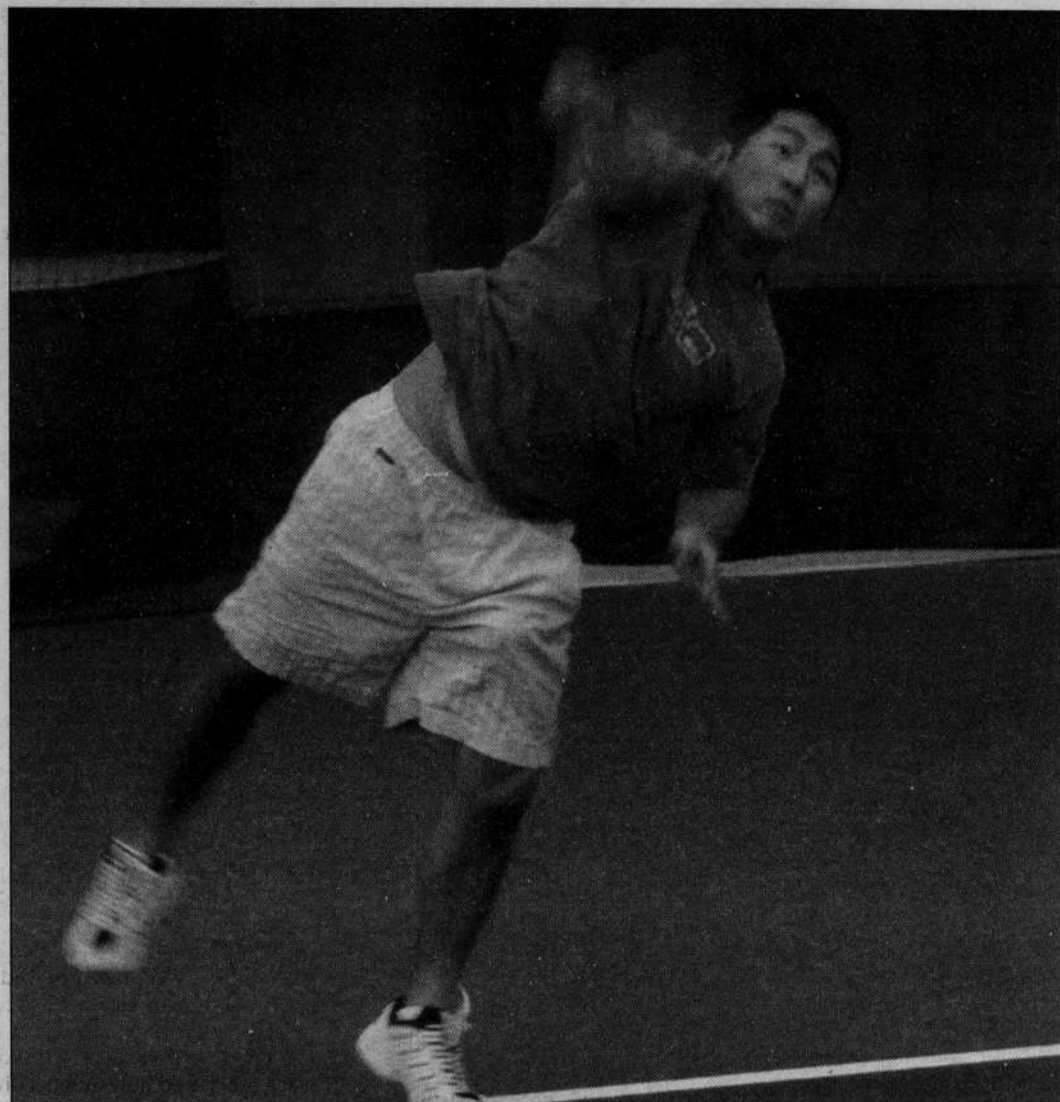


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# SPORTS

**Best bet**  
NCAA basketball:  
Florida at LSU  
6 p.m., ESPN

Tuesday, January 28, 2003



Danielle Hickey Emerald

Oregon Club Tennis Student Coordinator Seth Davis said this is the 'first real season' for the Duck club tennis squad.

## Advantage, UO

The club tennis squads are a labor of love and hard work for most of those involved with the teams

**Jon Roetman**  
Freelance Sports Reporter

Starting something from scratch is hard work.

Take a club tennis team for example. Convincing those in charge that the club is worth the time and effort, while assuring nothing will be taken away from the varsity program, comes first.

Once that's out of the way, finding a place to practice and funding for equipment can be a daunting task.

Then comes the all-important quest for people who want to play on the team. Recruitment, tryouts and cuts take even more time.

OK, it's time for a break.

Just kidding.

Now comes the competition factor: Finding other people you can actually compete against can be a little tricky.

Sound like a lot of work? The Oregon club tennis team knows these struggles all too well.

The club tennis team was started last year as men competed for the first time during spring term. This year marks the first time women have competed. Club Coordinator Seth Davis credits junior Derek Lehr for pushing the envelope with the idea of a club tennis team.

"Derek really got the ball rolling," Davis said.

Lehr played with the team last year,

### Club Sports Tuesday

but is taking a break because of other commitments.

Davis, a junior, along with junior Megan Buller and sophomore Kate Ottum make up the coordinating trio in charge of club operations, along with competing. They referred to this year as "the first real season" for club tennis.

The Ducks recently set up an official five-team league through the United States Tennis Association. The league will consist of Oregon State, Portland State, Washington, Western Washington and Oregon, and will get under way in the spring.

When it came to choosing players, Buller said the Ducks ended up with a team from "all ages and all walks of life." With players from different age groups and several from different countries, he said it has been constant fun throughout the team bonding process.

