

Conditioning made the difference in volleyball loss

By JOHN HEALY
For the Emerald

Oregon's women's volleyball team couldn't match Portland State's firepower at the net Tuesday night in Mac Court before 200

fans and fell in three straight sets to the Vikings, 23-21 15-2, 15-3.

The Ducks quickly went downhill after playing the defending Region IX titleholder to a near stalemate in the first game, allowing PSU to jump to a quick 10-1

lead in game two and then blowing a 9-3 margin in the final game.

Oregon coach Chris Voelz singled out her team's lack of conditioning as a key factor in the Ducks' collapse in the second and third games.

"We were tired," she explained, "and when you're tired your reaction time is off. You miss shots." Voelz expected the Ducks to tire

before the Vikings, as Portland State came into Tuesday night's game with a 5-2 record while Oregon had seen nothing but the practice floor.

"They definitely had more seasoning than us," said Voelz. "They persisted longer and harder. But later in the season we'll be able to play all five games the way we played our first game tonight."

Oregon looked to be more than a match for the Vikings in the first game, running up an early 13-6 lead on a series of Portland State miscues and the Ducks superior net play.

The Vikings rallied to tie the game at 13-13 and finally pulled out a close 23-21 win after their forward line began to gain control of the net area.

Voelz came away from the first game pleased with her team's outstanding play, especially senior setter-hitter Sue Stadler. "She had one of the most outstanding games I have seen in quite awhile," praised Voelz.

Voelz. "Her spiking efficiency was outstanding and she was by far our best blocker."

Game two proved to be the Ducks undoing, however, as Portland State threw its power game into high gear and scored a handful of spike aces to crush Oregon.

Oregon. The third game was anticlimactic, with the Ducks jumping out to a big lead and then watching the Vikings spike the ball everywhere the Ducks didn't cover.

The night wasn't a total loss, according to Voelz.

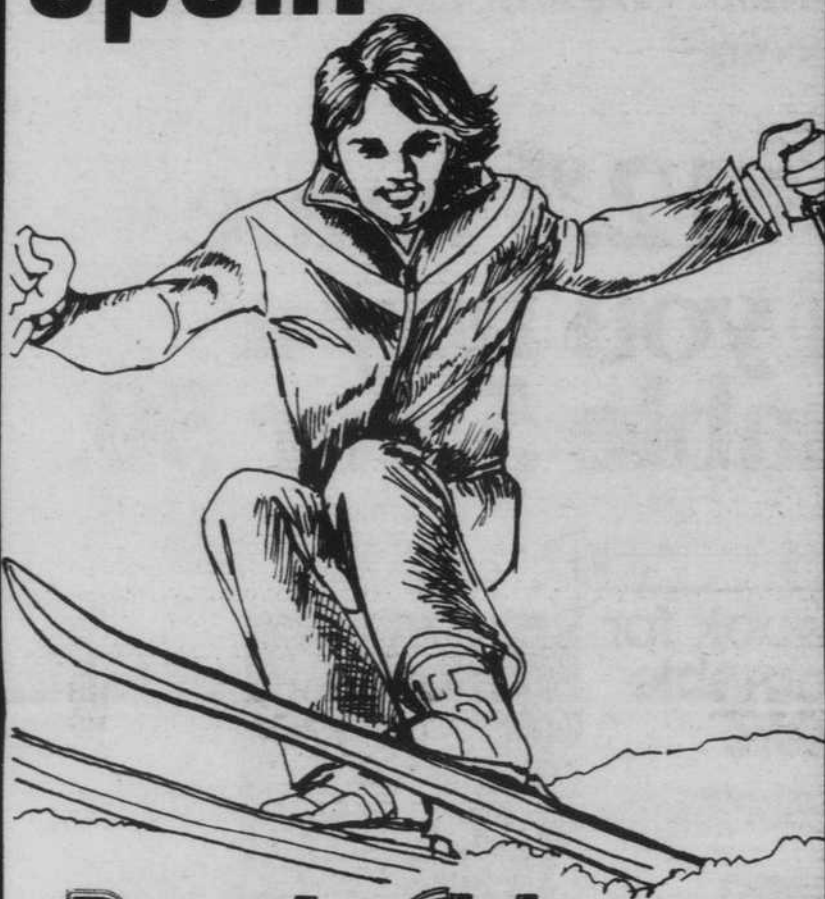
"Our freshmen — Annetta Ensworth and Michelle Nekota — were very good; Mary O'Brien blocked well; Kim Jessup was our best defensive player, and Christie McFarlane was one of our most consistent hitters."

The Ducks resume competition Friday and Saturday when they travel to the Berkeley Invitational.

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Photo by Keith Allen

The Ducks whipped Portland State on this play, but the Vikings controlled the net most of Tuesday night and defeated Oregon three straight games. Keith Allen photo.

sports haps

Outdoors

The Outdoor Program will sponsor an equipment swap tonight at 7:30 in Room 167 of the Erb Memorial Union.

There is no admission or commission, and interested persons are free to bring anything generally considered outdoor equipment for buying, selling or trading.

Karate

The University karate club is holding practices in the basement of Gerlinger Hall on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday from 5 to 7 p.m. Practice is not held on Thursdays as was previously reported.

Handball

The University handball club will hold an organizational meeting today at 4:30 in the EMU. Room number will be posted in the EMU lobby.

Crew

The Oregon crew squad will hold an organizational meeting today at 4:30 in the West Grandstand of Hayward Field.

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