

# Softball team to open at home against No. 1 UCLA

□ Oregon 5-4 following tourney appearance

By Steve Mims  
Emerald Sports Reporter

The Oregon women's softball team will face No. 1 UCLA in its home-opening doubleheader Sunday before hitting the road for the rest of March.

The Ducks are 5-4 after winning five out of seven games during a road trip to California last weekend. The Ducks won four of their first five games in the Capital Classic in Sacramento before losing to San Jose State 2-1 in the tournament quarterfinals. Following the tournament the Ducks added a game against St. Mary's and they beat the Gaels 13-4.

The Ducks season got off to a slow start when bad weather forced them to move many practices inside and cancel an exhibition game against Oregon State. Oregon opened the season with two losses at a tournament at UNLV, but bad weather there also caused some games to be canceled.

Freshman Kathy Stahl has led the Ducks from the leadoff spot with 12 hits in 21 at-bats and is batting .571. Stahl also leads the team with five runs, three doubles and has the teams only stolen base.

Catcher Laura Schmidt is batting .300 and has supplied the power for the Ducks. Two of Schmidt's six hits have been home runs and she leads the team with five RBI's.

"Laura has played very well for us," Brown said. "She should have made the all-tournament team in Sacramento. Kathy has been phenomenal, she is our spark plug."

Leanne Brooks is second on the team

**'I don't think we will have as many hits against UCLA ... but I believe everyone in the lineup can do the job.'**

— Tami Brown,  
softball coach

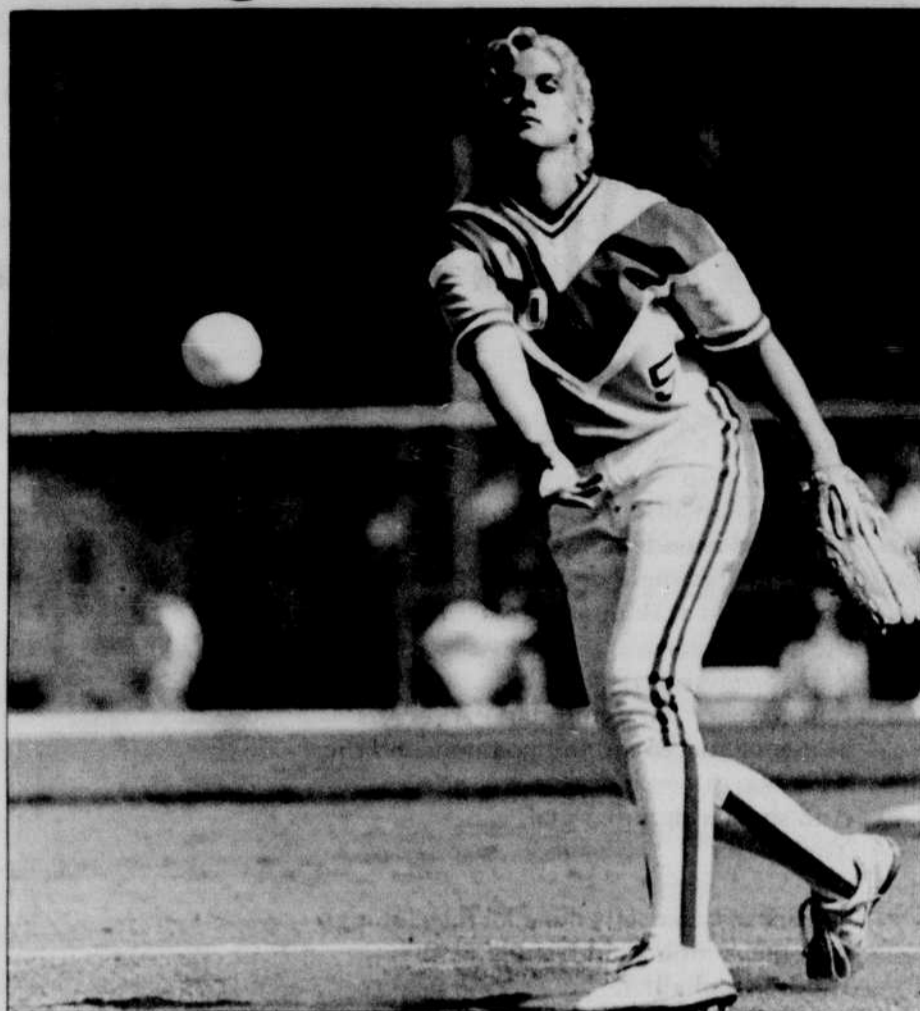
with a .304 and Trina Salcido is averaging .263, but nobody else is hitting above .210. The rest of the Ducks have only 13 hits in 110 at-bats.

"We pounded the ball in our last game against St. Mary's," Brown said. "I don't think we will have as many hits against UCLA as we did against St. Mary's, but I believe everyone in the lineup can do the job."

The Bruins (13-2) lost their first game of the season 2-1 at home against Cal State Northridge before going on a 12 game winning streak. The streak was snapped after a 1-0 loss to Cal Poly Pomona, but the Bruins recently began a new streak with a 10-0 win over Pomona.

The Bruins are led on offense and pitching by Lisa Fernandez, who is batting .500 and has an ERA of 0.38. Fernandez has 23 hits in 46 at-bats including two doubles and two home runs. On the mound Fernandez is 8-0 and has given up only 20 hits in 56 innings while striking out 81 batters. No team has scored more than two runs against the Bruins in 15 games.

The first game of the doubleheader begins Sunday at 11:00 at Howe Field.



Oregon's Rachel Taylor is expected pitch for the Ducks Sunday when they face No. 1 UCLA at Howe Field.

## Women to face Cal, Stanford down south

□ Ducks hope to end disappointing season on a positive note with two games in California

By Steve Mims  
Emerald Sports Reporter

The Oregon women's basketball season which began with high hopes and was filled with disappointment will come to an end this weekend with a trip to the Bay Area for games against Stanford and California.

The Ducks opened the season ranked 27th in the nation and were

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## Men try to stay out of basement

□ Oregon coach wishes Pac-10 tourney still around

By Dave Charbonneau  
Emerald Sports Editor

The Oregon men's basketball will face Stanford tonight and California Saturday, as the long 1992-93 season comes to an end for the 2-14 Ducks.

For head coach Jerry Green, the season was over a long time ago.

After a 7-5 preseason mark,

Oregon took a nosedive to the basement of the Pacific-10 Conference with 11 straight losses.

"As far as making it into any postseason play," Green said, "Our season was over a while ago. Since the midway point of the season, we've never really had a shot at postseason play."

It is for that reason Green wishes the Pac-10 had a conference tournament. While teams like 13-16 East Carolina are earning trips to the NCAA tournament, the Ducks are ending the season with hopes of staying out of the Pac-10 cellar.

When Green was an assistant at Kansas, the Big Eight had a conference tournament. He said the postseason tournaments are beneficial because they give teams like his an outside chance at continuing their season.

"I miss the tournament atmosphere," he said. "I'm not saying we could win two, or even one tournament game. But a conference tournament gives teams like us a renewed excitement in a sort of 'second season.' East Carolina won their conference

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