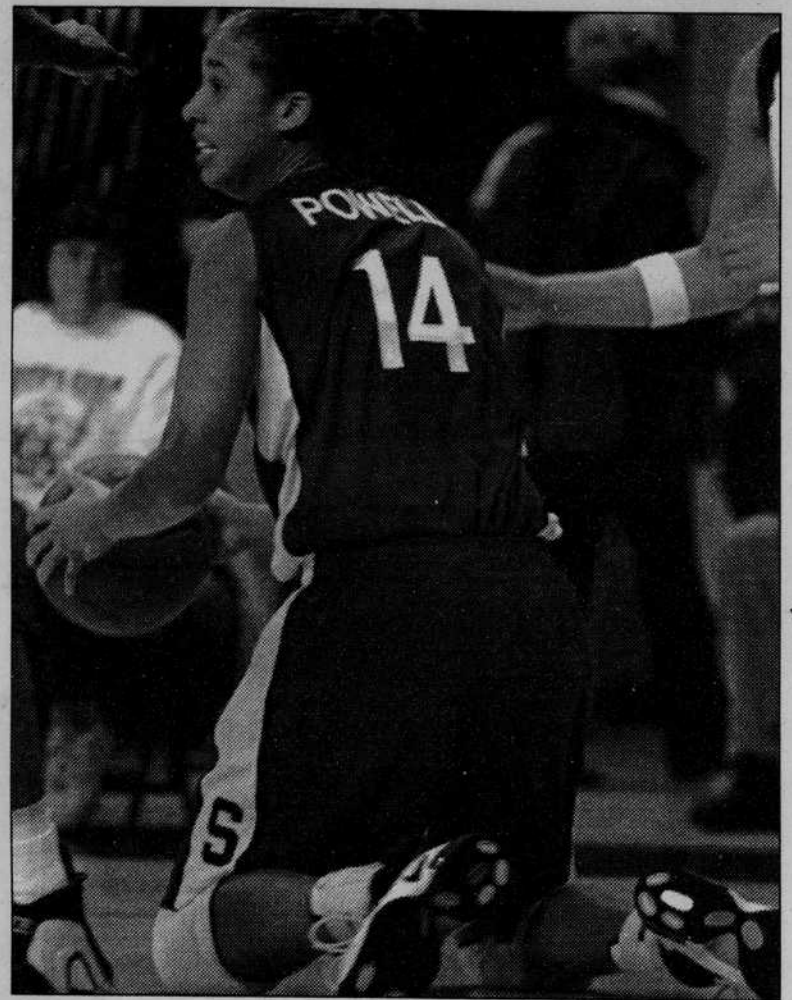
Lalum, a returning starter, has scored in double-figures in eight games this season, including two games of 20 points or more.

## 3. Arizona Wildcats

Head coach: Joan Bonvicini

Player to watch: Dee-Dee Wheeler, G

With healthy players and a large roster, the Wildcats are looking to



Adam Amato Emerald

Nicole Powell and Stanford are expected to win the Pac-10 title once again.

Turn to **Pac-10**, page 8B

**To earn a 4.00  
in Brewology  
all you need to  
know is  
STEELHEAD.**

- 9 Award-Winning Micro-Brews
- Soups, Salads  Ribs  Fresh Pizza
- Sandwiches  Pastas  Burgers
- Spirits  Home-Made Rootbeer

TAKE A BREW HOME IN STEELHEAD'S BOX O' BEER



**Steelhead Brewing Company**

199 East 5th Avenue Eugene, OR Phone 686-2739

Eugene, OR - Burlingame, CA - Fisherman's Wharf, San Francisco, CA - Irvine, CA

## Women's

continued from page 1B

Tournament Championship, Oregon set even higher expectations this year and has already encountered adversity that hasn't helped.

"We have definitely had some bumps along the road," senior Kourtney Shreve said.

And now, after Oregon almost pulled off the biggest near-upset in the nation this year against sixth-ranked Stanford, the team has realized it can compete with any team it wants.

The Ducks have experience in Shreve and senior Alissa Edwards, who are both in their final seasons.

The Ducks have newcomers in freshman center Carolyn Ganes and forward Yadili Okwumabua, who have had significant impacts already.

Sophomores Kedzie Gunderson, Amy Taylor and Andrea Bills all return to Oregon for their second seasons.

Currently, four Oregon players have encountered injuries this season, from a broken nose to a chronic back problem. The Ducks are a very bruised and battered team, with their players competing despite injury.

"Everybody on the bench has to be ready to go," Ganes said. "We all have to be ready to contribute as much as we can and we can't be looking toward other people."

Through it all, Oregon's focus and

goals have remained concrete. The Ducks plan to go out with a winning season and hope to advance to the NCAA Tournament in March.

"We are still in the race and we just have to keep looking one game at a time," Smith said.

But the Ducks still have work to do. Rebounding has been nothing less than haunting for Oregon as it has been a struggle losing the margin in six of the last seven games.

The good news is that Oregon has 12 games left. The Ducks know they have the time to turn things around, and still can alter their future.

Contact the sports reporter at [jessethomas@dailyemerald.com](mailto:jessethomas@dailyemerald.com).

# WANTED!



## DUCK FANS

To support the 2002 PAC 10 Champions.

**DUCK SHOP**

A branch of the UO Bookstore.

THE *Hot Bodies* CLUB

Voted Exotic Dancer's "Club of the Year"

The HotBody Club is putting on a show for the Ladies...

## An Exotic Erotic Male Revue

Sunday, January 19  
Showtime 9 pm  
\$7 advance, \$10 at the door

★Featuring Internationally Famous Performers as seen in GQ and Playgirl  
★HotBody Girls performing before and after the show

2165 W. 11TH AVENUE ★ EUGENE ★ 683-6021  
Monday - Friday 12-2 Saturday & Sunday 2-2 [www.hotbody.com](http://www.hotbody.com)