

Oregon loses two to Arkansas

■ The Oregon softball team dips its record to 8-5 after going 1-2 against the Razorbacks

By Chris Cabot
Oregon Daily Emerald

With a win and two losses in Arkansas during the weekend, the Oregon softball team now stands at 8-5 overall.

Playing the Razorbacks for the first time in team history, the Ducks dropped the first game on Saturday, 5-1, then came back in the afternoon to win 3-0. In the Sunday contest, Arkansas picked up an 8-5 win to improve its record to 13-6.

Oregon claimed the lead twice early in the rubber game of the weekend, but the Razorbacks' resilient bats helped them battle back. Two Oregon runs in

the first inning were bettered by five Arkansas runs in the second, and then three Oregon runs in the third were matched by three from the Razorbacks in the bottom of the inning.

Rachel Talley (7-1), who also pitched the first game of the weekend, earned the win for Arkansas, while Oregon's Connie McMurren dropped her record to 1-3 in the loss.

Sophomore Anissa Meashintubby (4-0) relieved McMurren in the second inning and allowed only one earned run in four and one-third innings. In her previous outing during the second game of the three game set, Meashintubby pitched five and one-third of scoreless ball, combining with McMurren for the 3-0 shutout.

Offensively, the Ducks struggled in the first game of the weekend, picking up only two hits off Talley and striking

out seven times. The lone run in the game came on an Andrea Vidlund home run — her fourth of the season and 16th of her career, which places her ninth all-time in Oregon history.

Vidlund also picked up two RBI on Sunday and knocked in the third run in the Ducks' win. The other two runs in the 3-0 victory came on a first-inning homer by Lakeesha Eversley.

Oregon head coach Brent Rincon was pleased with patience Oregon showed against two Arkansas pitchers in the second game of the weekend.

"We were a lot more focused and played with more emotion in the second game," he said. "We were more selective offensively and once we did that, we made them pay for it."

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Oregon trailed by as much as 19 in the second half, but Cathrine Kraayeveld hit a three-pointer with 2:05 to play to cut Washington's lead to 79-71. From there, though, the game belonged to Giuliana Mendiola.

The Washington sophomore guard sank 15-of-17 free throws and scored a career high 31 points against the Ducks.

"When I am out there I am pretty confident in myself," Mendiola said. "If I have the shot I am going to take the shot or I look for my teammates. I just try to create whatever is best for our team and what puts us in a position to win."

The Huskies jumped the gun for an early 9-1 lead, but Oregon bounced back with a 14-6 run to tie the game at 15 with 12:51 to play in the first half. The rest of the half, however, was all Washington, as it used a 30-18 run to take a 45-33 lead into the break.

Washington shot better than 57 percent in the first half, compared to Oregon's 39 percent shooting.

"They just came out in the first half and shot the lights out," Williams said. "We know that they are a team that shoots the ball and when they get on a roll like that it is tough to get them stopped. They got off to a good start and we were playing catch up the whole game."

Washington's 88 points were its second most in a Pac-10 game this season.

"We must have got a little bit lost in that bus ride from Pullman," Smith said of the five-hour trip to Seattle. "Defensively, we just weren't there."

Oregon freshman center Andrea Bills recorded the first double-double of her career with 16 points and a career-high 11 rebounds. Williams also added 16 points.

Kraayeveld, a Kirkland, Wash., native, had a rough homecoming as she scored just four points on 1-of-7 shooting.

The Huskies took advantage as four players scored in double figures.

"We played a phenomenal game on defense and offensively it was exciting to see us shoot the ball that way," said Washington head coach June Daugherty, who led the Huskies to the Elite Eight last year. "We got a lot of mismatches, we were able to post up our guards, and we got Oregon on their heels a little and took advantage of the foul situation."

"Obviously we like to save our best for last."

The last will come Saturday at Mac Court, where the Huskies last won on Jan. 23, 1993.

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Men's track team finishes 4th in Arizona

■ Trevor Woods and Micah Harris lead the Ducks with first-place performances over the weekend

By Hank Hager
Oregon Daily Emerald

It was the Pacific-10 Conference's kind of day Saturday at the Mountain Pacific Championships in Flagstaff, Ariz.

But more important for the Oregon men's track and field team, it gave a glimpse of what is to come.

The Ducks finished fourth overall with 73 points, behind first-place UCLA, then Washington State and Arizona. Fellow Pac-10 rivals Stanford and Arizona State couldn't escape Oregon's shadow.

Utah State, Cal State Northridge, Long Beach State and UC-Riverside

also competed in the meet held at Northern Arizona University's Walkup SkyDome.

Oregon sophomore pole vaulter Trevor Woods took first place in the event, winning by four inches over Arizona's Kevi Opalka. Woods, a Coos Bay native, raised his personal best in the competition to 17 feet 9 3/4 inches, a NCAA provisional qualifying mark.

Meanwhile, senior Cody Howell finished at 17-1 3/4, and junior Jason Slye came in at 16-8.

Off the football field, junior sprinter Samie Parker took third in the 60 final at 6.68 seconds, only 0.02 seconds slower than his Friday mark of 6.66.

Junior Micah Harris took first in the 60 hurdles, lowering his personal best to 7.85. Coming up behind him was fellow Duck Terry Ellis. The junior placed third, only 0.02 seconds behind second-

place finisher Jeff Hunter of Arizona.

In the triple-jump, junior Foluso Akiradewo came in second at 49-7. He finished only .04 inches in front of UCLA's Juane Armon. Duck freshman Derek Strubel placed 10th at 47-1 1/2.

Not to be forgotten, junior Simon Kimata took fifth in the 400 sprint at 47.39, just missing the NCAA provisional mark of 47.25.

Oregon's 4x400 relay team ended the meet in third place, and finished with a season best of 3:11.14, behind only UCLA and Stanford.

The Oregon women did not compete Saturday, but juniors Becky Holliday and Niki Reed took third and fourth on Friday in the pole vault. Both cleared the NCAA automatic of 13-7 1/4.

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