

Oregon looking to upset Trojans

The Ducks enter today's match against No. 21 USC with a nine-match losing streak

By Tim Pyle
Sports Reporter

Respect and individual postseason hopes will be on the line when the Oregon women's tennis team attempts to stop a nine-match losing streak against Southern California in Los Angeles today.

After losing 5-1 to No. 16 UCLA in Los Angeles on Sunday, the Ducks (3-15, 0-7 Pacific-10 Conference) are looking to avoid finishing winless in conference play by upsetting the No. 21 Trojans. To do so, Oregon would have to record its first victory since Feb. 22 against Pacific.

In the first season of the realigned Pac-10, the Ducks have been ravaged by injuries that have left them unable to fill their lineup in more than half of their dual matches. The Pac-10 consisted of

Northern and Southern divisions until this season.

Oregon's postseason hopes may have drowned, but the Ducks' No. 1 singles player, Alina Wygonowska, is still afloat in her bid to earn a berth in the NCAA individual championships, which take place in South Bend, Ind., beginning May 20.

Wygonowska, who is ranked No. 74 in the Rolex Collegiate Tennis Rankings, registered her second consecutive win over a top-30 conference opponent Sunday. She defeated the Bruins' Annica Cooper, who is ranked No. 14, a week after beating No. 27 Kristina Kraszewski of Washington.

Wygonowska (16-15) was leading Cooper 6-4, 3-0 when Cooper retired because of soreness in her leg. Wygonowska's victory was the only one for the Ducks, as none of her teammates were able to win

a single set against their UCLA opponents.

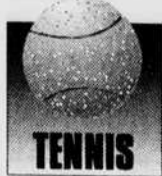
In No. 2 singles, Oregon's Andrea Petrovic (11-18) pulled out of her match against the Bruin's Cristina Popescu, who is ranked No. 36, after losing the first set 6-0 because of continually sore feet.

Allison Sosnow (7-11), Shanelle Kaneshiro (8-18), Jaime Martin (5-17) and Milena Glusac (0-3) all lost their singles matches in straight sets at the No. 3-6 spots.

Head coaches Jack Griffin of Oregon and Stella Sampras of UCLA agreed to cancel the three scheduled doubles matches because they each have multiple ailing players.

Today, the Ducks will try to build on a loss to USC last season that Griffin called one of his team's best performances.

Griffin is expected to play the same singles lineup against USC that he did against the Bruins. In doubles, Sosnow-Kaneshiro, Petrovic-Wygonowska and Glusac-Martin may represent the Ducks.



Heuser leads women to third-place finish

By Tim Pyle
Sports Reporter

While the Oregon men's golf team enters today's final round of its tournament at Stanford in 12th place, the Oregon women's golf team enjoyed a successful finish to its regular season in another tournament near the Cardinal campus.

The Ducks' Anika Heuser became the first player to win an individual title for the women's team this season at the 36-hole Peg Barnard California Collegiate. Heuser's combined 147 led Oregon, which is ranked No. 9 in the MasterCard Collegiate Golf Rankings, to a third-place team finish.

Tied for third after Saturday's first round with 74, Heuser claimed the championship by shooting a final-round 73. Southern California teammates Danjelle La Voie and Jennifer Rosales finished tied for second, one stroke behind Heuser at 148.

All five of the other Ducks competing finished in the top 23. Jerilyn White tied for fourth at 150, Paula Patterson tied for 16th at 155, and Karen Bristow, Pam Sowden and Kylie Wilson all shot a combined 158 to tie for 23rd.

Behind La Voie and Rosales, the Trojans won the team championship with a 601 total. San Jose State finished second at 612, and Oregon shot a combined 613 to claim third.

The tournament marked Oregon's second third-place and fifth top-three finish. The Ducks begin play at the Pacific-10 Championships in Los Angeles on April 20.

The men's golf team is 14 strokes behind first-place UCLA after 36 holes of the 54-hole U.S. Intercollegiate.

The Ducks shot a 299 in Saturday's first round to put them in 10th place, but they dropped two spots with Sunday's 302 that gives them a combined 601 through two rounds.

"We had come down here with high expectations and we've dug ourselves a pretty deep hole," Oregon head coach Steve Nosler said.

Ben Crane, who is ranked No. 56, leads the Ducks with a combined 147 that has him in a tie for 17th place, four strokes behind co-leaders Herbert Forster of Pacific and B.J. Schlagenhaupt of UCLA. Crane shot a second-round 75 Sunday after his opening-round 72.

"Ben didn't have a good round [Sunday]," Nosler said. "He had a double bogey down the stretch toward the finish and that bounced [his score] up a bit."

Chris Cone shot a 72 Sunday for Oregon to put him in a tie for 31st at a combined 149.



Track: Bleakney wins 2nd-straight triple jump

Continued from Page 11A
with a throw of 159-3, with Pearmine second in 152-8.

On the men's side, the Ducks pulled out a second-place team finish despite the fact head coach Bill Dellinger said before the meet that individual performances, not team scoring, would be the team's focus in Berkeley.

The Ducks even took a reduced squad to the Bay Area, most notably leaving behind Piotr Buciariski and Micah Davis, who were resting up in preparation for Saturday's Pepsi Invitational at Hayward Field.

Nonetheless, Oregon used two first-place finishes and 12 top-four performances to end the meet with 119 points, 11 behind host California and well in front of third-place Southern California, which finished with 85 points.

For the second week in a row, Oregon's Gregg Bleakney won the triple jump, this time leaping 50-11 1/2 to edge out Cal State Bakersfield's Jamaal Chase (50-6 3/4). It was also the

second meet in a row that Bleakney went over the 50-foot mark.

Oregon's other victory came from junior Konrad Knutsen, who ran away from the field in the 5,000 meters, winning in a time of 14:20.12, a personal best by 17 seconds.

Another impressive performance in the distance events came from sophomore Tom Newman, who made his 1,500 meters season debut with a second-place finish in a time of 3:50.63, just .06 seconds behind Stanford's Jake Maas.

Oregon's next-highest finish came from senior Will Driesen, who finished second in the 400-meter hurdles with a season-best time of 52.74 seconds.

In the throwing events, Ryan Cole continued his impressive early season, placing fourth in the discus (177-10) and seventh in the shotput (51-7). Oregon also gained quite a few points from Ben Mitchell (200-1) and Shawn Rasmor (193-3), who finished second and third, respectively, in the javelin.



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When? Tuesday, April 14th from 6-9p.m. for an open house. Wednesday & Thursday, April 15 & 16 for lunch from 11:30-1:00 and dinner from 5:00-6:30.

Questions? Call Stacie or Marisa 485-6694