



## Ridnour awarded Freshman of the Year honors



Freshman Luke Ridnour wishes he and his teammates were still playing.

■ A total of six players from the men's and women's basketball teams are honored in a vote by the coaches of the Pac-10

By Jeff Smith  
Oregon Daily Emerald

The mood was still somewhat somber for the Oregon Ducks a day after hearing the news that the NIT will go on without them.

But for three members of the men's basketball team, Monday brought good news to help ease the pain of having their season come to an abrupt halt.

Oregon's Luke Ridnour became the first Duck ever to be named Pacific-10 Conference Freshman of the Year.

Senior Bryan Bracey ended his two-year Oregon career with a spot on the All-Pac-10 team.

And Luke Jackson joined Ridnour to take up two of the five spots on the Pac-10 All-Freshman team.

"It's a great honor, but I would trade all of this to keep playing," said Ridnour, who averaged 7.4 points and 3.8 assists per game while being the only Duck to start every contest. "It's really disappointing how [the season] ended like that. I was a little surprised, but we were only .500. I thought we still had a chance though."

As for Bracey, he had no clue about his honor until he arrived for interviews before his team's meeting at the Casanova Center.

His serious expression soon turned into a large grin upon hearing the news.

"Great," Bracey said. "It feels good. I worked really hard to try to become a Turn to Men, page 6A



### All-Pac-10 Teams

Men	Women
Gilbert Arenas, Arizona	Reshea Bristol, Arizona
Bryan Bracey, Oregon	Megan Franza, Wash.
Sam Clancy, USC	Michelle Greco, UCLA
Jarron Collins, Stanford	Courtney Johnson, Cal
Jason Collins, Stanford	Melody Johnson, ASU
Casey Jacobsen, Stanford	Amanda Levens, ASU
Jason Kapono, UCLA	Elizabeth Pickney, Arizona
Sean Lampley, California	Nicole Powell, Stanford
Earl Watson, UCLA	Felicia Ragland, OSU
Michael Wright, Arizona	Angelina Wolvert, Oregon

## UO's civil war goes on as Runge silences team

Oregon head coach Jody Runge says she's trying to keep her team focused on the game



RUNGE

By Scott Pesznecker  
Oregon Daily Emerald

The saga continues.

Despite the seniors' grand goodbye and an eighth-straight NCAA Tournament berth, the recent controversy surrounding head coach Jody Runge's coaching tactics continued to mount throughout the weekend.

All seemed well just before tip-off at Saturday's Oregon Civil War victory, as each senior embraced Runge during the traditional senior-night ceremony.

However, forward Angelina Wolvert said not all was well before the game.

"Coach Runge pretty much said, 'Put your arm around me or you don't play,'" Wolvert said in several published news reports.

A whirlwind of support and criticism has surrounded Runge since last Sunday, when eight unnamed players met with Athletic Director Bill Moos and recommended that Runge be fired.

Neither Runge nor the players would say that any reconciliation took place over the weekend. However, at least one Duck said that Runge's coaching through the past week helped lead Oregon to its 72-60 victory against Oregon State.

"This week in practice we were a little emotional, and coach finally had to say that we need to focus our emotions on the big game, don't waste your energy in practice," guard Jamie Craighead said. "We did that, and I think that helped us today."

After beating Oregon State, Runge told reporters that the recent controversy hadn't distracted the team from reaching the NCAA Tournament, which it did

Sunday afternoon. The Ducks will face Iowa at 6 p.m. Saturday in Salt Lake City.

But Runge also said she doesn't want the controversy to become a distraction, which is why she's decided to continue her player lockdown from the media. According to Oregon media service representatives, Runge doesn't even want her players questioned about the NCAA Tournament.

"My focus has been to keep them as far away from that as they can be, and to just keep them focused on practice and the task at hand, and on the opponent coming up," Runge said at a Sunday press conference regarding the NCAA berth. "Right now they need to be focused on their books, and that's been my intent as far as keeping them from the media."

Runge said she hasn't talked to players individually, but said she addressed her whole team about the coaching controversy last Tuesday.

"I gave them some brief thoughts about how I thought about things," Runge said. "I apologized for hurting their feelings if that's what my motivational techniques did to them."

"It's not easy. My major concern was to make sure that they had a chance to go to the tournament, that when we had 5 of 7 at home in the second half of the season, that they could rally and have a chance with our tough preseason to go to the tournament."

"That's what was really important to me as far as getting them to have that opportunity."



Oregon freshman Buck Mink swept Portland State's Michael Thoersz in Saturday's match at the Student Tennis Center.

## Men dominate, women fall

The women's tennis team drops another heartbreaker to Washington State while the men are flawless in their home finale

By Robbie McCallum  
Oregon Daily Emerald

It was a weekend of Northwest competition for the Oregon men's and women's tennis teams.

While most Duck sports teams are rivals with Washington and Oregon State, the women's tennis team has an unlikely regional rival — Washington State.

Through the past four years, more contests between the Ducks and the Cougars have come down to the last match than in any other rivalry. Sunday's match with the Cougars was no different.

No. 48 Oregon came into Spokane, Wash., with six straight losses and two defeats against Washington State in 2000. The match against the Cougars lived up to expectations.

Washington State continued to frustrate Oregon by winning yet another close match. Senior Tamara Filipovic won a gut-wrenching 6-1, 1-6, 7-5 singles match against junior transfer Vickie Gunnarsson to clinch the match for Washington State.

The win completed a Cougar comeback after Oregon jumped out to a 2-0 lead.

The Ducks captured the ever-important doubles point off wins by Janice Ny-

land and Davina Mendiburu (8-4), and Adeline Arnaud and Jeanette Mattsson (8-3).

Mendiburu, a freshman, easily defeated Anna Dybicz in the first singles match, 6-3, 6-0.

The Cougars responded with three straight singles wins to snatch the lead from Oregon for good. Mattsson and Arnaud both fought hard but dropped two overtime sets to fall at the No. 3 and 4 positions. An injury-hampered Monika Gecyzys was forced to retire against No. 37 Erica Perkins at the No. 1 position to give Washington State a 3-2 lead.

Nyland tied the match at 3-3 with another two-set, overtime victory over Zorana Roganovic, 7-6, 7-6.

Filipovic's three-set victory in the final match resembled last year's Washington State victory, in which the Cougars bounced back from a 4-2 deficit to sweep doubles competition and win, 5-4.

The road-weary Ducks had dropped a 6-1 contest to No. 17 Washington two days earlier in Seattle. The match was Oregon's sixth straight road loss. The

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