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Softball's skid continues

■ The losing ways persist for the Ducks in three games down in the desert

By Adam Jude
Oregon Daily Emerald

The Oregon softball team dropped three games in Arizona this weekend, extending its losing streak to nine.

The Ducks (25-33 overall, 1-13 Pacific-10 Conference) scored their only run of the weekend in a 6-1 loss to No. 1 Arizona Sunday.

Sophomore Janell Bergstrom was 2-for-3 with an RBI against Arizona's Becky Lemke (16-2), who allowed just five hits to pick up the win. Bergstrom's single in the fourth slipped through the legs of Arizona

outfielder Lauren Bauer to score senior Triawn Custer from first base, accounting for the only run the Ducks had all weekend.

Junior pitcher Connie McMurren took the loss for Oregon.

"This is a very tough team and I thought we battled very well," Oregon head coach Rick Gamez said. "We limited our errors this weekend and were able to hit the ball, but Arizona is an extremely tough team."

Arizona (51-4, 13-2) has won 41 consecutive games at home.

The Ducks benefited from the eight-run mercy rule in an 8-0 loss Saturday in Tucson.

"Again, we were able to get hits and put runners on base," Gamez said. "But we needed to continue to get hits with runners in scoring position and we didn't do that."

Oregon loaded the bases against Jennie Finch in the sixth inning after an Alyssa Laux single, a walk to

catcher Missy Coe and a single by Custer. But Finch, who is now 23-0 this season, struck out Bergstrom to end the inning.

The Wildcats put runs on the board early, with three runs in the first and four in the second. Andrea Vidlund (9-8) tallied the loss for the Ducks.

Friday's game against Arizona State was not much better. The Ducks picked up their only Pac-10 win of the season against the Sun Devils earlier in the year in Eugene, but were unable to produce any runs Friday in a 6-0 loss.

Sophomore Lisa Wangler (5-9) took the loss by giving up seven hits and three runs in 2 2/3 innings.

"We had been playing pretty well heading into this game," Gamez said. "I had hoped we would continue to get timely hits and score runs early, but Arizona State played a strong defensive game tonight."



Ducks routed at Pac-10s

■ The Oregon tennis teams finish the season with few wins at the Pac-10 tourney

By Robbie McCallum
Oregon Daily Emerald

After a dud of a season, the Oregon tennis teams hoped to finish things with a bang. It was fitting that it ended with a fizzle.

Wins were few and far between for the Ducks at the Pacific-10 Conference Championships in Ojai, Calif. Both the men's and women's teams, the only non-ranked teams in the conference, finished last in the Thatcher Cup Standings, a scoring system that ranks Pac-10 teams at the Championships.

Most of the men's success came in doubles play, where the Ducks' No. 1 team of sophomore Oded Teig and Martin Pawlowski upset Arizona State's Nic Dubey and Matt Klinger, 8-5. Their success was short lived, however, as they were eliminated in the quarterfinals by No. 19-ranked Alex Kim and K.J. Hippensteel of Stanford, 8-5.

"They played a couple of good matches with a win over ASU's No. 1 team and they were very competitive with Stanford's No. 1 team, so I was very pleased with their effort," men's head coach Chris Russell said.

Oregon's No. 2 team of senior David Becker and freshman Buck Mink played Arizona State's Pim Van Mele and Olivier Charroin tough, but fell 8-6.

In the invitational doubles tournament, the freshmen combo of Alexander Druzenko and Greg Dubourdieu disposed of UCLA's Derrick Nguyen and Chris Sands, 8-5. But again, the Ducks were unable to capitalize, as they were eliminated by Stanford's Scott Lipsky and David Martin, 8-1.

The men's lone singles win over the weekend also came from Teig. The Holon, Israel, native defeated Van Mele in straight sets, 6-1, 6-2.

The women were led by freshman sensation Courtney Nagle, who earned the Ducks only singles win of the weekend. The Ducks' leader in total victories defeated Arizona State's Jennifer Baker, 6-2, 7-6. The freshman finished the season with an 18-7 record, tied for second on the all-time single season victories list and broke the school freshman record, previously held by teammate Monika Geiczys.

With NCAA Tournament bids all but eliminated, the Ducks' seasons are over. The men finished the 2000-01 year with an 8-13 overall record while the women were 5-17. Both were last in the conference standings.



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