



Ducks drop two of three due to lack of pitching

Mark McTyre
Oregon Daily Emerald

With an absence of starting pitchers over the weekend, the Oregon club baseball team dropped two of three games on its road trip to Central Oregon Community College in Bend.

The Ducks (2-4) kicked off their three-game series in disappointing fashion, by relinquishing four- and six-run leads in the final inning of each game of a doubleheader on Saturday afternoon. However, Oregon was able to bounce back with a victory in its final game against its host, behind a superb pitching performance by Oscar Sweeten.

Being one of the starting pitchers that wasn't able to make the initial trip to Bend because of prior engagements, Sweeten arrived on Sunday to toss a three-hit complete game en route to a 5-1 victory. In addition to allowing just three hits, Sweeten struck out nine batters and walked only one.

"Oscar did a good job," Oregon head coach Mark Walter said. "We really needed a strong complete pitching performance. He did that."

In the victory, Rico Ramirez and Jake Stoops led the offensive output with two hits apiece.

Although the Ducks dropped both ends of their twin bill on Saturday by one run each, the games did not fall short of offensive highlights.

In the first game, third baseman Chip Bradley hit a two-run triple in the sixth inning, and in the following contest pitcher Bob Humphreys helped his cause by belting three hits, jacking one of them for a three-run blast in the third inning.

CLUB NOTES

Joel Hood
For the Oregon Daily Emerald

The Oregon men's and women's crew teams battled through unseasonably cold temperatures and freezing rain last weekend in Corvallis to consistent top finishes in each division. Oregon finished no worse than third place in any one division including gold-medal performances by two teams.

The women's lightweight four team took home gold medals in the women's 1,000-meter overall finals race and were joined by the women's novice four team who were able to come up gold in the petite team finals.

"We had a lot of strong performances this weekend from our team," men's varsity team rower Zohar Abramovitz said. "Despite the terrible weather, everyone was able to do well in their divisions."

Both the men's and women's varsity team managed third-place medals in the grand finals, holding their own against some of the region's top teams.

I got it



An annual rite of spring on campus, intramural softball started this week with both regular and coed leagues getting under way.

Players learning new reality of salaries

NEW YORK (AP) — In the parlance of some agents and general managers, it's called "taking a shave."

All across baseball, players with multi-million dollar salaries are taking multi-million cuts — if they don't have super stats to back up their big bucks.

"It's a changing market out there," Houston Astros general manager Bob Watson said Monday. "It's been reflected in a lot of the signings. It's an indication that the market has changed."

Tom Browning went from \$3.5 million to \$300,000 when he signed with Kansas City. Bob Welch dropped from \$2.9 million to \$225,000 with Oakland.

Bud Black, who made \$2.65 million last year, signed with Cleveland for \$350,000. Mike Devoreaux dropped from \$2,575,000 to \$800,000.

"It's been incredible, just incredible," acting commissioner Bud Selig said.

Dave Stewart dropped from \$3.5 million to \$1 million when he signed with Oakland on Saturday. He didn't seem to mind.

"What the owners are doing now probably should have been done years ago without asking us to fix their problem," he said. "What's going on right now isn't any more than what it should have been."

In the deal most criticized by

agents, catcher Pat Borders signed with Kansas City for \$310,000. He made \$2.5 million last season with Toronto.

"I remember making \$5 an hour," Borders said. "You have to keep things in perspective. The salary I just signed for, you could make \$5 an hour for about 15 years and not make that kind of money."

Players and agents say the moves of the past week show the current system of free agency and salary arbitration can adjust to changes in revenue. Owners claim they lost \$700 million in revenue because of the strike.

Oregon raises record \$2 million during drive

The Duck Athletic Fund, the fund-raising arm of the University Department of Athletics, has reported record figures in donations following its annual six-week fund drive, Assistant Athletics Director Jim Bartko announced.

The DAF reported an increase of more than 43 percent in cash donations and pledges to reach a total of \$2,091,231 for 1995. More than 120 volunteers were organized into teams in three divisions (Eugene, Portland and all other areas).

Bartko said Oregon's first-ever outright Pacific-10 Conference football title and Rose Bowl trip and the Ducks' selection to the NCAA Tournament fields in men's and women's basketball contributed to the success of the fund drive.

Bartko said the annual fund drive helps to offset the cost of scholarships for Oregon student-athletes, allowing budgeted funds to be earmarked in other areas, such as recruiting, travel and equipment.

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Agassi moves up to No. 1

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Fla. (AP) — Andre Agassi, the U.S. Open and Australian Open champion, was ranked the world's No. 1 men's tennis player today for the first time, replacing Pete Sampras, who had been on top for 82 consecutive weeks.

The flamboyant Agassi is only the 12th player in the 22-year history of the men's computer rankings to hold the No. 1 spot.

He was positioned to move up from No. 2 top after defeating Sampras in the final of the Lipton Championships March 26.

Boycott plea affecting players

HAINES CITY, Fla. (AP) — A columnist's plea for a fan boycott of the Kansas City Royals' home opener is getting on the nerves of some of the players.

Jason Whitlock, a columnist for The Kansas City Star, has written several columns urging fans to skip the April 26 opener against Baltimore, and says he's received 1,000 phone calls supporting the boycott in the last week.

ON THIS DATE

■ 1912 — Rube Marquard of the New York Giants began a 19-game winning streak with an 18-3 victory over the Brooklyn Dodgers.

■ 1961 — The Los Angeles Angels won their first major league game with a 7-2 victory over the Orioles at Baltimore. Ted Kluszewski hit two homers for the Angels.

■ 1962 — The New York Mets played their first game, losing 11-4 to the Cardinals in St. Louis.

■ 1969 — The Seattle Pilots played their first game, with Gary Bell shutting out the White Sox, 7-0, at Sicks Stadium.

■ 1985 — Seattle's Gorman Thomas hit three homers and drove in 6 runs to lead the Mariners in a 14-6 victory over the Oakland A's.

■ 1990 — Mark Langston made his debut for the Angels by combining with Mike Witt on a no-hitter, leading California over the Seattle Mariners, 1-0.

■ Today's birthdays: Bret Saberhagen 31; Wally Whitehurst 31.