

Oregon wraps up two wins, but loses to Boise St.

■ The men's tennis team moves closer toward its goal of a national ranking with two weekend wins

By Robbie McCallum
for the Emerald

Although the Oregon men's tennis team certainly gained much-needed momentum from its two wins at the Boise State Shootout this weekend, its loss to the Broncos Sunday tainted the early weekend success.

Despite playing tough, the Ducks lost to No. 36 Boise State, 6-1.

Senior Joaquin Hamden recorded Oregon's only win in a close three-set win over Marcus Bernston.

Oregon was otherwise unsuccessful in singles action.

No. 1 player Guillermo Carter was beaten in two close sets by Wesley Moodlie, 6-4, 7-6 (4).

"It was a battle," Oregon head coach Chris Russell said in a released statement. "The guys fought extremely hard and left it all out there on the court. If we continue to play like this as far as this kind of fight and hunger, we'll be knocking off top-35 teams."

The Ducks did manage to record a doubles win, as freshman Oded Teig and senior Thomas Schneider beat Rio Kuharski and Andrew Roumieh, 8-4.

But before Sunday, they completely manhandled their opponents, clinching both contests early in singles play.

On Friday, Oregon defeated Utah 5-2.

Sophomore Thomas Schneider upset the Utes' Ashley Dyer in two sets to lead the Ducks. Senior Guillermo Carter defeated Utah's David Mercier in two sets, 7-5, 6-2. Seniors Joaquin Hamden and freshman Oded Teig had to come from behind in their victories. Hamden defeated the Utes' Pat Wallebringer, 7-5, 3-6, 6-0. Teig beat Utah's David Laverty 6-2, 6-2 after dropping the first set, 3-6.

In doubles play, Carter teamed with Leslie Eisinga to defeat Utah's Dyer and Laverty, 8-6. Teig and Schneider also prevailed, defeating Trevor Ferguson and Kyle Zenger, 8-4.

"It was a good start for us," Russell said. "By playing a solid team in the opening round, it will help

us get the momentum that we need."

On Saturday, the Ducks improved to 2-0 on the season, as they dominated Idaho, 6-1. Oregon swept all of its singles matches en route to the victory.



Carter, Hamden, Schneider and Teig all picked up their second wins of the season. Junior David Becker disposed of the Vandals' Fredrik Von Sydow in impressive fashion, 6-1, 6-0.

Idaho picked up its lone point in doubles play. The Vandals' Darin Currall and Amod Walker narrowly defeated Carter and Becker,

8-6. Teig and Schneider responded with an 8-1 win over Von Sydow and Eddie Brisbois. Idaho's Stephen DiSilva and Tad Kincaid put away the Ducks with a 8-2 win over senior Cedric Van-Haver and freshman Jason Menke. Both Teig and Schneider came away from Boise undefeated.

"We played solid tennis today," Chris Russell said. "Our guys really stepped up and played at the level that they need in order to move into the rankings."

The Ducks were scheduled to play 35th-ranked Boise State on Sunday. Results were unavailable.

Oregon returns to action on Wednesday, Feb. 9, in Portland against the Pilots.

Ducks hope experience pays off

■ Oregon golfers hope for a good showing in their first tournament of 2000

By Peter Hockaday
for the Emerald

The Ducks tee-off for their first tournament of the new millennium today.

And head coach Steve Nosler said his team is ready for a showdown in the desert.

The men participate in the 54-hole Ping Arizona Intercollegiate Tournament, to be held in Tucson over the next two days. The field

features seven of the top 25 teams in the nation, including four Pacific-10 Conference teams in the top 15.

Nosler has hope for his Ducks. "College golf is kind of goofy," Nosler said. "You gotta get lucky as well as be good."

There is no doubt the Ducks are good. Senior co-captain Ryan Lavoie took second place at the Husky Invitational this fall and had six top-20 finishes last year. Andrew Tredway, the Ducks' other captain, finished with five top-20 finishes last year.

Overall, the team has finished third, eighth, second, and tied for

fifth in the four tournaments it played in the fall.

Nosler's ultimate goal is a berth in the NCAA tournament. That means a strong showing at the Ping is important.

The Ducks have a chance to gain national recognition by competing against top-ranked teams.

But the outcome of the tourney is unpredictable, according to Nosler, a team score "ten over par might win it."

Each team fields five players, and the top four scores from each team will be added together for the team's score.

