

Sports

Ducks avenge losses to Portland, but UW captures first in tourney

By Tom Chaffee
Of the Emerald

The University of Oregon Intercollegiate Tennis Championships ended pretty much the way everyone expected them to, and you won't hear Duck coach Buzz Summers complaining.

The Ducks avenged two earlier losses to the University of Portland by outpointing them 23-20 to finish second in the tournament. The University of Washington, heavily favored at the start of the competition, pulled away from the pack on Sunday to win with 35 points.

A win over Washington was never considered a possibility, so the Ducks were concentrating on edging the Pilots for second place. And thanks to a great individual performance from sophomore Pat Jennings, the Ducks achieved their goal.

Jennings, facing only first and second seeds, won three of his four matches en route to being the only Duck to be named to the all-tournament team. His only loss was a tough 7-5, 7-5 decision to eventual tournament MVP Kevin Jones of Portland.

The play of Jennings was obviously important, but Summers was quick to point out the improved play of James Hazard and Sean Campbell. "I thought that Hazard and Campbell played better than they have all season," he said.

Hazard, a freshman from Australia, had a tough time of it, dropping all four of his singles matches in three sets. But he was also the only Duck to win a set against Portland's Jones, beating him in the first set before falling 1-6, 6-4, 6-4. Campbell split his four matches, but beat his Portland opponents twice.

Although Washington was everyone's pick to win, the Huskies didn't wrap things up until their Sunday matches. They led the Ducks by just three points heading into the final day of competition, but pulled away behind the play of their

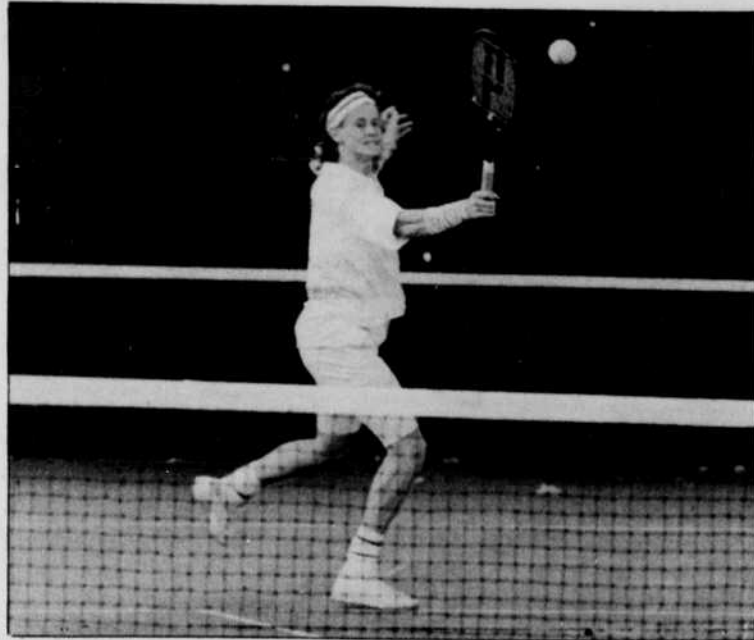


Photo by Tim Jones

Oregon's Pat Jennings returns a volley en route to winning three of four matches in the University of Oregon Intercollegiate Tennis Championships.

lower singles players and doubles teams.

The Huskies placed their number three, four, five, and seven singles players on the all-tournament team. They also dominated doubles play, as the championship ended up being an intra-squad match between two Washington teams.

Washington coach Doug Ruffin thought some of his Huskies' play may have been affected because their team was such a heavy favorite. "I think some of our guys, knowing they were heavy favorites, played a little afraid," Ruffin said. "But I was impressed with both Portland and Oregon. I thought everybody made a real good effort and played some good tennis."

Summers agreed with Ruffin. "Washington was far and above the best team. But I thought we played some awfully close matches against them. Overall, I'm very happy with the way we played."

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