

The USA TODAY-CNN basketball coaches' poll, with first-place votes in parentheses. Records through March 5, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote, and previous ranking:

	Record	Pts	Pvs
1 UCLA(32)	23-2	848	1
2 Kansas	22-4	783	4
3 North Carolina(2)	22-4	777	2
4 Kentucky	22-4	754	3
5 Connecticut	23-3	681	5
6 Arkansas	25-5	636	7
7 Massachusetts	24-4	610	8
8 Wake Forest	21-5	578	11
9 Michigan State	21-4	574	9
10 Maryland	23-6	554	6
11 Arizona	23-6	544	10
12 Virginia	21-7	481	13
13 Purdue	22-6	411	16
14 Villanova	22-7	346	12
15 Mississippi St	20-6	326	17
16 Arizona State	21-8	254	14
17 Oklahoma St	20-9	254	20
18 Oklahoma	22-7	248	18
19 Missouri	19-7	209	21
20 Syracuse	19-8	208	15
21 Utah	24-5	173	25
22 Alabama	20-8	106	22
<b>23. Oregon</b>	<b>18-7</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>—</b>
24. Stanford	17-8	78	19
25. Iowa State	20-9	58	22

Others receiving votes: W. Kentucky 56, Georgetown 45, Georgia Tech 42, Texas 40, Utah St 34, New Mexico State 28, Minnesota 25, Temple 18, Brigham Young 16, Tulsa 15, Texas-El Paso 15, Miami, Ohio 14, Penn 14, DePaul 9, Virginia Tech 9, Xavier, Ohio 9, Saint Louis 8, Washington State 8, Georgia 7, Louisville 6, Ohio, U. 6, Texas Tech 6, Drexel 4, N.C. Charlotte 4, Tulane 4, Memphis 3, New Orleans, Cincinnati 2, Indiana 2, Nebraska 2, Coll. of Charleston 1, Long Beach St. 1, N.C.-Greensboro 1.



GARY GRASSI/Emerald  
Oregon's Jeff Potter prepares to take it up against Stanford's Darren Allaway in Saturday's physical battle between the two conference rivals that are considered to be "on the bubble" in terms of gaining a berth into the NCAA tournament.

## Mac Court rocks as Oregon rolls toward NCAA bid

Kris Henry  
Oregon Daily Emerald

It rained all day Saturday but no amount of water could have put out the fire inside McArthur Court as Oregon thumped 20th-ranked Stanford, 89-80.

The Pit was electric as eight seniors paid their farewell tribute to the Mac Court fans by walking over a hard-nosed gang of Cardinal players.

### OREGON BASKETBALL

Oregon 89,  
Stanford 80



■ **Next:** Oregon hits the road to Los Angeles to take on USC Thursday and No. 1 UCLA on Saturday.

■ **Notable:** The Ducks entered the USA Today-CNN Top 25 this week with their sweep over the Bay Area schools.

Oregon's victory allowed it to maintain sole possession of fourth place in the demanding Pacific 10 conference, with a one-game lead over fifth-place Washington State and only a half game behind third-place Arizona State.

At 18-7 overall and 10-6 in league play, the Ducks are knocking at the NCAA tournament's door. One win in Los Angeles on Oregon's final regular-season road trip should topple that door, punching the Ducks' first ticket to the "Big Dance" for the first time in 34 years.

Senior guard Orlando Williams pumped in a game-high 25 points while sophomore sensation Kenya Wilkins came close to a triple-double for the second-straight game. Wilkins finished the game with a team-high nine rebounds and eight assists to go along with 21 points — seven coming from the charity stripe to secure a victory in the final minutes.

Oregon was in rare form against Stanford as 10,086 Mac Court faithful buzzed with excitement. Those attending sellout No. 7 in The Pit got a glimpse of what can happen when a team rallies around one another. Oregon players were taking charges, setting solid picks, helping teammates on defense and slapping high-fives in one of the best team efforts this season.

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## Stanford women blowout Oregon, clinch Pac-10 title

STANFORD, Calif. (AP) — Tara VanDerveer has her ideas about how the postseason might take shape now that her Stanford team has won another Pac-10 title. But she's not willing to bet a nickel on her vision coming true.

"I would have to think that we might be seeded in the West, since we're the Pac-10 champions, but nothing is ever a lock with the NCAA. I need to see it in writing," VanDerveer said following her team's 97-55 blowout over Oregon Saturday.

Anita Kaplan scored 24 points and hit 11 of 14 from the field as No. 5 Stanford clinched its sixth conference title in seven years. Stanford had won five straight titles before finishing second last year to USC.

"These last few [conference] games are important to us, because our pride is on the line and because I need to see how some of our other players will step up when needed," VanDerveer said.

"We're also fighting for seeding. I want it [a high seed in the first round March 16, possibly before a partisan crowd at Stanford], but I'm not going to worry about it."

The Cardinal (24-2, 15-1 Pac-10) dominated both ends

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## Seniors finish up strong in physical battle at The Pit

Chris Metz  
Oregon Daily Emerald

The eight seniors who make up the 1994-1995 Oregon Ducks couldn't have scripted their last game any better.

Going into the game that was considered a must-win if the Ducks had any ideas of an NCAA tournament berth, the eight outgoing Ducks spearheaded a big-time victory that was not only their last at McArthur Court, but their most important.

"It was probably our biggest game of the season," a battle-tested Jordy Lyden said after the game. "Having such an important game as our last was great."

As special as the game was for seniors Lyden, Orlando Williams, Jeff Potter, Zach Sellers, Damon

Runyon, Jon Mitchell, Aaron Johnson and Darryl Parker, it was more importantly a crucial step to securing their shot at the NCAA tournament — an invitation that has eluded the Ducks for more than three decades.

The win over the Cardinal didn't come easy. A Stanford team that most certainly wasn't prepared for a sweep at the hands of the Oregon schools came out ready to do battle with the Ducks. The two teams hooked up for one of the more physical contests of the year.

"They came out ready to war," Oregon head coach Jerry Green said, "and we did too."

"Stanford knew that, with their loss to Oregon State, this was

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### Duck Notes

**Women golfers place fifth**  
Oregon's women's golf team shot a final-round 301 to place fifth in the Stanford Intercollegiate Golf Tournament on Sunday.

Shannon Hare shot a 75 for the third day in a row for the Ducks to finish in a tie for ninth place with San Jose State's Vibeke Stensrud at 225.

Top-ranked Arizona State was nine strokes better than San Jose State to grab the team title.

**Oregon hosts Invitational**  
Sixteen teams make up this year's 54-hole Oregon Duck Invitational that begins today at the Eugene Country Club.

The two-day tournament concludes Tuesday with 18 holes at Emerald Valley in Creswell.

U. S. Amateur champion Tiger Arnolds makes his Eugene debut as the freshman phenom leads his second-ranked Stanford squad into the Willamette Valley.

Action starts at 8:15 a.m. both days