VOLLEYBALL

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Cira Wright combined for three consecutive kills to give UCLA the win.

"I'm extremely optimistic for this team, but at the same time I'm disappointed because we had game three,' Ferreira said. "Winning gives them such reinforcement, but what they've walked away with tonight is knowing what they can accomplish. In the third game we wanted UCLA and the fans to wonder why Oregon kept fighting and didn't give up.

We were extremely resilient."

Jones led the Ducks with 16 points, while Mason added 14, including 12 kills, one block and two block assists. It was Mason's fifth consecutive match with 10 or more kills.

Sophomore middle blocker Kelly Russell added 11 points. Bell had a team high 32 assists, while junior libero Katie O'Neil had a team high 16 digs.

Freshman setter Heather Madison, a

first-team All-American during her senior year of high school at Gresham, finished with six assists and six digs.

The Bruins had three players who finished with at least 15 points. Wright led the way with 20, middle blocker Brynn Murphy had 15.5 and Cullen added 15. The trio combined for 44 of the Bruins' 58 kills.

Oregon has now lost nine of its last 10 matches after starting 2-1. The Ducks lost their Pac-10 openers to California and Stanford Sept. 18-19.

The Ducks' next match is the first installment of the Civil War on Thursday at Oregon State. The Ducks' only Pac-10 win last season came at the hands of the Beavers in Corvallis. Oregon State (9-6, 0-4) will host Portland on Tuesday.

After its trip to Corvallis, Oregon will play five of its next seven matches at home, including rematches with the Bruins and Trojans, Oct. 23-24.

Contact the sports reporter at jonroetman@dailyemerald.com.

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UNIVERSITY OF OREGON **BOOKSTORE**

SOCCER

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For the Titans, senior Laura Janke took care of business, recording two saves while playing the full 90 minutes. Janke, who was recently honored as the Big West Conference's Co-Player of the Week, tops the career list for the Titans after recording her 11th shutout.

Oregon, which won two games earlier in the month in California, returns

to the confines of Papé Field this week, but must face defending national champion Portland on Friday at 7 p.m. The Ducks then take on Weber State on Sunday in a day match before heading out again on the road for Pac-10 play.

"It was a frustrating weekend, but we need to bounce back because Portland won't be any easier this weekend," Steffen said.

Contact the sports reporter at jessethomas@dailyemerald.com.

JINX

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defeated 55-16 on Saturday by then-No. 21 Washington State, quieting the buzz about the Ducks that started just

"Everybody is going to say 'SI jinx,' or whatever," quarterback Kellen Clemens said after the game. "I don't think it got to our heads, at least not to the players I talked to. We just got outplayed.

The Sept. 29 issue focused on Oregon's extravagant spending, and perhaps could have silenced those who have criticized the program for its promotion of the team.

The Ducks spent \$250,000 to put a Joey Harrington billboard in New York City in 2001. After that came billboards of various players in California.

This year, Oregon has taken to using advertisements in USA Today to promote the team. Also, new uniforms and a state-of-the-art locker room have drawn criticism.

Well, I don't worry about the critics," Oregon head coach Mike Bellotti said last week. "We've gotten more publicity - much more than we would have ever thought - by the ads in New York, and by our uniforms. That was three weeks worth of talk

shows all across the nation. "We made Sports Illustrated not on the merit of anything but our victories. That to me is more important to the players. We can talk about facilities and billboards and all those things, but the reality is, if you win football games, that is a solid type of representation."

University President Dave Frohnmayer said the recognition gives newer students a sense of where they belong nationally.

"It's exciting to give students a sense that they have a profile and that it really is national," Frohnmayer said. "While we say that, and while it's in our literature, and it's true, sometimes the visible proof of it is the extra frosting on the cake.

He stopped short of saying the cover would necessarily attract more students — at least on that merit alone - but said it emphasizes the "clean and ethical" program run by Bellotti and Athletics Director Bill Moos.

The cover marks the third time a current Oregon player or team has been highlighted by the magazine. Harrington appeared on the cover in the magazine's college football preview issue in 2001, and legendary Oregon runner Steve Prefontaine graced it in 1970.

Contact the sports editor at hankhager@dailyemerald.com.



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