

Sports brief

Softball sweeps

Boston College in Las Vegas

After winning their first three games of the weekend and extending a winning streak to five games, the Oregon softball team dropped one to the Irish of Notre Dame, 9-3, on Sunday. The Ducks' record now stands at 14-8, while the Irish im-

proved to 6-7.

The weekend began for Oregon with two wins on Friday over Boston College, 3-0, and the host UNLV, 6-4. The Ducks' three runs against the Eagles came on an Andrea Vidlund third-inning home run, and freshman Lindsey Kontra pitched the entire seven innings allowing only four hits and one walk while striking out three.

Against UNLV, the Ducks put five runs on the board in the third and won with the combined pitching of Anissa Meashintubby and Connie McMurren. The senior, McMurren, came in during the fifth to relieve Meashintubby and did not allow a run in her two and two thirds innings while striking out five Rebel hitters.

On Saturday, Oregon faced Boston College again and came

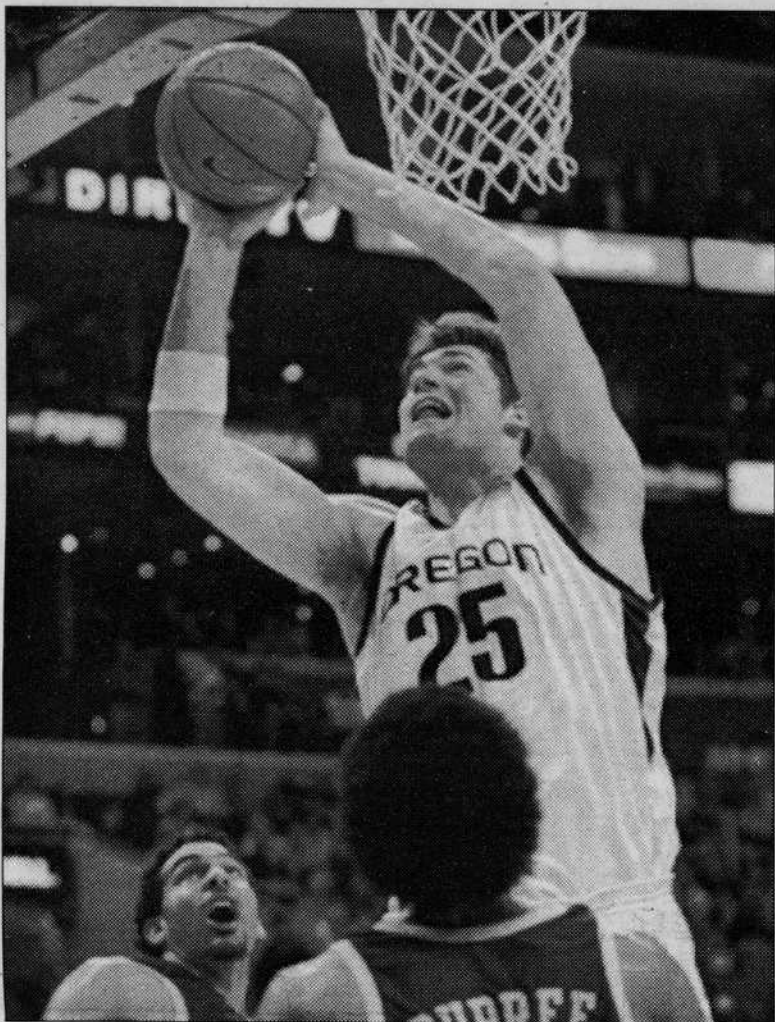
away with a 3-1 victory. McMurren handled the pitching chores for Oregon, throwing a complete game with four strikeouts, allowing two walks, three hits and one run.

Facing Notre Dame, Oregon fell behind 6-0 then came back with two runs in the fourth. The Irish came back with three more runs of their own in the fifth and allowed only one more Oregon run in the seventh.

Oregon head coach Brent Rincon was pleased with the Ducks' play during the tournament at UNLV.

"For us to gain momentum heading into Pac-10 play next weekend is key," he said. "We feel like we've been putting together a nice streak of games and we just need to continue to work hard both offensively and defensively."

—Chris Cabot



Adam Amato Emerald

Chris Christoffersen and the Ducks were selected as a No. 2 seed in the NCAA Tournament and will play Montana at 2 p.m. Thursday in Sacramento, Calif.

NCAA

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After Moos' speech, the Ducks entered to a standing ovation from the crowd. The players then cut down the Mac Court nets in celebration of their first outright Pac-10 title since 1939.

"There was no cutting down of the nets when they won the title in Los Angeles," Moos said. "We wanted to come back home and do that here."

Every team member got a piece of the nets, including managers and coaches. Head coach Ernie Kent — the Pac-10 Coach of the Year — and All-Pac-10 selection Freddie Jones were the last Ducks to cut the nets and received the biggest applause.

After a video of season highlights, Kent gave a speech thanking the Oregon fans.

"The No. 1 stat not in (the video) is that we are first with the fans," Kent said. "It's been a wonderful ride. Our focus now is to get four wins and get to the Final Four."

