



TIM BOBOSKY | PHOTO EDITOR

Eugene outfielder Mike Sansoe is drilled in the back during the game against Boise Wednesday. Sansoe reached base in the first (single), third (hit by pitch) and seventh (error) innings. Eugene won 2-1 with a two-out RBI single by Drew Davidson in the bottom of the ninth inning.

## Emeralds escape Hawks' talons to win fifth game

*Drew Davidson brought Seth Johnston home in the ninth inning to inch the Ems to their 2-1 victory*

BY SHAWN MILLER  
SPORTS EDITOR

The game is on the line and somebody needs to be the hero.

Eugene Emeralds (16-17) outfielder Drew Davidson didn't have a problem stepping into that role Wednesday, propelling the Emeralds to a 2-1 victory over the Boise Hawks (15-18) in the rubber game of the five-game series.

With the score knotted at 1-1, Davidson came to the plate with two outs and runners on the corners in the bottom of the ninth inning. Davidson quickly fell behind in the count 0-2, before drawing back-to-back balls to even the count.

"I knew his (Boise pitcher) out pitch was a slider," Davidson said. "I knew he was probably going to throw sliders down and away. He happened to leave it up. "All I was trying to do was stay on it and make solid contact."

Davidson slapped the ball over

the right fielder's outstretched glove and off the wall, allowing Seth Johnston to score the game-winning run. Johnston reached base after a routine ground ball was bobbled by Boise shortstop Jose Rios following a leadoff flyout by Daryl Jones. Nick Hundley pinch hit for Jodan Rivera and earned a four-pitch walk. Johnston advanced to third on a fly out to center field by Mike Sansoe.

"The guys battled, stayed right there and won it at the end," Eugene Manager Roy Howell said. "(They) did the little things, got guys on and over and got the big hit."

Boise scored its lone run in the fifth inning, when Mark Reed started the inning with a bunt single. Reed moved to second on a ground out by Rios and scored on an RBI single from Davy Gregg following a fly out by Jonathan Mota. Gregg took second base when the ball was thrown to home plate and

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## IN BRIEF

### Galen Rupp named USA Track and Field Athlete of the Week

Oregon's Galen Rupp was honored as the USA Track and Field Athlete of the Week on July 19. The award was Rupp's second in his first season of collegiate competitions.

Rupp set a new American junior record in the 3,000-meter (7:49.16) on July 17 in Lignano, Italy. The record broke the previous mark (7:58.0 set by Gerry Lindgren in 1965) by nearly nine seconds and destroyed the longest-standing American distance record.

On May 7, Rupp also established the U.S. junior record in the 10,000 (28:15.51), a record which had stood for 29 years.

Rupp will race the 1,500 in the Pan-American Junior Championships in Windsor, Ontario, July 29-31.

### 2005 season single-game football tickets, T-shirts on sale

Single-game tickets for each of Oregon's home football games went on sale Friday.

Reserved tickets for the home opener, against Montana on Sept. 10, and the game against Fresno State on Sept. 17 are \$32 each. Reserved seats for USC (Sept. 24) and California (Nov. 5) are \$42 per game, while Washington (Oct. 15) and Oregon State (Nov. 19) each cost \$55.

Oregon has sold approximately 40,923 season tickets, compared to 40,725 from last year. Season ticket sales have been record-setting for the eighth year in a row.

Reserved tickets for all five of Oregon's road games are on sale as well.

Tickets can be purchased online at [www.goducks.com](http://www.goducks.com), via telephone (346-4461 or 1-800-WEBFOOT) or in person at the Autzen Stadium South Ticket Building.

The athletic department's annual T-shirt sales kicked off Friday as well. This year's model says "Get INDUCKted!" on the front of yellow shirts.

The shirts cost \$7, and \$1 from each shirt is donated to the Oregon cheerleaders and marching band.

T-shirts are available online at [www.goducks.com](http://www.goducks.com), at the University Bookstore, Oregon Sports in the Gateway Mall and at all Duck Shop locations (Eugene — Moshofsky Center, Valley River Center; Portland — Washington Square, Downtown Portland).

### Former University golfer hired as head coach at UTPA

University of Texas-Pan American named Andrew Tredway, a former All Pac-10 Conference golfer at Oregon, head men's golf coach Friday.

"I'm extremely excited about the opportunity to join the UTPA family as well as the Rio Grande Valley," Tredway said. "The opportunity to join this group of young men and help them achieve great things will be a memorable and rewarding experience. I'm determined to bring out the very best of these young men both on the course and in the classroom."

Tredway was an All Pac-10 honorable mention nominee his senior season (2000) and was a two-time NCAA Division I National Qualifier (1998, 1999). He also tied for ninth at the Pac-10 Championships in 1999 and tied for 17th in 2000.

