

Late-game heroics needed for Ducks to win in Pac-10

Oregon features nine new players this season and is still looking for its first Pac-10 win of the season

By Jon Roetman
Sports Reporter

One of Oregon volleyball's biggest problems is its inability to maintain a high level of intensity during a game's final points. The Ducks are usually in a position to win at the end of games, but are unable to pull them out.

DUCK VOLLEYBALL

"Late (in the) game is when you have to really go all out and push to finish (strong)," sophomore Kelly Russell said. "We kind of stay complacent. The last 10 points is when you really have to pick it up and really have to bring it to 'em."

Oregon head coach Carl Ferreira said his young team is still learning its offensive system. Players are also developing their skills to master the different types of attacks. He added that once the Ducks' young athletes have a better grasp on what they want to accomplish on the court, they will be among the best in the conference.

"If you look at the art of hitting, it's kind of like Greg Maddux," Ferreira said. "The great hitters in this conference don't give you the same thing twice. It's one off the outside hand, one high-hand, one busting hard inside, one cross court. They have that much mastery over their attacking ability and our kids are working on those things on a consistent basis."

Youth struggles

The McArthur Court crowd cheered when game two of Friday's match against Washington neared the end.

The Ducks had clawed to within three points of No. 13 Washington when the Huskies sent an attack over the net. Junior libero Katie O'Neil dove, somehow managed to dig the ball and, for the moment, saved the game. But after rocketing 20 feet into the air, the ball fell harmlessly along

the left sideline in front of several of O'Neil's teammates.

So goes the story of the Ducks' season. Oregon is a team featuring 12 freshmen and sophomores that manages to compete but always seems to come up just a little short. After facing the nation's No. 1, 4, 8, 9 and 13th ranked teams, the Ducks are learning every day and gaining more confidence.

"If we come and play our game and play to our level, any Pac-10 team can beat any Pac-10 team," Russell said. "It's just a matter of us mastering ourselves and playing our game."

Freshmen contributors

Sarah Mason, Kristen Bitter, Allyson Leavitt and Stephanie Alleman have been making the biggest impact of the nine newcomers. Mason is tied for the team lead in hitting percentage at .264 and is second in points (174) and kills per game (2.89).

Bitter has been one of Oregon's most effective net players and leads the Ducks in blocks with 52. Leavitt and Alleman have been spending a lot of time on the floor as defensive specialists.

Veteran leadership

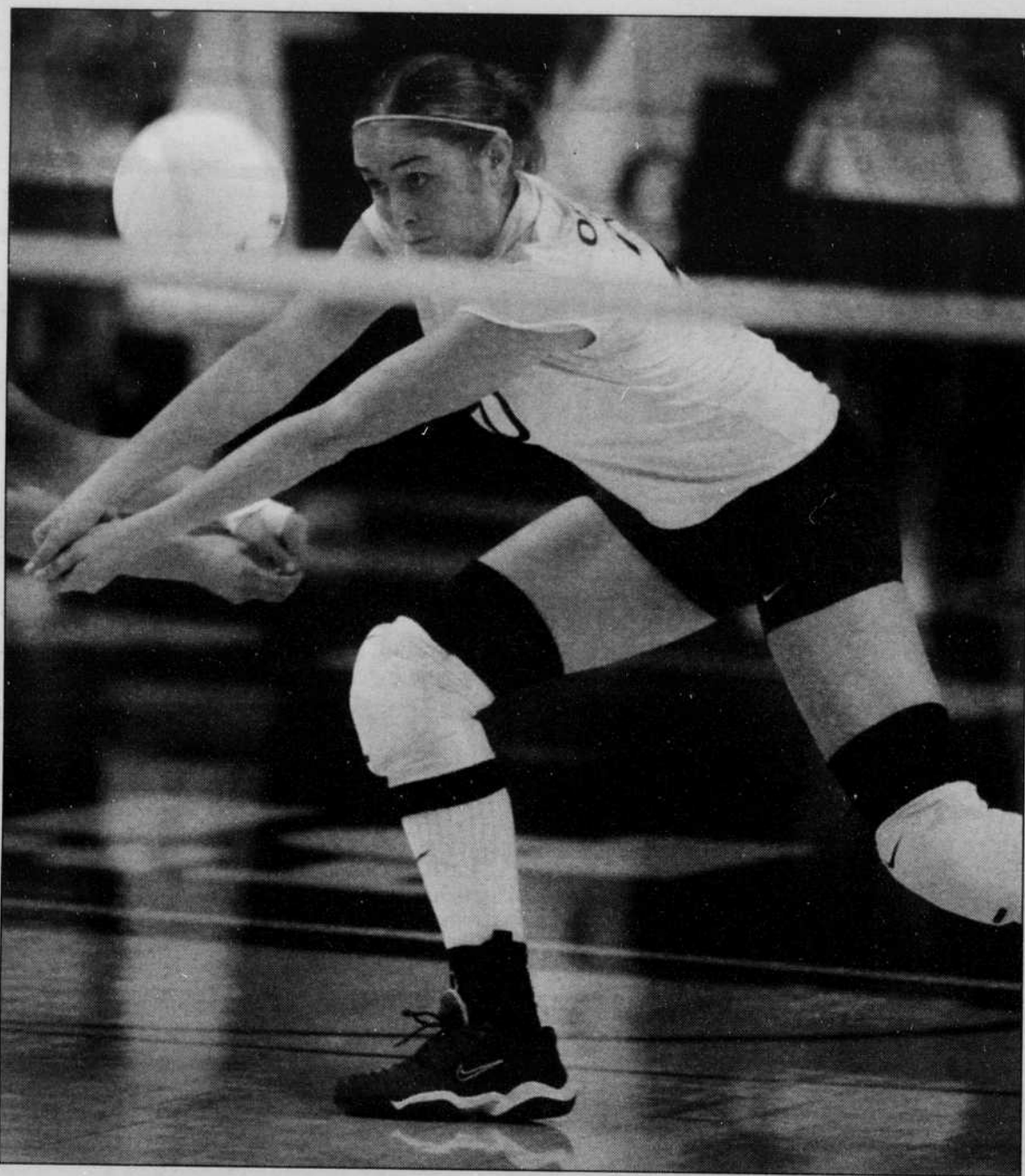
Despite freshmen involvement, Oregon's five returning athletes have still carried much of the workload. Russell leads the team in kills per game (3.22), points (211) and is tied for the lead in hitting percentage. Junior Lauren Westendorf is third in points (168) and kills (142).

