

Ray's homers lift UO to 7-5

■ The Ducks split games against Texas and Wisconsin on final day of Arizona tournament

By Adam Jude
Oregon Daily Emerald

Inconsistencies plagued the Oregon softball team last weekend at the Fiesta Bowl Tournament in Phoenix, as the Ducks (7-5 overall) started hot, but lost three of their final four games to finish the tournament at 3-3.

The No. 20 Ducks earned a split against Wisconsin and No. 24 Texas on the final day of the tournament. Behind the arm of sophomore pitcher Andrea Vidlund (2-2) — who gave up two hits over seven innings and recorded nine strikeouts — the Ducks picked up a 2-0 victory over the Badgers in the early game Sunday. Holly Ray provided the offense with her fifth home run of the season.

In the second game, Texas jumped out to a 3-1 lead early, but the Ducks fought back behind a fourth inning rally sparked by a triple by shortstop Kate Peterson, who scored on a throwing error. Then in the sixth, catcher Kelly Planche belted a home run to give the Ducks a one-run lead, but the Longhorns scored three times in the bottom of the inning to win 6-5.

On Saturday, Oregon scored just one run in two games, but lost both contests by a combined one run. Against No. 12 Nebraska, sophomore transfer Lisa Wangler held the Huskers hitless until the fourth, but gave up both runs in the fifth inning. They were the first runs that Wangler had allowed in three starts. The Ducks lost 2-1, with their only run coming on a Ray home run in the sixth.

Massachusetts proved to be too tough for Oregon in the second game. It was pitcher Connie Mc-

Murren's first loss of the year, despite only giving up two hits, including a solo home run.

"We didn't come out with a high level of intensity, and we weren't mentally ready," Oregon head coach Rick Gamez said. "We've got to start being prepared for every game."

The Ducks won both games on Friday. A five-inning shutout by Wangler lifted Oregon to an 8-0 win over Texas Tech in the first game.

In Friday's second game, McMurren recorded 10 strikeouts in six innings to lead the Ducks to a 4-1 win over Utah. Wangler provided the offensive punch, going 2-for-3 with two runs scored.

"We came out and did what we needed to do," Gamez said Friday. "We had to learn to be mentally tough and I'm proud of our team for the way they played today."

Oregon Club Sports has strong weekend

■ Women's water polo takes third, men's rugby takes a hard hit and men's lacrosse upsets Western Washington

By Jesse Thomas
For the Emerald

The Oregon Club Sports water polo teams took on a rigorous schedule this past weekend in the Sea Otter Invitational, where the women earned a respectable third place and the co-ed team finished fourth.

"This has been our best performance in where we have showed strengths that we haven't showed before," coach Lea Bonebrake said.

The women won its first matchup with Mercer Island, 12-8, but then were defeated by Orange Coast College, 11-8. Although sophomore Jordan Scheffler suffered an injury in the next game against Fullerton College, the women were victorious, 14-10. In their last competition, also against Fullerton, the women dropped to .500, losing 11-5.

The co-ed team lost its first two games against Orange Coast, 16-5, and Bainbridge Island, 10-9 in overtime, but bounced back with a win against a strong Victoria team, 17-6. The team met Orange Coast again for the final game and was defeated 22-7.

"We did really well," senior Carrie Richards said. "This team has totally turned around."

Men's rugby takes its lumps

In a tough game against Brigham Young, the Oregon Club Sports men's rugby team suffered a 71-10 loss.

The men, who were missing two of their best players, didn't play

anywhere near the level they were at against Stanford, according to coach Bob Snyder. The team now has a 1-2 record.

"This team [Brigham Young] was very well put together, very fast and the second-best team in the country, if not the best," Snyder said.

Brigham Young scored first, but the Ducks answered with a score of their own and remained close throughout the first half. The men came out with a quick score in the second half, but Brigham Young took over the offense from there. The deficit was large, and the men know they made crucial mistakes that allowed Brigham Young to take advantage.

The Ducks play Washington this weekend and are ready to show that this loss won't get them down.

Lacrosse pulls off an upset

The Oregon Club Sports men's lacrosse team finished off higher-ranked Western Washington, 17-14, this weekend, and it was happy with the upset.

Western came out and scored first, but the Ducks had no problem answering and left the score tied at the half, 9-9. The score remained tied until the final minutes, when juniors Jared Blanchette, Pat O'Donnell and Beau Dickey had big scores to help the Ducks come out victorious.

"We just stomped them toward the end and did great," Dickey said.

The win left the Ducks at 2-2 with two games this weekend against Louis and Clark and Pacific Lutheran.

"The game against Louis and Clark should be good, and we hopefully will just kill Pacific Lutheran," Dickey said.

Wallace's return ignites Blazers

By Landon Hall
The Associated Press

PORTLAND — The smiling, slam-dunking Rasheed Wallace was back, replacing the sullen malcontent whose towel-throwing tantrum earned him an early vacation.

Wallace won his matchup with fellow All-Star Kevin Garnett, scoring 18 points as the Portland Trail Blazers stopped the Minnesota Timberwolves' 11-game winning streak with a 109-88 victory Tuesday night.

"He's our team. He's our franchise player," Portland's Bonzi Wells said of Wallace, who was

suspended for two games prior to the All-Star break for flinging a towel at the face of a referee against Phoenix on Feb. 1. "We weathered the storm the best we could without him, but Rasheed's the biggest part of our offense, so it's great to have him back."

Garnett had 20 points and 14 rebounds but committed five of the Timberwolves' season-high 25 turnovers.

Terrell Brandon added 11 points and just one assist for the Timberwolves, whose streak was a franchise record and the longest in the NBA since the Los

Angeles Lakers won 19 straight last season.

"When you win 11 games in a row, you've got a big target on your back," Brandon said. "They didn't want to be the 12th victim."

Wallace also had eight rebounds, six assists and no turnovers. He made eight of 15 shots, bouncing back from a season-worst 4-for-20 performance in the Blazers' 93-80 loss at Minneapolis on Jan. 27.

"Rasheed didn't play as well the first game, and we knew that wasn't going to happen twice," Wells said.

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