

Women's

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combined for 37 points to help drop Cal to 8-15 overall and 4-10 in conference play.

"We've been in this position too many times and came up short," Egeland said. "We all said we are winning this game. We weren't panicking or anything. We were just ready to get it done."

Although they got it done Thursday, Stanford came to town Saturday and blew the Cougars out of the water by 43 points.

Cardinal far from inhuman

Stanford tossed the Cougars around Saturday, but Washington State can thank Washington for that.

The Cardinal released their anger on the Cougars after losing 92-68 to the Huskies Thursday. It was the worst Stanford loss in a Pac-10 game since 1991.

Washington (19-5, 11-4 Pac-10) had every reason to be angry after being humiliated by the Arizona schools the week before.

The Huskies earned revenge after losing their first game of the season to Stanford,

and moved to 12-0 at home.

"Our mission was to come out in this game and play a lot more physical on the defensive end," Washington head coach June Daugherty said. "We tried to take Stanford out of their comfort zone offensively. The number one thing was that we had to be physical and out-rebound them. That mission was definitely accomplished."

Polk is becoming ridiculous

Arizona center Shawntinice Polk is becoming rather selfish, as she just earned her third Pac-10 Player of the Week honor of the season.

In the Wildcats' defeats of the Washington schools last week, Polk averaged 21 points, eight rebounds, three blocks, 1.5 assists and 1.5 steals.

And it was her 16th double-double of the season, which set a new Arizona single-season record. And her 50 blocks on the season are just three away from tying the school record.

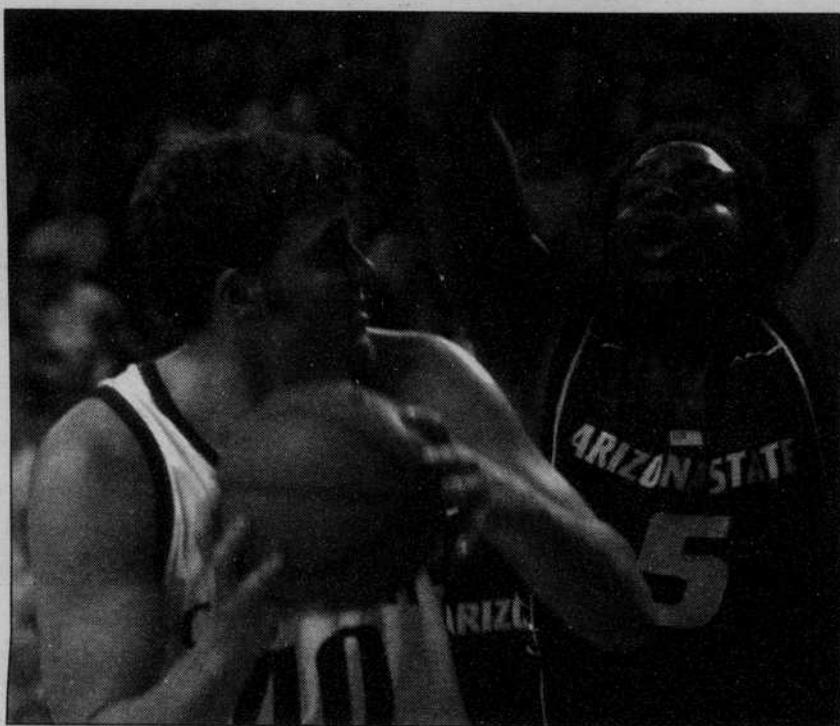
And she is only a freshman. This is getting ridiculous.

Contact the sports reporter at jessethomas@dailyemerald.com.



Courtesy Washington State Media Services

Washington State's Bianca McCall led the Cougars to their first win in 45 games Thursday.



USC head coach Henry Bibby called Arizona State's Ike Diogu (5) the 'best player in the Pac-10.' Adam Amato Emerald

Men's

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Pac-10 hasn't had more than three teams in the rankings at one time this season.

Go-go Diogu

After Arizona State and their star freshman, forward Ike Diogu, pummeled USC on Thursday, Trojan coach Henry Bibby called Diogu the "best player in the Pac-10."

"He gets my vote for MVP," Bibby said. "The kid is unstoppable."

Diogu was certainly unstoppable against USC. He missed only two shots and scored 26 points in the Sun Devils' 108-78 win. Diogu is the top-scoring freshman in the Pac-10, averaging 18.8 points per game.

But is Diogu MVP-worthy? We'll find out when the awards are dished out after the season.