Sophomore Jaclyn Jones is third in kills per game (2.69) and fourth in points (151.5). Sophomore Jodi Bell leads the Ducks with 515 assists while O'Neil has a team-high 167 digs.

Ducks head to Arizona

This week Oregon travels to Arizona. The Ducks will take on the Wildcats on Thursday and Arizona State on Friday. The Ducks dropped all four matches to the Arizona schools last year, but held a 2-1 lead over the Sun Devils at home before falling in five games. The first four games of the match were each decided by two points each.

Contact the sports reporter at jonroetman@dailyemerald.com.



Mark McCambridge Photographer

Junior Lauren Westendorf is one of Oregon's five returning players and is third on the team in kills and points.

Advertise in the ODE classifieds

Call 346-4343 or place your ad online

www.dailyemerald.com

CLASSIFIEDS

To place an ad, call (541) 346-4343 or stop by Room 300 EMU
E-mail: classads@dailyemerald.com
Online Edition: www.dailyemerald.com
Room 300, Erb Memorial Union, P.O. Box 3159, Eugene, OR 97403

Horoscope by Linda C. BLACK

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Oct. 15). Travel looks good for you this year, as does higher education. Juggling will be the skill you acquire. You'll get plenty of practice.

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 an 8 _ You're not the only brilliant person within your group of friends. Acknowledge the others for their contributions to this latest winning team effort.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) _ Today is a 5 _ You've worked hard for the money, so don't be shy about taking what's due. Working smart counts too, so don't be ashamed if some of the job was easy.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21) _ Today is a 9 _ You can find your way through the maze, even when others are confused. Protect yourself from distractions by concentrating on your goal.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) _ Today is a 6 _ If you've already made your intentions clear, you won't have to say much. That would be good, as you may be getting worn out by now.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) _ Today is an 8 _ Friends are eager to help with your education. Don't be embarrassed that you're not an expert yet. It won't take you long to become one.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) _ Today is

a 6 _ You may have to get by on determination rather than enthusiasm. Just keep everything going on schedule and you'll be a big success.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) _ Today is a 10 _ You faced the decisions yesterday. By now, you should be even more certain. Don't wait for a better time to act. Make the commitment now.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) _ Today is a 5 _ Your mind is working overtime, figuring out the best way to proceed. Don't stress about it. This process has worked for you before.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) _ Today is an 8 _ You're not interested in assumptions; you're only after the truth. Communication channels are open now. It's easy to get the information you seek.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) _ Today is a 6 _ Others may think you're following a dream, but don't let them slow you down. You could actually catch this one and take them all by surprise.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) _ Today is a 10 _ The hardest thing for you to make will be the first commitment. Once that's done, the freedom you'll experience will be awesome.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) _ Today is a 6 _ If unexpected guests drop in, put them all to work. You've done good deeds for all of them. Now it's payback time!

085 GREEK ANNOUNCEMENTS

BID DAY IS ONLINE!
cephotos.com "Charlie" 344-1069.
john@cephotos.com

105 TYPING/RESUME SERVICES

EXPERT THESIS/DISSERTATION EDITOR,
Grad School approved since 1974!
Papers, resumes. **ON CAMPUS!**
ROBIN, 344-0759

125 FURNITURE/APPLIANCES

Cherry Sleighbed, solid wood, brand new, still in package. List \$750, sacrifice \$295. 501-6599

125 FURNITURE/APPLIANCES

FOR SALE! Refrigerator, Ward 18.45 cu ft. \$150. Washer & Dryer, G.E. extra lrg capacity \$75. apiece. Dining set w/6 chairs \$70 All in good shape; all obo 683-8057

Get rid of all your unwanted stuff!
Call the Emerald Classifieds 346-4343

New Mattress Set
QUEEN PILLOWTOP
\$135
new in plastic w/warranty
del. avail. 501-6599

FULL MATTRESS SET \$120
new in plastic w/warranty
please call 501-6599

130 CARS/TRUCKS/CYCLES

'90 Dodge Caravan. \$600/obo
485-7533 or 653-2698

130 CARS/TRUCKS/CYCLES

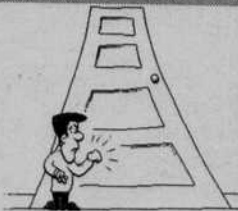
'89 Pontiac 6000 for sale. Good around town car. \$250 or best offer.
Call: 346-7656

Need help typing a paper or writing a resume? Check out section 105 of the classifieds.

The ODE Classifieds: Your door to opportunities.

Find work study & job positions in sections 200 & 205.

To place an ad call 346-4343.



GRE / GMAT TEST PREP

Academic Learning Services



Workshop Dates:
Oct. 18, 25; Nov. 1
9:00am-12:00pm

Fee: \$150

To register, call 346 3226
or stop by the ALS office:
at 68 PLC

Workshop includes materials, instruction and access to CBT practice exams