Tredway has spent the previous two years as a teaching assistant for Hank Haney Golf, Inc., in McKinney, Texas. Prior to that, he was an assistant women's golf coach at Alabama for the 2002-03 season.

—Shawn Miller

## Portland signs lacrosse team: The Lumberjax

*The Rose Garden will be home to one more professional sports team in January, when the Lumberjax will paint Portland black and gold*

BY SCOTT J. ADAMS  
FREELANCE REPORTER

Professional lacrosse reached Oregon with the addition of the Portland Lumberjax, christened in the Rose City almost three months ago.

The Lumberjax are the newest and most western-based team playing in the National Lacrosse League and will no doubt help lacrosse flourish in Eugene and the entire Northwest.

The NLL boasts the best players in the world, who have taken part in making lacrosse the fastest-growing sport in the United States, according to Sports Illustrated. Attendance numbers for the 2005 NLL season further illustrate America's embrace of lacrosse. Nearly 900,000 fans came out last season to watch the 10 league teams compete, drawing an average attendance of 10,400 fans per game.

The Lumberjax are owned by Angela Batinovich of the Batinovich family, one of the leading business families on the West Coast. At age 24, she is the youngest owner of a professional sports team in America today. On May 11, she expressed her enthusiasm for the league's expansion to Portland at a press conference with NLL Commissioner Jim Jennings.

"This is an exciting time for the National Lacrosse League and the Portland community, as we bring a major professional franchise for all sports and entertainment fans to enjoy in the Northwest," Batinovich said. "Our team will bring an entertainment option to Portland that features high-energy, action-packed, affordable fun."

Jennings was just as pleased as Batinovich with the league's addition.

"We look forward to seeing the NLL continue to grow across North America," Jennings said.

"The sports fans of Portland are going to love their newest professional team."

At the time of the conference, the team was without a name, leaving that to be decided by the fans in a contest. On July 12, the Lumberjax, bearing black and gold team colors, was welcomed as the new team name.

The Portland Trailblazers and the Winter Hawks of the WHL will share the 20,000 seat Rose Garden with the Lumberjax, who begin play in January.

The Lumberjax can be seen as pioneers in bringing lacrosse to the Northwest, the last frontier for the sport in America. The implementing of expansion teams in other sports has at times done wonders for their leagues. But the league's benefit is limited to how well the team performs. The best example of this are the ill-fated Montreal Expos, a product of a past love affair between baseball and the 1967 World's Fair held in Montreal.

The Expos combined efforts with the Toronto Blue Jays to branch major league baseball into Canada until 2004, when the franchise packed its bags for Washington, D.C. The short-lived Expos had arguably their best season in 1994, but the season ended prematurely because of a players' strike. Attendance numbers soared for the Expos in 1994 only to wane in the following years, leading to their demise.

The legacy of the Expos still lives in Montreal today, where baseball is a staple sport for Canada's youth. In an interview with Fox Sports three weeks ago, Los Angeles Dodgers' pitcher Eric Gagne touched on his upbringing in Quebec, where baseball was king when hockey was out of season.

"During the summer, baseball was all we had," Gagne said. "It was very popular then and is still today. It broke my heart and the hearts of many



COURTESY

Portland Lumberjax majority owner Angela Batinovich, center, poses with new head coach Derek Keenan, left, and assistant coach Jeremy Tellev.

in Montreal when the Expos folded. I hope baseball can return someday."

Success has come early for a few expansion teams in other sports who quickly garnered world championships. The Florida Marlins claimed their second world series title in 2003, just a decade after being founded. The Arizona Diamondbacks accomplished a similar feat in 2001 when they dethroned the defending world champion New York Yankees, giving them their first world title in their third year of play.

The NHL has had its share of successful expansion teams as well. Since moving to Denver following the 1995 season, the Colorado Avalanche has been the toast of the Western Conference, winning a Stanley Cup in its first year and claiming another in 2001. The Avalanche won its first Stanley Cup victory in 1996 over another expansion team, the Florida Panthers, who were established in 1993.

The possibilities are endless for the Lumberjax as they further fortify lacrosse in the Northwest. The club has laid a strong foundation in the sports-friendly city of Portland under the leadership of Derek Keenan, the Lumberjax head coach and general manager. Keenan has experience in the league as a player and coach and looks forward to next season.

"This is a great franchise. It's a great city, and it's a great facility," Keenan said. "I'm excited to start the building process."

Since taking his job in Portland, Keenan has spearheaded numerous off-season acquisitions and trades following the franchise's first Dispersal Draft. Many players signed by the Lumberjax played for Keenan when he coached for Anaheim.

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