Contact the sports editor at peterhockaday@dailyemerald.com.

Club skiing

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Hoodoo Ski Bowl toward the end of fall term. With the weather not cooperating, the Ducks trained only twice — during the first week of winter term — before their first race Jan. 11.

"The snow has definitely not been cooperating," student club coordinator Jason Graybeal said.

Despite their lack of preparation, the Ducks have experienced success this year as the men's and women's teams qualified for the regional tournament this weekend in Steamboat Springs, Colo.

The women, led by sophomore Lindsay Davis, came in fourth place in the 15-team Northwest Conference of the United States Collegiate Skiing and Snowboarding Association. Davis finished third in the conference individually, including a first-place finish in the giant slalom Feb. 9 at Schweitzer Mountain in Sandpoint, Id.

The men's team improved on a ninth-place finish from last year with a fifth-place finish this season. The men are led by their senior duo of Graybeal and Colby Gail.

Gail, who is from Park City, Utah, holds the No. 1 position for the Ducks and said he is looking forward to the weekend.

"I just want to ski the way I know I can ski," Gail said.

Gail has been skiing competitively for 11 years and grew up in an environment where skiing is a monster.

"Skiing is the biggest thing in Utah," Gail said. "It's like high school football."

Gail recently finished a year-long rehab of a torn medial collateral ligament, suffered last year while skiing for the Ducks. Despite only skiing since December this year, he finished first in the giant slalom Jan. 11 at Brundage Mountain in McCall, Id.

Graybeal, who has been skiing for 10 years, stressed the importance of practice when it comes to being a successful skier.

"Usually, someone can't just start skiing and be good," Graybeal said. "It takes years of practice. You've got to have the drive."

Graybeal said he takes pride in the fact that the ski team is the longest-running club sport at Oregon.

Sophomore Dylan Fournier, the No. 3 skier for the men, said emotions and fun are two vital components to being a successful competitive skier.

"We're the loudest team on the hill," Fournier said. "That's why I ski, to have fun."

"We have a really fun team," said senior Aubrey Kimble, the No. 2 skier for the women. "We all get along really well."

Kimble, who spent 11 years skiing for the Mt. Bachelor Ski Education Foundation, is in her first year at Oregon.

Skiing is a sport for athletes who have a passion level rivaled by few. This is no different for the Ducks.

"I'll be skiing for the rest of my life," Fournier said. "I'll be doing it until my body won't let me."

Well, as long as there's snow.

Jon Roetman is a freelance writer for the Emerald.

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Horoscope by Linda C. Black

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Feb. 18). This is not a good year to take risks with your money or with your heart. Keep things as stable as you possibly can in spite of planned and unforeseen changes. You can do it by juggling. It's a great skill to learn.
To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.
ARIES (March 21-April 19) _ Today is a 6 _ Don't assume that everything you learned is true, or that everything you heard is false. Street smarts work better now than book smarts.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20) _ Today is a 7 _ The final outcome could be expensive if you're not careful. Don't try to bail out a loved one who's in a jam. You'd interfere with his or her education.
GEMINI (May 21-June 21) _ Today is a 6 _ A disagreement about household matters may have you stuck, but don't despair. You agree that a change is necessary, so start there.
CANCER (June 22-July 22) _ Today is a 6 _ Establish a routine to help you deal with the variables. You might feel as if you're herding cats, so use every trick in your book.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) _ Today is a 6 _ A partner may be able to express your position better than you can. Meanwhile, don't waste money on toys or trinkets. Put a temporary hold on spending.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) _ Today is a 6 _ It may sometimes seem like you're taking a

stand and standing there all by yourself. That's not really true when there's love on your side, and in this situation, there is.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) _ Today is an 8 _ Are your conscious and subconscious intentions in alignment? In other words, are you sure of the outcome you want? Better check.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) _ Today is a 7 _ Go over your budget with a critical eye. You may be wasting a lot more than you realize. Plug those leaks!
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) _ Today is a 6 _ Plans are apt to go awry due to changes that are beyond your control. Remember your objective, and be flexible. You may have to get there using a different route.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) _ Today is a 7 _ In order to expand your influence, revisions may be required. What worked in a smaller space is inadequate now.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) _ Today is a 6 _ Finish up yesterday's task and whatever else is on your lists. That'll give you more time for fun should the opportunity knock.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) _ Today is a 6 _ Go over your expenses one more time, and project what else you might need. The process you're involved with keeps changing. Stay flexible and keep control.

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