

Pac-10 woes continue for Oregon

Road losses to both Washington schools drop the Ducks to 1-6 in conference play

By Mirjam Swanson
for the Emerald

The Ducks went north hoping to turn their season around. Instead, they fell to both Washington schools and now find themselves in a deeper hole with an overall record of 6-12, 1-6 in the Pacific-10 Conference.

Oregon increased its Pac-10 losing streak to six after losing to Washington State in three games Sunday afternoon, 15-7, 16-14, 15-4.

"We definitely had some opportunities, particularly in game two," head coach Cathy Nelson said. "We just had a hard time putting them away."

Oregon was able to mix things up a bit offensively. Senior Alli White led the Ducks in the kill department with 16, taking on the role of all-American candidate Madeline Ernst, who is the Ducks' kills leader. Freshman Tanja Nikolic added a career best 12 kills.

"It's really important as we have more and more teams try to stick on Madeline, [that] others players come and do some great things," Nelson said. "Tanja Nikolic and Alli White both had good matches, and Amy Banducci has been solid."

Although Oregon did hold the edge in number of kills, at

50-48, the Ducks' hitting percentage of .133 fell below Washington State's mark of .259.

The Ducks were ailed by 31 attacking errors and 12 service errors, compared to Washington State's 18 attacking errors and one service miscue.

"Physically we're getting there," Nelson said. "We're pretty close to where we need to be, we're making physical mistakes, but I think some of them come from the mental side of the game, so we're going to focus more on the mental aspect."

In game 1, which the Ducks lost 15-7, they hit .172. Nelson said her squad came very close to winning game 2, in which they hit at a .139 clip and recorded 28 kills. But inevitably they were unable to pull it off, losing 16-14.

"I think it's frustrating to be that close and not come up with the plays that we needed to," Nelson said. "But at the same time we're encouraged, we know we can play in the conference, we know we can win in the conference. We're just not doing it, and that's the step that we need to make."

In game three the Ducks had a .086 hitting percentage, and lost 15-4.

On Friday night a variety of things went right for the Ducks,

none of which was the final result.

Against Washington, Ernst led the team with 34 kills, although she wasn't alone in putting up numbers. Three other Ducks collected 10 or more kills. Tobaggi had a career high 26, White had 17, and Banducci recorded 16, also a career high for her. Freshman Julie Gerlach contributed 82 assists in the match, the fourth highest total in school history.

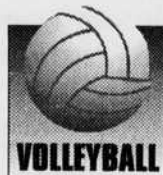
Outstanding individual performances weren't enough to beat a talented Huskies team though, as Oregon lost in four games, 18-16, 16-14, 10-15, 15-8.

The match was close from beginning to end, but Oregon was stifled by Washington's 24 blocks and by its own mistakes. The Ducks committed 43 attacking errors and 15 service errors.

In the first game, Oregon found itself down 5-2 but rallied and led 14-13 at one point. Unable to close it out, the Ducks came up just short, falling 18-16.

Again Oregon fought back in the second game, rebounding from a 6-2 deficit to take an 8-6 lead. Washington went on to win the last two points, and the game, 16-14.

The Ducks kept the match going by scoring eight consecutive points to win the third game 15-10, but they couldn't contain Washington in the fourth and final game, losing 15-8.



Ducks make their mark in Pre-NCAA Invitational

By Scott Pesznecker
Oregon Daily Emerald

Both the men's and women's Oregon cross country teams have expressed their goals to place high in the NCAA Championships this season.

At the Bob Timmons Pre-NCAA Invitational on Saturday the men proved they were a contender for the national title while the women proved they should not yet be counted out of the running.

The men showed they belonged in the title race by placing second at the tournament with a final team score of 103. The No. 10 Ducks were beaten only by No. 1 Stanford, which scored 80 points.

Oregon ran against four teams ranked in the top five — Stanford, Colorado, Arizona and North Carolina — and beat three of them. The team's performance at the Pre-NCAA should improve the Ducks' ranking in the NCAA.

