

Oregon places third

Netters make comeback in Diet Pepsi Classic

By MIKE RIPLINGER
Of the Emerald

Oregon came back strong after a slow start to capture third place in the Diet Pepsi Volleyball Classic, last weekend in MacArthur Court.

The Ducks dropped California State Sacramento twice Saturday to grab third place. California State Fullerton walked away with the championship by beating Santa Clara and winning the title easily with a 4-0 record in round-robin play.

The Ducks were dropped into the consolation bracket after a heartbreaking loss to Fullerton Friday. Oregon had jumped out to a quick two-game lead, but Fullerton came charging back. They took the next two games and then beat Oregon in the tiebreaker, 15-13.

Oregon, who finished 2-2 for the tournament, lost to Santa Clara Friday night, but came back Saturday to beat Sacramento in four games in the morning and in three games later that night for their third place finish.

"We played pretty well throughout the tournament," said coach Chris Voelz. "That loss to Fullerton was hard to take, but we came back strong the next day. We didn't quit, but kept on trying."

Oregon played well against Sacramento, never letting them get on track.

The Ducks frontline was weak Friday, but was vastly improved Saturday. They ruled the net against Sacramento, with Karen Beamer getting 32 kills and 18 blocks, Tamra Chambers contributing 21 kills and seven blocks, and Cathy Hill adding 23 kills.

"We were much better at the net against

Sac State than we were earlier in the tournament. Beamer is really playing excellently in the middle-hitter position. She got us going against them, contributing a lot to our game," Voelz said.

Due to injuries earlier in the season, Beamer was moved from her position on the side — where she has played for the last three years — to the more complicated middle position. It's probably the hardest position to learn, because it is the focal point for the entire attack, but after a slow start, she has come on to be dominating at times.

"Beams is really do the job for us this year. She has learned a lot during this year, and has been a big factor in our team's play," Voelz said.

Voelz was not the only coach in the tournament to appreciate the play of the middle hitter. She and Cathy Hill were named on the all-tournament team. Fullerton's Laurie Jakemer and Vicky Baba, and Santa Clara's Karen Lyffyt, Ann Skelley and Peg Castaldi were also named to the team.

"We have to sustain the high level of competition we did this weekend. This is where it really counts for us to to play well."

Oregon is competing in the UCLA Invitational Friday and Saturday. The competition should probably make for the toughest tournament this side of nationals. If the Ducks are going to be competitive, they will have to have more matches like Saturday's Sacramento match.

After Saturday's competition, perhaps they're on the right track.

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of what kind of game we had defensively," Brooks said, "but they did get the points everytime they got the chance, and that was the difference in the game.

"We need to convert the opportunities we've had into points — we need to start scoring points early."

For the most part, the Oregon defense was able to prevent the Bruins from moving with any consistency. UCLA had trouble doing the same, and it was reflected in the final statistics. The Ducks had more total yards (266-240), more first downs (19-13) and more time in possession of the ball (31:23 to 28:37).

Many in the crowd of 24,272 appreciated the efforts of the Oregon defense, rising to give them a standing ovation no less than four times, but the offense was unable to provide the same spark.

Jorgensen came into the game after Owens had directed the team in its first serious drive of the game to the Bruin five-yard line. But Owens sustained a slightly separated shoulder on an incomplete pass attempt on third and goal and was unable to return to action. The Ducks were forced to settle for a 22-yard Jollymour field goal to take an early, 3-0 lead.

Although Jorgensen made

mistakes typical of his level of experience before piloting Oregon to a touchdown in the closing seconds of the game.

"Jorgensen played a gutsy game at quarterback," the coach said. "The Bruins are a hard-hitting team, but Jorgensen played a heckuva game under the circumstances."

Now the Ducks look ahead to this week and Washington State. The Cougars lost their first game of the season and took a serious blow to their Rose Bowl aspirations when USC thumped them 41-17.

It's hardly likely the Ducks will get any compassion from them.

The Pack comes back to down Seattle, 34-24

By the Associated Press

David Whitehurst passed for 205 yards and three touchdowns, including a 38-yarder to James Lofton for the go-ahead score late in the third quarter Sunday, to lead the Green Bay Packers to a 34-24 National Football League victory over the Seattle Seahawks.

Jan Stenerud accounted for the Packers final 6 points with a 19-yard field goal with 1:58 to play and a 36-yard field goal with 41 seconds left.

In other NFL action Sunday, Danny White vassed 17 yards to Dqug Cosbie and Tony Dorsett dashed 9 yards for another touchdown to highlight a fourth-period comeback as the Dallas Cowboys defeated the Philadelphia Eagles 17-14.

Both teams are 7-2 in the National Football League's NFC East and they meet again in Dallas Dec. 13.

In the other games, Atlanta ripped New Orleans 41-10, Miami swamped Baltimore 27-10, Tampa Bay tripped Chicago 20-10, Buffalo defeated Cleveland 22-13, Cincinnati beat Houston 34-21, the New York Jets swamped the New York Giants 26-7, San Francisco nipped Pittsburgh 17-14, Green Bay outlasted Seattle 34-24, Los Angeles stopped Detroit 20-13, San Diego edged Kansas City 22-20, Oakland stopped New England 27-17 and Washington outscored St. Louis 42-21.

NFC Central leader Minnesota plays at Denver Monday night.

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NFL roundup

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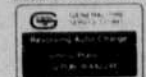
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