

Softball drops to 13-12 after two away losses

The Oregon softball team dropped two games Wednesday at Cal State Northridge, 1-0 and 6-2.

The Matadors pushed one run across the plate in the first game and hung on in a pitchers' duel for the 1-0 victory. Oregon moves to 13-12 on the year with the losses.

Northridge pitcher Kathy Blake moved to 14-3 on the year, and Oregon's Rachelle Taylor fell to 6-7. Blake pitched a two-hit shutout for the win.

Marnie McCall and Jennifer Piper each singled for the Ducks' lone hits in game one.

In game two, Oregon had a 2-1 lead heading into the bottom of the sixth, but allowed the Matadors to score five unearned runs on a costly error and lost 6-2. Blake came in on relief in the sixth to get her second victory of the day, and Oregon's Amy Godwin was the loser, falling to 3-5 on the season.

Oregon scored both of its runs in the sixth as Kim Manning belted her third home run of the season, a solo shot to lead off the inning, and Piper singled in a run.

Piper led the Oregon offense with three hits, and Manning had two.

Earlier last week on Tuesday, Oregon lost two unscheduled games to Texas A&M and Cal State Fullerton at Fullerton, Calif. The Aggies downed Oregon 2-1 in extra innings, and the Titans shut out the Ducks 2-0.

Texas A&M scored both of its runs in the top of the ninth and held off the Ducks in the inning by allowing just one run. McCall scored the only run for the Ducks.

Taylor went the distance in allowing eight hits, striking out eight and allowing one earned run.

In the second game, Godwin picked up the loss, and Tiffany Boyd notched her 11th victory in 16 outings. McCall again led Oregon by going three for four.

Last Monday's scheduled doubleheader at UCLA was postponed. A new date for the games has not yet been determined.

In other softball news, McCall was named the Pacific-10 Conference Player of the Week on March 18. The senior outfielder hit 17 for 24 (.708) with nine runs, two RBIs and eight stolen bases during the week.

Golfers take third place

The Oregon men's golf team placed third out of 18 teams March 23 and 24 at the George Buzzini/Stanislaus Tournament in Turlock, Calif.

Pacific won the tournament with a first-place score of 882. Portland was second with an 897, and the Ducks were just two strokes from the Pilots at 889.

Stanislaus took fourth with a 909, and Sacramento was fifth at 912.

Pacific's Brian Wear won the individual title with a 214. Three golfers tied at 217 for second place.

Doug DuChateau led the Ducks with a fifth-place score of 219. Jeff Lyons was in a three-way tie at 11th place with his score of 223.

Other Oregon finishers included Bob Rannow at 15th place with a 226, Troy Tamiya at 26th with a 231, and James Chrisman at 48th with a 240.

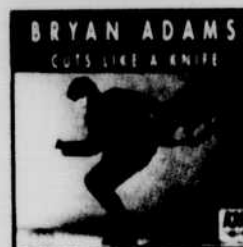
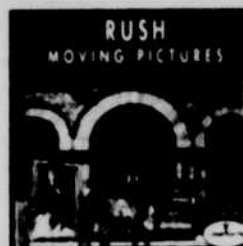
The Ducks will next play in the Fresno State Classic April 10 and 11.

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Wrestler finishes career at championships

Oregon wrestler Dan Vidlak ended his stellar career at the NCAA Wrestling Championships March 20 at Oklahoma City.

The 118-pound senior was upset in a consolation match by unseeded Eric Folkins of Minnesota, 4-3. The loss ended Vidlak's season at 25-3.

Vidlak, a Grants Pass native, is fourth on the Ducks' all-time victory list with 100 and ranks sixth with his .820 career winning percentage. As a sophomore, he placed eighth and improved to seventh a year ago at the NCAA Championships.

Vidlak, seeded third, won his first match the day before but lost in overtime in his second match, placing him in the consolation bracket. He won his next match before losing that morning.

The Ducks' Darren Gustafson (158) dropped a 4-2 consolation contest to Matt Topham of Stanford and completed his career at Oregon with a 20-11-4 season record. The two-time NCAA qualifier is a senior from Redlands, Calif.

Oregon's other three NCAA wrestlers, senior Jarrett Clark (126), junior Pat Craig (150) and senior Scott Myers (190) all lost in the opening round. Clark (24-9) was pinned in 1:33 by top-seeded Terry Brands of Iowa and was then eliminated by Minnesota's Scott Worle, 5-3.

Craig (7-6-1) was pinned in 2:59 by 12th-seeded Mike Bartholomew of Rider, and Myers (16-11-1) lost to 11th seed Dan Troupe of Iowa State, 7-1.

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