

# Oregon's season swept away by Pacific in season finale

**By Gary Henley**  
Of the Emerald

The 1987 Oregon softball season ended on a sour note Saturday afternoon as Pacific University swept a double-header from the Ducks, 4-1 and 2-1.

Oregon closes its '87 campaign with a 23-30 record overall, 2-8 in Pacific 10 Conference games.

Head coach Teresa Wilson obviously was displeased to end the year with the two losses. "This was a good example of what happens when you're not mentally prepared," she said. "They just didn't want it bad enough today."

"We've got a lot of youth and inexperience on this team, and they showed how high we can go (a win over sixth-ranked University of California in last month) and how low we can go in one year."

In game one, Pacific pitcher Dee Ann Hetzel worked on a perfect game through four innings before walking Sue Voeller and serving up a single to Kira Lewis in the fifth.

Lewis' line drive to right was her 39th base hit of the season, a new Oregon record for most hits in a season.

Pacific scored four runs (all unearned) on four hits before the Ducks managed a run in the seventh when Voeller came in on a Cheryl Coryell double, one of only two hits allowed by Hetzel.

Voeller struck out five and walked one for the Ducks, and the junior from Milwaukie concluded her finest season at Oregon, setting single season marks for most games pitched (32), innings pitched (211),

strikeouts (100), wins (14) and shutouts (7).

In the second game, Vicki Fry scored from third on a Voeller single to center in the first, and the Ducks held a 1-0 lead through four innings.

In the fifth, an error allowed Hetzel to score the tying run, and one inning later, Elyce Talley scored the game-winner on Brandi Gill's single.

The Ducks committed four errors, and Pacific pitcher Heidi Trupp allowed only three hits on the day to nail down the win for the Boxers, now 29-8.

"A win would have been nice to go out with," said senior Sony Schroeder, who closed out her career at Oregon by pitching the second game.

"But the teammates I had here will make it nice to remember. This was definitely the best year I've had."

Schroeder won 31 games in four years for the Ducks, including a perfect game against Lewis and Clark College in her freshman debut.

Schroeder added that she would like to continue playing. "There's always softball somewhere. I would like to come back and help out here, and keep these players out of trouble," she said.

"What I'll remember most about Sony is that she was a very hard worker, and that's a valuable asset," Wilson praised. "She was our team leader by example this year."

Oregon hopes to fill the void left by Schroeder with the signing of Denise Jones of Oregon City, Portland's Metro player of the year last season and one of the top pitching prospects in the nation.

The Ducks will also have the

services of third baseman Kristl Okuhara, who was redshirted because of hand injury suffered early in the season.

Hitting the recruiting trail the next couple of weeks, Wilson

said, "with some of the players we hope to have to go with the kids we already have, we'll be able to compete better in the Pac-10."

With seven freshmen now

with a year under their belts, Wilson said, "we had a few bright spots this season, but we just got a taste of what we can do, and what we're capable of doing."

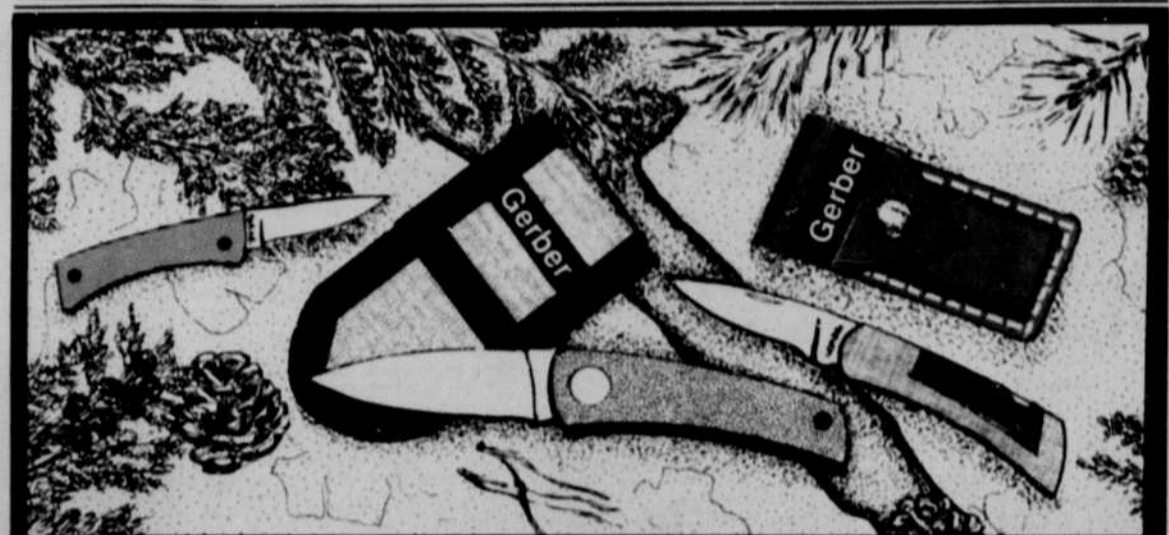
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the long jump and ran the third leg of the winning 400-meter relay. "She's now up in the Pac-10 scoring range (triple jump)."

Karen Church and Stephanie Morris turned in gutsy performances as well, on a day when hot and muggy weather prevailed. Church was master of the 100 and 200, while Morris stepped all the way down from her usual 800 event to place in the same two sprints and run the mile relay.

Overall, the Ducks claimed six individual victories to the Beavers' five. Distance runners Angela Benomini (1,500) and Deon Saraceno (3,000) came away with firsts, as did shot putter Connie Shepherd.

The Civil War occasion had other significance as well. OSU will host the Pac-10 meet in just two weeks, so Oregon was anxious to get acquainted with Wayne Valley Field.

"It gave us a chance to look at their new facilities," said Heinonen, whose dual-meet record jumped to 55-6. "(The athletes) have a better feeling for what it's going to take, even though the competition will be dramatically different at the Pac-10 meet."

Next up for the Ducks is the Oregon Twilight meet Saturday at Hayward Field.

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