When the selection show started, the crowd was silent in anticipation of the Oregon announcement. Some fans groaned when Cincinnati was announced as a No. 1 seed, which could have adversely affected the Ducks' seeding.

"After they put Cincy as a No.

1, we were thinking that we could get a lower seed," forward Robert Johnson said after the show.

But then the Ducks were announced as the No. 2 seed in the Midwest region, and the crowd exploded along with the team. As CBS went to a live feed of McArthur Court, the nation saw Freddie Jones with a huge, goofy grin and the fans behind him jumping with happiness.

"We're just excited," guard Luke Ridnour said.

Many of the fans stayed after the Oregon announcement to watch the rest of the selection show and Kent's live show after the CBS broadcast. Kent was also interviewed later by ESPN for its selection Sunday show.

Now the Ducks are looking forward to their next performance, against Montana on Thursday. The players expressed hope that Oregon fans would travel to Sacramento for Thursday's opening round contest or a possible second-round game on Saturday.

"This could be the last time they get to see this team this season," Ridnour said. "It would be nice to see some fans down there."

Fans will be able to purchase tickets through the Arco Arena ticket office today.

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Women's

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In addition to the Beavers, USC and Washington will play in the WNIT, and if the cards are right, the Ducks and Huskies may meet for a fourth time this season in the third round. Oregon is 2-1 against Washington this year.

"I think that probably all of the Pac-10 teams would have liked to have been in a different bracket, trying to play different teams for your own benefit," Smith said. "It looks like we'll have to get by our Pac-10 opponents again. If we play those teams again, certainly we'll get to know them a little bit better for next year."

After a grueling season with a new coach and a new system, a berth in the WNIT can seem like a disappointment. But that's not the case for the Ducks. Because the team is young, marked by four active freshmen, gaining postseason experience is a valuable opportunity.

The fact that the first game, and possibly more, will be at Mac Court makes the first-round game against St. Mary's that much more special.

"Some people may look at it as a disappointment, but I feel like we have a young team who is trying to put together a rhythm for next year and what better way to do that than in a tournament like the WNIT," junior Shaquala Williams said.

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Horoscope by Linda C. Black

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (March 11) - You're smart, and getting smarter. You haven't been making a big deal about it, though. You've been keeping your thoughts to yourself until you had them all worked out. Well, that's about to happen. You'll be more willing to express your opinions this year. Speak up! You earned the recognition.

To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) - Today is a 7 - You have all sorts of good ideas, and more coming every minute. It's partially due to the friends you hang out with. They have the theories; inspire the action.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) - Today is a 7 - You're still under a bit of pressure, but the worst of it is over. You can talk about it with good friends tonight. Tomorrow, it'll seem like it was almost easy.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21) - Today is a 7 - Any way you can make a living off your fantastic imagination? Do more than just think about it. Turn one of those stories into cold, hard cash.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) - Today is a 6 - You may feel compelled to go over your financial paperwork. Give in. Review insurance, IRA's, whatever else you've got slashed away to make sure your old age is cozy. It'll be fascinating.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) - Today is an 8 - You're a pretty competent character, but it doesn't hurt to have a strong partner, somebody who likes to do all the tedious stuff. That's the best way to gain on the competition.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) - Today is a 6 - You may get to try a lot of different things before you

find one that works. Actually, you may never figure out the answer. A friend may have to tell you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) - Today is an 8 - You're smart, but do you want to really dazzle the crowd? Show how brilliant you are by your deeds, not your words. Notice someone with a need, and provide for him or her.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) - Today is a 7 - How are you going to use all this information you've recently acquired? You'll figure it out as the week progresses. Some of it will help you understand a loved one. Start with that.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) - Today is a 7 - You're still working too hard. You're getting smarter, though. You'll get interested in something in the next few days that'll make your life a lot more fun. Follow a hunch.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) - Today is a 7 - You're still working too hard. You're getting smarter, though. You'll get interested in something in the next few days that'll make your life a lot more fun. Follow a hunch.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) - Today is a 7 - For the next few weeks you'll be amazed at your knack for making money. Come down out of your ivory tower, and get into the mud. That's where your fortune lies.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) - Today is a 7 - A growing impatience should become noticeable. It'll be even stronger tomorrow. Go over your plans one more time, making corrections. Keep it simple.

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GENERAL LABORER
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A temporary/seasonal General Laborer applicant pool is being established for work in Parks Streets/Sewer/Traffic Maintenance/Facilities/Wetlands/Wastewater Departments. If/when openings occur on crews, supervisors will review applications from this pool. Placement on the salary scale will depend on the duties assigned and the experience level of the applicant. Some experience in parks or license and the ability to provide protective footwear. **Must be age 19 or older by the application closing date of June 28, 2002.** Obtain application packet from Human Resource and Risk Services, 777 Pearl Street, Room 101, Eugene OR. The City of Eugene values diversity in its work force and is committed to affirmative action. Out-of-area residents may download an application packet from the City's website at www.ci.eugene.or.us/jobs/default.htm or request an application packet by calling (541) 682-5061 (or e-mailing at application-requests@ci.eugene.or.us).

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