Matthew Davis led the Ducks, finishing sixth-place overall with a time of 24 minutes, 45.65 seconds. Steve Fein came out strong in his Oregon debut to finish 10th overall with a time of 25:03.03.

Also scoring for the Ducks was Micah Davis, who finished with a time of 25:29.49. Lincoln Nehring placed 48th with a time of 25:51.53, Adam Bergquist placed 98th with a time of 26:20.67, Oliver Wirz placed 116th with a time of 26:30.46, and Konrad Knutsen finished in 128th with a time of 26:40.70.

Oregon secured second place in a comfortable fashion. No. 3 Colorado finished in third-place with a final score of 120.

Winning individual champion of the invitational was Julius Mwangi of Butler, with a time of 23:47.50.

The women finished 10th overall with a final score of 282. Head coach Tom Heinonen said in a released statement that "from here, we've got to be a lot better over the last month of the season, and I think we can be."

The team was led by Marie Davis, who finished in fifth place overall with a time of 17:29.87. Heather McMahon also finished well, placing 30th with a time of 18:10.58. Annie Ebner placed 66th with a time of 18:43.40, Liz Howell placed 76th with a time of 18:55.80, and Robyn Sutherland placed 105th with a time of 19:12.45.

No. 2 Stanford won the meet with a score of 65. No. 10 Arizona placed second with a score of 138, and No. 13 Northern Arizona finished in third with a score of 149.

Arizona's Amy Skieresz won the individual title with a time of 17:00.49. Tara Chaplin, also from Arizona, placed second with a time of 17:15.34.

Both Duck teams will run this week at the University of Oregon Invitational Saturday, Oct. 17.



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Horoscope by Frances Drake

For Monday, Oct. 12, 1998

ARIES

(March 21 to April 19)
If too many people clamor for your attention, give yourself some space. A sibling or close friend may confront you about the way you spend your time.

TAURUS

(April 20 to May 20)
Go out for a cup of coffee with a good friend. The two of you have a lot of catching up to do, so linger and enjoy the company.

GEMINI

(May 21 to June 20)
You feel unusually stressed by financial and domestic concerns. Allow yourself to be upset, but do not blame other people for your feelings.

CANCER

(June 21 to July 22)
You feel empowered to take risks and to stand up for yourself. Somehow you know that nothing and no one will stand in your way right now.

LEO

(July 23 to Aug. 22)
Relax and let the hours slip by. Take a nap with your sweetheart, or spend several hours baking and eating the perfect batch of cookies.

VIRGO

(Aug. 23 to Sept. 22)
Reward yourself for recent accomplishments. Invite some of your friends out for drinks, and don't be surprised when they toast you — you deserve it.

LIBRA

(Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)
Your boss may seem skeptical about your recent job performance. Now is not the time to ask for special attention; keep quiet for a while and the mood will improve.

SCORPIO

(Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)
Projects that you began long ago may finally culminate in success. However, it is your responsibility to finish what you started if you want to reap the rewards.

SAGITTARIUS

(Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)
Extreme mood swings may cause you discomfort. Although your mind and your emotions are spinning out of control, your body is exhausted.

CAPRICORN

(Dec. 22 to Jan. 19)
The bigger picture is the focus; paint in sweeping brushstrokes. You should think in broad terms right now and worry about the details later.

AQUARIUS

(Jan. 20 to Feb. 18)
Rationality and organization will be necessary if you wish to overcome the confusion inside you. Don't get upset if your wits are not as sharp as they could be.

PISCES

(Feb. 19 to March 20)
You are a magical storyteller and a gifted poet. Children and animals are magnetically drawn to you, and your peers may be equally charmed.

YOU BORN TODAY are beautiful, gracious, charming — and utterly aware of the effect you have on others. When poets and artists look for a muse, their eyes tend to stop on you. Although your inner landscape may be full of confusion, you seem to glide through life smoothly and effortlessly.

Birthdate of: Susan Anton, entertainer; Dick Gregory, comedian; Luciano Pavarotti, opera singer.
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Jennifer C.	Alison P.
Brenna D.	Tara P.
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