

# Tennis makes progress against ranked foes

■ Freshman Davina Mendibru picks up Oregon's only win in a tough Pac-10 match

By Robbie McCallum  
Oregon Daily Emerald

A 6-1 match may not sound close, but the Oregon women's tennis team's effort Sunday against No. 5 California was one of its best against a ranked opponent in recent years.

The Ducks were trailing Cal 3-1 when junior Vickie Gunnarson and sophomore Jeanette Mattsson pushed their opponents into the third set of their matches in singles play.

That was after Oregon came within two points of capturing the doubles point prior to singles play.

"The score sometimes doesn't indicate how close the match was," Oregon head coach Jack Griffin said. "We were extremely competitive today."

While the Oregon men's tennis team picked up its first win of the season on Saturday in Bloomington, Minn., the women gave the Golden Bears everything they had.

But tennis doesn't give points for second place. Although Oregon pushed Cal's top two singles players to the third set and top doubles teams into overtime, the Ducks only managed one win.

Freshman Davina Mendibru, who joined the team early in January, routed the Golden Bears' Lisa

Swierniak, 6-2, 6-4.

"Davina's adapted really well to our program," Griffin said. "She brings in a lot of experience having played tournaments in France."

Mattsson faced a challenge playing at the No. 1 spot against No. 38 Raquel Kops-Jones. Mattsson dropped the first set 6-1, but battled back in the second and third sets before finally falling.

"Jeanette has probably shown the most improvement of anyone on the team," Griffin said. "We're really pleased with what we've seen in her."

Gunnarson pushed Sekita Grant to the brink, but was unable to pull out the win. Fusano won by a score of 6-2, 4-6, 6-0.

In doubles play, the team of sophomore Monika Geiczys and fresh-

man Courtney Nagle came within a point of beating Cal's No. 17 Nicole Havlicek and Jieun Jacobs, 9-8.

Junior Janice Nyland and Mendibru played well against Christina Fusano and Catherine Lynch, but came up short, 9-7.

"Cal won't give you anything," Griffin said. "But we are starting to push these teams."

Meanwhile, the Duck men defeated North Carolina State 5-2 in the consolation game of the Foster Klima Ice Volleys.

"We competed well today," Oregon men's coach Chris Russell said. "We played hard and made some progress from yesterday's matches. We're just trying to get a little better each day."

Oregon got off to a good start with superior doubles play against the

Wolfpack. The team of sophomore Oded Teig and freshman Greg Dubourdieu led the way with a rout of John Davis and Reinaldo Valor, 8-2.

Freshmen Buck Mink and Martin Pawlowski came up with big wins in singles play. Mink defeated North Carolina State's Michael Carducci, 6-2, 6-2 while Pawlowski earned a three-set win over Valor.

Veteran David Becker disposed of Ryan Boward 7-6, 6-4 to clinch the win for Oregon. Sophomore Jason Menke iced the win with a 7-5, 6-1 win over Brad Kilgore.

Oregon evened its season record after dropping Friday's first round match against Indiana State. The Ducks return home next weekend for Pacific-10 Conference matches against Stanford and California.

# Lakers' struggles continue with home loss to Heat

By John Nadel  
The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Kobe Bryant says the Los Angeles Lakers aren't presently in the proper physical condition to play the kind of defense they should be playing.

In Ron Harper's opinion, the defending NBA champions just aren't very good right now.

Eddie Jones had 26 points and eight rebounds against his former team, and Anthony Mason scored 19 of his 23 points in the second half as the Miami Heat beat the Lakers 103-92 on Sunday.

Miami entered the game ranked 27th in the NBA in offense, averaging 87.4 points. The Lakers, sixth in defense en route to their first cham-

ionship in 12 years last June, are 25th this season, and took a step backward against the Heat.

Bryant believes conditioning is the problem.

"Miami is a team that's in shape, they kept coming at us in waves," said Bryant, who had 34 points and eight rebounds before fouling out with 1:04 to play and the outcome decided.

"We run out of gas, that's what our problem is. I think it's a matter of conditioning, I really do. I don't see any reason we can't play defense for 48 minutes, we did last year."

"I'm sure (Lakers coach) Phil (Jackson) is going to find the right way to get us in condition."

Shaquille O'Neal had 31 points

and eight rebounds for the Lakers, who played without starting forward Horace Grant, sidelined due to back spasms.

Tim Hardaway had 22 points and eight assists and Brian Grant added 14 points for the Heat, who entered the game last in the NBA in rebounding but won the battle of the boards 44-39.

"We stink. If this team comes out to score 100 points on us, we've got to stink," Harper said. "They came out early, hit shots, and their guys played harder. They deserved to win the game."

The Lakers got within four points twice, but Grant responded each time with jumpers from just outside the foul line, the second making it 90-84. Mason then scored Miami's

next six points to make it 96-86 with 1:44 to go.

"This feels damn good," said Jones, traded by the Lakers to Charlotte in the Glen Rice deal nearly two years ago and playing his first season for the Heat. "I think we just wanted it a little more. We knew what we had in front of us, we had to play as hard as possible to win today, and that's what we did."

Miami coach Pat Riley said his team wanted to prove something to itself in the wake of an 85-74 loss at Portland on Thursday night.

"We came committed as a team," he said. "The Lakers are tough to beat here. It was just a great win for us. We had all four of our great players and the guys we depend upon play well."

Riley was referring to Jones, Mason, Hardaway and Grant.

Mason, who also had seven rebounds and six assists, scored five straight points to give Miami a 68-63 lead midway through the third quarter, and after the Lakers drew within one point, 3-pointers by Hardaway and Jones and a layup by Mason gave the Heat a 76-71 lead entering the fourth period.

Jackson pointed to Mason as the key player in the game.

"We had a problem (with him)," the Lakers coach said. "Offensively, we went really stale in the second half after shooting very well in the first half. They scored on every possession at one point in the critical part of the game."

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