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Mark McCambridge Photographer

Redshirt sophomore Domenique Lainez is finally getting her opportunity to shine as Oregon's starting goalkeeper this season.

Mother's love

Domenique Lainez refuses to follow the crowd, always stays involved and gets her character from her mother

By Jesse Thomas
Sports Reporter

Domenique Lainez and her mother are close. Despite a busy schedule, hectic life and being separated by a state line, Lainez often makes time to talk to her mother. And she wouldn't have it any other way.

"She's one of my best friends," Lainez said.

"My mom has taught me: You really have to be your own individual. It doesn't matter what anybody tells you, because a lot of people are going to try and discourage you. It's up to you if you are going to be able to succeed."

Lainez works day in and day out to be successful as the starting goalkeeper for the Oregon women's soccer team.

But it has been a difficult road for the redshirt sophomore. Lainez has been mostly relegated to the bench with injuries for three years previous to this season.

Lainez, an avid soccer player since she was 8, came to Oregon while recovering from a broken foot and recurring knee injuries suffered during her final two seasons of high school at St. Ignatius Prep. The San Bruno, Calif. native played 75 minutes in her first year at Oregon and redshirted last year due to an ankle injury.

Now she's back. And 14 games into the season, Lainez has recorded 62 saves and holds a 2.14 goals against average. But mostly, she has seen greater self improvement.

"I worked a lot during the summer and my play has signifi-

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Club Running team takes top finishes under Heinonen

The women's members of the Oregon Club Running team took first in Estacada last weekend

Kirsten McEwen
Freelance Reporter

Tom Heinonen is back.

Heinonen, who retired as Oregon's head track coach in June, is back at the helm, this time in charge of the Club Sports Running team.

The running club fielded complete men's and women's cross country teams on Oct. 18 for the first time ever. Both teams competed in the Lewis and Clark Pioneer Open at McIver Park in Estacada.

With nine runners competing, the women won the race and beat five NCAA Division III teams. Oregon runner Liz James finished in first place with a time of 22 minutes, 35 seconds. James finished the 6,000-meter race 10 seconds ahead of the next finisher. Christy Lacey-Krietz was the next Oregon runner to come in with a time of 22:54.6, placing her sixth in the race.

The men did not fare as well as the women, taking fifth and beating just one of the six teams competing. Brandon Michael was Oregon's first runner to make it across the finish line with a time of 27:46.1, giving him 12th place. Kevin Sully was the next Oregon runner to complete the 8,000-meter course with a time of 28:19.1, which was good for 20th.

Richie Carpenter, Oregon's Running Club coordinator, is encouraged by the results the team accrued in its first meet.

"Just a few years ago, Oregon's running club was inactive," Carpenter said. "Now we are out there competing as a university and coming home from races with great times, both individually and as a team."

Carpenter credits Oregon's improvement to Heinonen. "Tom has worked with runners for years now and is a runner himself," Carpenter said. "He has a ridiculous amount of knowledge about the sport, and he has been a great addition to our program."

Heinonen also provides the team with workouts, diagnoses aches and pains and gives advice whenever needed.

"Tom is just what we needed to turn our program around," Carpenter said.

On the rink

Club Ice Hockey also began its season last weekend, playing two games against Washington State in Spokane, Wash. Oregon's first game was tougher than expected, and they lost 6-1 to the Cougars.

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Bruins too much for Ducks at Mac

The Ducks fall short against UCLA but celebrate a significant milestone by winning their first conference game of the season, 31-29

By Jon Roetman
Sports Reporter

In the grand scheme of things, winning one game during a conference match doesn't mean much.

But for the Oregon volleyball team, winning one game against No. 9 UCLA on Thursday in front of 566 at McArthur Court was a huge step in the right direction.

When freshman Kristen Bitter and sophomore Jaclyn Jones rose up and sent a Bruin attack back over the net at the end of game three, Oregon captured a 31-29 victory, the first Pacific-10 Conference game the Ducks have won all season.

