

# Men's

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Haywood, by the way, was held scoreless.

"I still personally don't think they are any good," Haywood said. "But we lost, and that pretty much shows me that we aren't any good. Nothing against Washington State, but they are at the bottom of the Pac-10. We're sixth place. We shouldn't have lost, but we did."

The Cougars had lost 14 straight this season, dating back to a Dec. 23 win over Fresno State.

"It just feels like the weight of the world is off my shoulders," Riley said. "It's a lot of blood, sweat and tears we shed, and nobody sees how hard we work in practice and in the weight room."

Truly, almost nobody saw the Cougars' tears of joy Saturday. The announced attendance was 2,004, and only about 50 fans rushed Friel Court amid confetti. That's no joke either.

## Pac-10 shuffle

Even if they won their final three conference games, the Cougars

would likely have to sit out of the Pac-10 Tournament, which only seats the league's top eight teams.

Washington (9-15, 4-11), meanwhile, became eligible for the conference tournament with its 78-66 win over Oregon on Saturday. UCLA, which upset Cal on Thursday, is one game behind the Huskies.

The Bruins (6-17, 3-11) have four games remaining, including this week's visit to Oregon State and Oregon. The Huskies have three games left, all on the road, which includes a trip to Pullman on Saturday.

The coveted eighth-place finish will likely be decided in the last game of the season when Washington and UCLA meet in Los Angeles on March 8.

The Pac-10 Tournament begins March 13 at the Staples Center in Los Angeles. If the tournament started today, Washington would face first-place Arizona in the first round, while Cal and USC would meet, as would Stanford and Oregon State, and Oregon and Arizona State.

Contact the senior sports reporter at adamjude@dailymerald.com.



Mark McCambridge Emerald

The club squad will head to Vancouver, B.C., this weekend for its first series of the season, against Douglas College.

# Baseball

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from the left and right sides," Shaw said. "(We have) a lot of guys who can throw strikes consistently."

Pitching isn't the Ducks' only strength. Offensively and defensively, House is one of the bright spots for the Ducks. House, an all-league short-stop from Clackamas High School, brings experience to the team.

"We have a few guys who can swing it," House said.

With everything that is going against the Ducks, there are several things going for them. Players who might not have the chance to compete for a varsity program are getting the chance to play the game they love. Also, even if they are the only baseball team at Oregon, the fact is the Ducks are not a varsity program. This means players don't have the constant pressure of winning that comes with being a varsity sport.

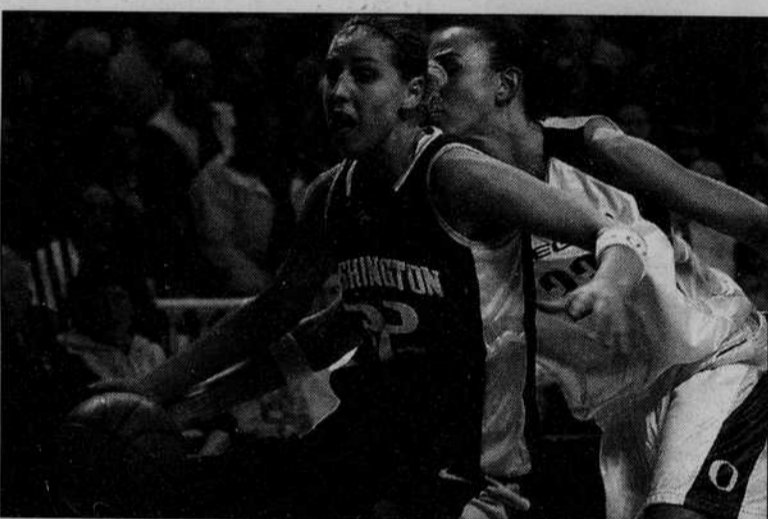
"It's a bunch of guys who love to play," Mensik said. "I feel no pressure at all."

This weekend, being the only baseball team at Oregon can be carried as a sense of pride.

"The last couple weeks we've been aching to (play)," Shaw said. "It's kind of like the countdown to Christmas."

Jon Roetman is a freelance writer for the Emerald.

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Washington senior Loree Payne is excited about her final games in the Pac-10.

# Women's

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the Pac-10.

That's not going to be the case this year. With the Ducks struggling and Washington having a successful season, Bank of America Arena at Hec Edmundson Pavilion will take over the coveted crown.

So far this season, through 13 contests, the fans in Seattle have packed the place, to the tune of 4,862 patrons per game. Mac Court, on the other hand, averaged 4,433 fans.

Even if less people than average show up for the Huskies' final game of the season, a tilt against Washington State on Saturday, it is mathematically impossible for Bank of America Arena's average to fall below Mac Court.

For the record, though, Mac Court still averaged 500 fans per game more than the third-place finisher, Stanford's Maples Pavilion.

## Pac-10 women's standings

1. Stanford (22-3, 14-2 Pac-10)
2. Washington (20-6, 12-5)
3. Arizona (18-7, 11-5)
4. UCLA (15-10, 10-6)
5. Oregon State (14-11, 8-8)
6. USC (12-15, 7-9)  
Oregon (11-14, 7-9)
8. Arizona State (14-11, 6-10)
9. California (9-16, 5-11)
10. Washington St. (1-24, 1-16)

## Predictions? What predictions?

Well, the Pac-10 truth is shaping up, and to be quite honest, the conference's coaches and media aren't on, and really, aren't off.

Both groups picked Stanford and Washington to finish 1-2, which, amazingly, is happening. Meanwhile, California and Washington State were predicted to finish nine and 10 in the conference, which is probably going to happen.

But otherwise, it's a crapshoot. Oregon and USC were picked third and fourth, respectively. In reality, the Ducks and Trojans are tied for sixth.

Arizona was pegged fifth by both coaches and media, but has jumped to third. Arizona State is eighth after being chosen sixth, while Oregon State is fifth.

The coaches and media are off with UCLA. The Bruins (eighth in coaches, seventh in media) should finish fourth after finishing eighth last year.

Contact the sports reporter at hankhager@dailymerald.com.

## Pac-10 men's standings

1. Arizona (21-2, 13-1 Pac-10)
2. California (19-5, 12-3)
3. Stanford (21-6, 12-3)
4. Arizona State (17-8, 9-5)
5. Oregon (18-7, 8-6)
6. Oregon State (12-11, 5-9)  
USC (10-13, 5-9)
8. Washington (9-15, 4-11)
9. UCLA (6-17, 3-11)
10. Washington St. (6-18, 1-14)

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