

# Offensive woes continue to plague Duck softball team

By Jeff Lutzky  
Of the Emerald

The Oregon softball team was unable to overcome a feeble offensive output as it fell to Fresno State University and the University of California in a pair of doubleheaders Friday and Sunday.

In the first FSU game Friday, the Ducks, 13-23 for the year and 1-7 in NorPac conference play, were unable to come up with any baserunners as Bulldog pitcher Melanie Parrent threw a perfect game in a 2-0 win.

"She's not a totally overpowering pitcher," Oregon coach Teresa Wilson said of Parrent. "Everything she throws has a purpose. She has an extremely smart catcher and a coach who was a pitcher, and that helps."

Although Wilson wasn't totally impressed with Parrent, she was impressed with the FSU defense, which robbed Oregon of at least three hits.

"Their third baseman and shortstop are vacuums," Wilson said. "When you can take away two or three hits a game, what can you say? Their defense just doesn't quit."

The second-ranked Bulldogs scored their runs in the second and fifth innings, in two very different ways.

In the second, the Bulldogs used an error by freshman second baseman Kristl Okuhara, a walk, and a two-out single by Kerry Steitz to score.

In the fifth, it took one swing of the bat by Steitz to make the score 2-0, as she hit a home run over the left-field wall. All that was left was for Parrent to finish off the Ducks.

In the second game, the Fresno bats came to life as they rocked sophomore Sue Voeller for six runs and 13 hits enroute to a 6-1 win.

"Our pitchers have been going back and forth all year," Wilson said. "We just have to guess and see who will throw well that day. Sue is still on a comeback, and she has bad days and good days."

For Voeller, Friday was a bad day as the Bulldogs jumped out quickly, scoring four runs in the first inning. Fresno used a single, a sacrifice, a wild pitch, a walk and a double by Cindy Johnson to score the first two runs.

Another double and a pair of singles produced the final two runs of the inning before Voeller was able to strike out Kathy Mayer for the third out.

Fresno was able to push single runs across the plate in the second and fourth innings, before the Ducks finally answered with one of their own in the fifth.

Oregon used a single by Voeller, and a one-out double by sophomore Paige Maks to score their lone run, ending the scoring for the day.

"Our batters seem to get uptight at the beginning of the game, but at the end they figure what do we have to lose," Wilson said. "We didn't swing the way we usually swing."

Against the eighth-ranked Bears, the Ducks experienced the same problems as they lost 7-0 and 4-1 in a rain-delayed doubleheader.

In the first game, Cal took the lead by scoring two runs in the top of the first. Roni Deutch singled. A sacrifice moved her to second, then a walk put runners on first and second before Erin Cassidy hit an RBI single.

Kim Moe, from Eugene's Churchill High School, delivered a two-out single to make the score 2-0.

The Bears blew the game open in the fifth with five runs off Duck pitcher Sony Schroeder, forcing Wilson to bring

ing in Voeller to end the inning. The Ducks' lone hit off Bear pitcher Lisa Martinez was a sixth inning single by sophomore Susan Urich.

"We played well and our intensity was real good," Cal

coach Donna Terry said. "Both of our pitchers did excellent jobs."

In the second game, the Ducks stayed close, but once again they found themselves trailing throughout the contest.

"We tended to choke," Wilson said. "It's sad when you don't play up to your potential. You sort of expect it (losing to FSU and Cal), but then you get out there and see that with a few hits, you're not that far out of it."

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