

Oregon women netters prepare to play in NorPac

By James Marr
Of the Emerald

The Oregon rain seemed to follow the women's tennis team all the way to California last weekend as the Ducks were rained out of two matches with Cal State-Hayward and Santa Clara University.

As luck would have it, the two schools were the teams which coach Sue Jacobson felt were "definitely beatable," and would have offered the Ducks challenging competition, and possibly provided the squad with a mark in the win column. The netters were left to tangle

with the tough University of California, ranked fourth in the nation according to a pre-season poll, and San Jose State University. Both teams proved to be more than adequate competition as the Ducks were denied wins in every match save one against Cal.

The lone win for Oregon came from junior Jackie Comeau who came from behind to win 4-6, 6-4, 6-3 over Berkely's sixth-singles player.

Comeau, a third-year varsity performer for the Ducks, is back for Jacobson after undergoing extensive rehabilitation on her

knee and promises to be a solid addition to this year's team. According to Jacobson, Comeau will probably not see a lot of doubles action this year, yet, her competitiveness and desire to help the team nearly ensure her a place on the squad.

The good news waiting for Jacobson at home came in the form of "three promising recruits" for next year's team. On the first day for high school athletes to sign letter-of-intent commitments, Jacobson learned that her 1986-87 squad will include the talents of Kelly Stuart, Jennifer Mead, and Amber Goheen.

Stuart and Mead should both figure to be competing for the number one spot on the lineup next year. All three women will undoubtedly play important roles on the squad which will lose only senior captain Sarah Grall.

Recruiting top-notch players out of sunny California or from the backyard of the University of Washington is no easy task, and Jacobson admits she is not exactly overwhelmed with offers of scholarship money from the Athletic Department.

As a result, the players which Jacobson can interest in playing for Oregon generally come here for other reasons besides simply a full-ride scholarship.

Jacobson fully realizes her disadvantage as far as recruiting is concerned and remains positive about her role. "My job is to make a lot out of what little we have."

While certainly not discrediting her team, Jacobson expects a great deal from herself and her players on and off the tennis court.

The facts are simple — Oregon is not exactly a hotbed of tennis activity, and the bulk of the region's best players more often than not choose to attend schools in the sunbelt, over the perennial rain-soaked seasons which characterize Eugene.

Coach Jacobson takes her squad to compete in a round-robin tournament at Washington State University this weekend to open NorPac Conference play.

They have their second, and last home match of the season against Seattle University on April 19.

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