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"To rally from such an emotional thing like what happened at USC and come back and get this big win, it's just really a statement of who these kids are."

It's by no accident that Runge's teams don't lose back-to-back games in the Pac-10; they're too tough, mentally and physically.

That toughness was evident all game, including late in the first half, when the Ducks trailed by their largest margin, 23-17, and had several starters on the bench.

Freshman point guard Kourtney Shreve drove downcourt and found Jamie Craighead deep behind the three-point line. Keeping with the day's theme, Craighead stepped up and buried the shot, cutting the Bruins' lead to three.

Beside a slim advantage early, the Ducks didn't lead again until junior forward Brianne Meharry knocked down a pair of free throws — two in a string of eight-straight Oregon makes from the line — which pushed the score to 50-49 with 4 minutes, 17 seconds to go.

Less than two minutes later, UCLA head coach Kathy Olivier was called for a technical foul, and Oregon point guard Shaquala Williams sank the two ensuing

free throws.

"When Kathy got that 'T,' that just busted their bubble," said Williams on KUGN. "The players on the floor were saying 'Shut up Kathy.' I know when you go like that against your coach [we were] in great hands."

Even when it didn't have the lead, Oregon just kept coming, playing like they were unaware, or at least unaffected, by the game's magnitude. The Ducks were in control.

"It never felt like it was out of reach," Runge said. "From top to bottom, everyone who went out there left everything on the court, our kids played so well. It wasn't pretty at times, but it was a great overall effort."

The performance of Alyssa Fredrick, a redshirt sophomore from San Diego, certainly helped keep things within reach.

She came off the bench and put on a show for the 2,215 in attendance with timely and athletic layins. She also drew fouls, hit free throws, blocked a shot and provided some much-needed on-court energy. Perfect from the floor and the line, Fredrick finished with 10 points and two rebounds in nine minutes.

"I was lovin' Alyssa today," Williams said. "I'm gonna have to take her out to dinner or some-

thing. She was on the glass, blocking shots; [she] hit a couple of clutch free throws. She did everything we needed her to do."

Williams also filled her role nicely, despite struggling with her shot.

"If they would have been just clanks, then maybe I would have lost a little confidence," Williams said. "But they were in-and-out, and those are shots that I know I'm gonna make. And when I needed the big shots, they came."

Last season's Pac-10 freshman of the year converted 10 of 13 free throws, but only 5 of 19 shots — including 2 of 10 from behind the arc — to finish with a game-high 22 points. She also had six assists.

And once again, she got the best of Erica Gomez. The Bruins' point guard finished with six points, three assists and nine turnovers, well off her season averages of 8.1, 6.2 and 4.9, respectively.

Jenny Mowe followed a good game on Thursday with another quality performance against the Bruins. Always a presence inside, Mowe finished with nine rebounds, a steal and a solid block in the face of star freshman Nicole Kaczmariski, who tried to take Mowe one-on-one on the break.

Mowe "allows me to pressure the ball," Williams said. "Cause if you want to beat me and go run into Jenny, hey, I'm happy for you."

Sports brief

Duck track teams shine at Silver State Invite

Thirty-three members of the Oregon women's track team and eight members of the men's squad came through with strong performances in the second meet of the indoor season at the Silver State Invitational in Reno, NV.

Senior Howard Moore paced the Duck men, winning the 200 meters and clocking a personal

best (6.42) in the 55 meters.

Freshman Terry Ellis matched Moore's output, finishing second in the 55-hurdles with a time of 7.73.

In men's field events, John Bello posted a three-foot PR in the shot put at 55 feet, 6 feet. Junior Kyle Johnson took second in the high jump (6 feet 9 inches).

Sophomore Santiago Lorenzo had both a PR in the pole vault (15-7) and a 10th-place finish in the 400.

Among the women, sophomore

pole-vaulter Niki Reed came in sixth with a vault of 12 feet. Junior Holly Speight came in 12th (11-11 3/4). Freshman Mary Etter came within a foot of the NCAA provisional mark with her throw of 48-2.

Eri Macdonald won her heat of the 800, and ranked fifth overall in the combined results, while sophomore Nattalie Wright came in 11th.

Senior Hilly Holly claimed top team honors in the long jump (18-6), while freshman Tiana Sester was the top Duck finisher in the triple jump (14th, 35-10 3/4).

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