

# Ducks face top teams in Hawaii tournament

Oregon men's tennis kicks off the 2003 calendar year in the Kona Invitational

## Tennis

**Ryan Heath**  
Freelance Sports Reporter

The Oregon men's tennis team is heading to Hawaii this weekend, but it won't be all pineapples and palm trees.

The Ducks are competing in the Kona Invitational against three teams that are expected to be in the top 20 in the nation when the rankings come out next week.

"We're excited," head coach Chris Russell said. "There is nothing better than to play some of the best schools right off the bat."

The Invitational begins Saturday and consists of mock dual meets against Illinois, Texas A&M and

Wake Forest.

The Ducks start against Illinois, a team with four players in the pre-season top 100, including No. 6 Amer Delic. Individual scores will be kept, but team records will not be affected.

**"We have our hands full, but it's going to be great tennis for us. We're playing against some of the best schools in the country."**

**Chris Russell**  
Men's tennis head coach

After starting the tournament against an Illinois team that likely will be ranked second in the nation, the Ducks match up against a Texas A&M team that has two players

among the best 85 in the NCAA.

As if that weren't enough, the Ducks take on Wake Forest Monday. The Demon Deacons boast a roster with two top-100 athletes, including No. 28 David Lowenthal, who won the USTA Futures Tournament in November.

"We have our hands full, but it's going to be great tennis for us," Russell said. "We're playing against some of the best schools in the country."

The Ducks haven't played competitively since the Futures Tournament, but they are hoping to gain some momentum going into the regular season dual meets.

"This is exactly what we're looking for in terms of getting all these matches in before we play our team season," Russell said.

Ryan Heath is a freelance writer for the Emerald.

## Women's

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The Ducks shot 45 percent themselves in the first half, yet only made it to the foul line twice, making just one.

The second half would be much of the same for the 3,861 fans at McArthur Court, as Cal quickly jumped to a five point lead. But after a time out, Oregon went on an 8-0 run to lead 50-47 with 11:16 to play.

The point differential would not get wide until Cal made some bad turnovers, and with a poor shot selection, Oregon converted on a 6-0 run and eventually led 64-58.

Cal refused to go away easily, and fought its way back into the game to bring the teams to a 65-65 tie with just 1:46 to go.

Then Steen went to the line for Oregon and gave the fans a sigh of relief, and a 67-65 Duck lead with just 24.6 seconds left.

The Golden Bears then faltered under pressure, as sophomore Kristin Iwanaga tripped trying to receive the inbound pass, which resulted in an Oregon steal. Steen went to the line again to give Oregon a four point lead.

Cal had its final chance after making a transition basket with 14 seconds left, and Steen made one

from the free throw line to finish the scoring at 70-67.

"This is the easiest shot you can take on the court," Steen said when asked what was going through her head with the game on the line.

Oregon finished the night shooting 46 percent from the field and 53 percent from the foul line. Freshman Carolyn Ganes led Oregon with 18 points, followed by sophomore Andrea Bills who added 13 points and eight rebounds.

The Bears' shooting frenzy did not continue in the second half, as they only shot 38 percent to finish at 53 percent from the field. The Bears committed 21 turnovers to Oregon's 13, which Cal head coach Caren Horstmeyer considered a deciding factor.

Cal junior Nihan Anaz led all scores with 22 points, followed by junior center Timea Ivanyi, who went 8-for-8 from the field for 17 points.

Oregon continues its homestead as No.6 Stanford (10-1, 2-0 Pac-10) comes to town Saturday night to face the Ducks, at 7 p.m. at McArthur Court.

Oregon will get quite the challenge from the tough Cardinal squad, though the Ducks have won three of the last four in Eugene.

Contact the sports reporter at [jessethomas@dailyemerald.com](mailto:jessethomas@dailyemerald.com).

## Cal

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of our team," Horstmeyer said. "We just need to build on that."

Though it's an athletic club that can shoot well from outside or give the ball to its post players, California has had problems defensively this season. That didn't tend to be the case against the Ducks.

The Golden Bears began the game in a full-court press, but switched to the half-court variety midway through the first stanza. They would stay in that defensive scheme for most of the game, eventually switching back to the full-court toward the end.

That defensive pressure allowed the Golden Bears to grab 25 defensive rebounds, although they forced just 13 Oregon turnovers. The Ducks averaged 19 turnovers per game entering the contest.

"We played great defense," Anaz

said. "There was a big crowd and away games are always hard."

Yet, it was Smith and senior Alissa Edwards who praised California's offense after the game.

"They're a very tough team," Edwards said. "They have guards that can penetrate and shoot and they have posts that can shoot. They're going to be a good team and they're going to play well in the Pac-10."

"Certainly their offensive display was very good with Ivanyi, and that's going to make them grow and make them a stronger team offensively where they need some help," Smith said.

Looking for the best way to sum up California's turnaround from last season? Just ask Horstmeyer to comment on California's play toward the end of the game despite falling behind.

"A year ago, our team would've just folded," she said.

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## Men's

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### A Cardinal sin

The Ducks' first Pac-10 road trip does not get any easier.

Stanford (10-4, 1-1), which defeated Oregon State, 57-54, Thursday, hosts Oregon at 2 p.m. Saturday at Maples Pavilion.

In five tries with the Ducks, Kent has never won at Maples. Oregon's last win at Stanford was on Jan. 13, 1986 — by a score of 83-69 — a

streak that spans 17 games.

Oregon nearly broke that streak last season, but a long three-pointer by Tony Giovacchini with four seconds left sent the game into overtime. The Ducks eventually lost 90-87.

Only three Cardinal players who scored in that win over the Ducks are on this season's roster. Guard Julius Barnes leads Stanford with 14.3 points per game, while forward Josh Childress averages 14.3 points and 7.2 rebounds.

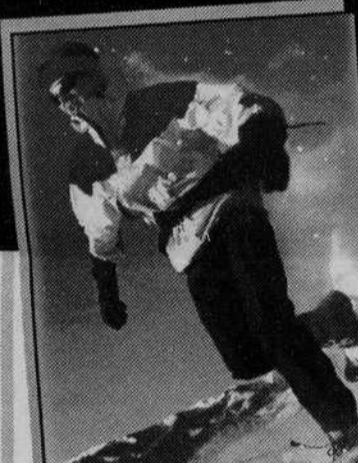
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