

2002 Pac-10 Women's Basketball Tournament Bracket

Friday, March 1

Saturday, March 2

Sunday, March 3

Monday, March 4

No. 7 Oregon

6:30 p.m.

No. 10 Washington State

Noon

No. 2 Washington

12:30 p.m.
Fox Sports Net

No. 3 Arizona State

2:15 p.m.

No. 6 Arizona

No. 1 Stanford

6 p.m.

No. 8 UCLA

8:45 p.m.

No. 9 California

No. 4 USC

8:15 p.m.

No. 5 Oregon State

3 p.m.
Fox Sports Net

7:30 p.m.
Fox Sports Net

Tournament Champion

Scouting the Pac

10. Washington State



Record: 2-26 overall, 0-18 Pac-10
Scoring offense: 55.8 ppg
Scoring defense: 78.5 ppg
Watch: Brittney Hawks, C, 12.9 ppg, 9.3 rpg
 At least the Cougars will have a big crowd watching them.

Washington State gets the unenviable task of opening the Pac-10 Tournament against host Oregon at 6:30 p.m. tonight.

The Cougars began the season with two wins in their first five games. Since then, they've lost 23 straight, including all 18 league games — the only Pac-10 team to

ever do so. Against the Ducks, Washington State lost 76-47 on the road and 88-47 at home.

There is a bright spot to playing at McArthur Court for the Cougars, as it is the site of their biggest win in recent memory. On Feb. 15, 2001, Joanna Smith scored with five-tenths of a second left to lift Washington State to a 77-76 victory at Oregon.

Smith has now departed, and if the Cougars are going to have any chance of shocking Oregon at the Pit, they'll need big

games from Brittney Hawks and Whitney Martindale. Hawks leads the Pac-10 with 12 double-doubles and became the first Cougar to lead the league in rebounding. In both games against the Ducks this season, Martindale has led Washington State in scoring with 14 and 13 points, respectively.

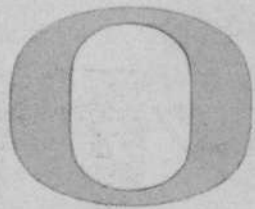
Washington State's closest Pac-10 loss this season was a 75-68 defeat at home against the rival Huskies. Should Washington State upset Oregon, the Cougars would play Washington at noon on Saturday.

— Jeff Smith



HAWKS

7. Oregon



Record: 15-12 overall, 10-8 Pac-10
Scoring offense: 71.3 ppg
Scoring defense: 66.7 ppg
Watch: Shaquala Williams, G, 17.4 ppg, 4.2 apg

The Ducks have had a frustrating season under first-year head coach Bev Smith, but with home-court advantage for the Pac-10 Tournament, Oregon could erase any blemishes this year may have caused.

Oregon has already secured its ninth consecutive winning season, but the Ducks need a strong showing here this weekend in order to make a ninth consecutive trip to the NCAA Tournament.

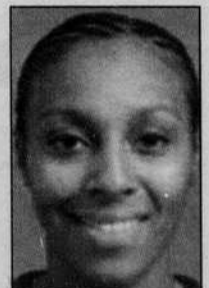
The backcourt of Williams, and seniors Edniesha Curry and Jamie Craighead, lead the Ducks into the first game of the tournament tonight against Washington State, a team Oregon beat twice this year

by an average margin of 35 points.

"What better opportunity to start the tournament off right — we just have to take advantage of it," Smith said.

Assuming the Ducks can get by the Cougars, they'll face Washington at noon Saturday. Oregon split the season series with the Huskies, with Washington winning 88-80 in Seattle last weekend.

— Adam Jude



WILLIAMS

2. Washington



Record: 17-10 overall, 12-6 Pac-10
Scoring offense: 73.4 ppg
Scoring defense: 65.5 ppg
Watch: Giuliana Mendiola, G, 12.0 ppg, 5.6 rpg

Coming into the Pac-10 Tournament, the Huskies have won seven of their last nine games, with the losses coming against No. 1 seed Stanford and an overtime loss against Oregon State on Feb. 21.

Washington, known for their offense, features a balanced scoring attack, with four players averaging in double figures

in scoring — Loree Payne (14.1 ppg), Mendiola (12.0), Andrea Lalum (11.6) and Emily Autrey (10.1). Seven different players have led the team in scoring this year, including a 31-point game by Mendiola against Oregon in the final regular season matchup.

The Ducks are the probable opponent for Washington, as the Huskies will face the winner of the No. 7 Oregon/No. 10 Washington State game on Saturday. Washington has not won at McArthur Court since 1993.

In the two regular season meetings be-

tween the two Washington schools, the Huskies defeated the Cougars 98-64 on Dec. 21 in Seattle and 75-68 on Jan. 25 in Pullman.

Against Oregon, the Huskies lost the first meeting this year in Eugene, 69-56, Dec. 28, and then avenged the loss in Seattle, 88-80, last Saturday. In the second game, the Huskies won without Lalum, who had injured her ankle two days earlier against Oregon State. The injured ankle may still be a factor in the throughout the tournament.

— Chris Cabot



MENDIOLA