The fact that Oregon lost the match 3-1 (30-23, 30-20, 29-31, 30-22) seemed insignificant after its ending.

"I couldn't be happier for (the players)," Oregon head coach Carl Ferreira said. "(UCLA) is the ninth-ranked team in the country. You're doing things at a national level to win that game. You learn how to compete on a top-10, national level."

The players' sentiments were in-line with Ferreira's comments.

"It just felt so good to win that game," freshman Sarah Mason said. "Nothing was going to stop us."

The Ducks executed like one of the nation's elite during game three. After building a 24-18 lead, Oregon (3-16 overall, 0-10 Pac-10) survived mental mistakes and a 6-0 UCLA run to capture the win. The Mac Court crowd rose to its feet and applauded the Ducks as they switched sides and prepared for game four.

"It was great to hear the fans go (wild)," Ferreira said. "Their support is unbelievable."

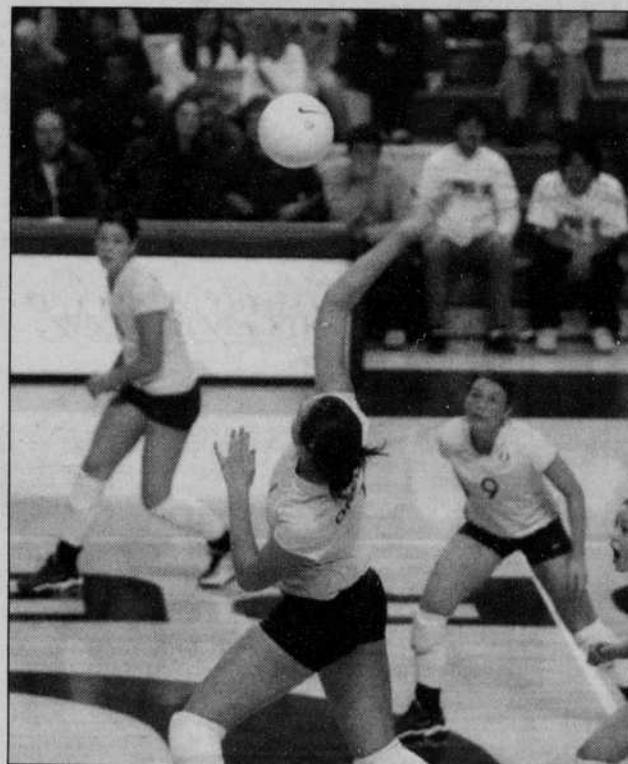
Mason led Oregon in kills with 16. Every time the Ducks needed to score a point, it seemed as though she was there to put it away.

"I just go up and rip it," Mason said. "I look at that ball and nobody's gonna get it. No one can stop me."

Jones finished with 13 kills and two block assists, including the winner in game three.

"I think it's a confidence builder for us," Jones said. "I think it shows us that we can compete with these teams."

Sophomore Kelly Russell added 12 kills, while sophomore Jodi Bell dished out 38 assists. Junior Katie O'Neil hammered out 21 digs. Bitter had two kills and five block assists.



Tim Bobosky Photographer

Sophomore Jaclyn Jones finished with 13 kills against UCLA.

Oregon's young squad had its composure tested several times during the third frame. Mason received a yellow card for shouting at an opposing player and later failed to return a ball — which was still live — thinking play had been stopped.

Later in the match, junior Lauren Westendorf was whistled for a service-violation after failing to serve the ball in the allotted time of seven seconds. Westendorf stood behind the baseline in disbelief, telling the head referee that she didn't hear his whistle to start play. O'Neil received a yellow card on the play for arguing.

After falling behind 28-21, UCLA (15-4, 7-3) went on a 8-1 run to pull within even at 29. Oregon scored the next two points on a Bruin attack error and the Jones-Bitter block.

"Players play the game," Ferreira said. "When they earn credibility based on what they do between the lines, there's nothing a coach can give them or say to them that means more than what they earned by themselves by competing."

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