"It's interesting how I've met so many different people," Davis said. "We have fun during practice."

"It's the most random team ever," Ottum said. "We get along really well."

Although the Ducks emphasize

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## Cal Bear-ing down in standings

California is tied with Arizona atop the Pac-10, and the teams will face each other Saturday

### Men's Pac-10 notes

**Peter Hockaday**  
Sports Editor

In this marathon of a Pacific-10 Conference season, two runners are separating from the pack as the season's mid-point nears.

Arizona.

And ... California?

In recent years, the Golden Bears have fielded stars like Sean Lampley and Jamal Sampson, but it took a rag-tag bunch of semi-stars to turn Cal into a true Pac-10 title contender. Led by Joe Shipp and Amit Tamir, the No. 20 Bears have gone undefeated in Pac-10 play thus far, and are tied with Arizona atop the conference standings.

Of course, Cal hasn't played the tough Arizona schools yet — Arizona is No. 1 in the nation while Arizona State is tied for

fourth in the Pac-10 — and the Bears will make the trip to the desert this weekend. But even if Cal loses both games in Arizona, the Bears will hold second place in the conference at midseason.

"I didn't want the players listening to what everybody else was saying," California head coach Ben Braun told the San Francisco Chronicle about preseason criticism. "Sometimes, if you hear something often enough, you start to think that's who you are. Everybody starts talking about who's coming in next year and your team just gives up on the season. I didn't want that happening."

Shipp is the Pac-10's leading scorer, averaging 20.8 points per game, while Tamir is fifth in the conference in rebounding.

Cal's clash with Arizona on Saturday will be broadcast nationally by Fox Sports Net, with tipoff set for 4 p.m. Pacific Time.

### Wild man, really wild

It's like beating a dead horse that's already been beaten, then beaten again.

But damn, Arizona is good.

The Wildcats proved just how good they are by coming back from a huge

*"Sometimes, if you hear something often enough, you start to think that's who you are."*

**Ben Braun**  
California head coach

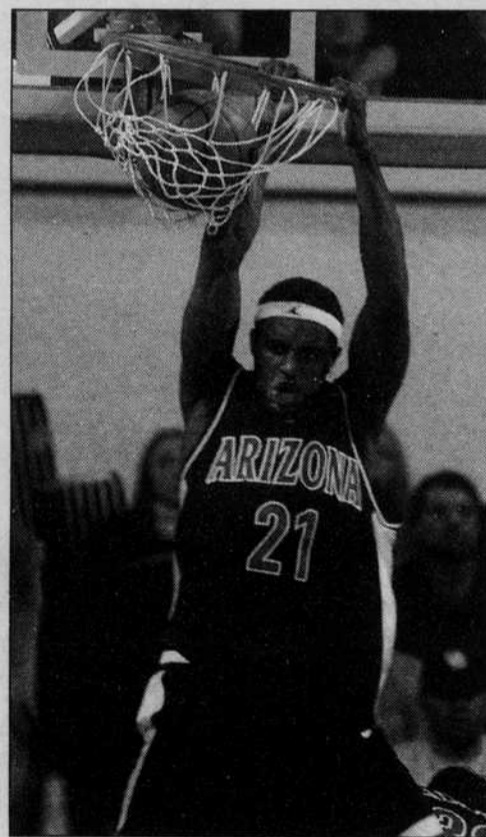
deficit — 20 points, to be exact — and shocked then-No. 6 Kansas at Allen Fieldhouse on Saturday.

Arizona, which has made a habit of ending home winning streaks this season, ended Kansas' 25-game win streak at Allen Fieldhouse. If Arizona hadn't ended Oregon's home win streak in January, the Ducks would currently hold the nation's longest home streak.

### Still no Lavin love

Where's that dead horse? We need it again, and the subject this time is the struggling UCLA Bruins and their

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Hassan Adams and Arizona toppled Kansas in dramatic fashion Saturday.

Adam Amato Emerald

## Stanford's conference streak ends at Southern California

The Cardinal's long and glorious ride through victory lane ends in a matter of moments as they lose to the Trojans

### Women's Pac-10 notes

**Jesse Thomas**  
Sports Reporter

All good things must come to an end.

That saying has been around even longer than Stanford's winning streak. The Cardinal, who had won 10-straight games overall and 28-

straight in Pacific-10 Conference play, had to face that bitter truth Sunday.

And after All-American Nicole Powell's buzzer-beater secured her Cardinal a win over UCLA on Friday, her season-high 34 points wouldn't be enough to hold off Southern California on Sunday.

Stanford, which may once have seemed untouchable, was brought down to a human level by the Trojans, as USC won 75-72.

Stanford put itself in a tough spot, trailing at halftime 49-35, and even a 15-1 run over USC in the second half wouldn't be enough.

"I thought we made a really good comeback

in the second half," Stanford head coach Tara VanDerveer said. "We dug ourselves a hole. I don't think we played with the intensity or the aggressiveness that we need to."

Previously No. 5, Stanford (15-2, 7-1 Pac-10) still sits atop the conference and is headed for a prime spot in the NCAA Tournament.

The Trojans moved themselves one game closer to .500 in Pac-10 play and sit in a tie for fifth in conference standings.

VanDerveer made her disgust in her team's effort well-known to the public and described her team's lack of effort as "uninspired."

"We became a stand-around team," she told

The Stanford Daily.

The Trojans' victory came partly because of the play of junior Rometra Craig, who scored nine of her 19 points in the final six minutes of USC's victory over the Cardinal. Craig was named the Pac-10 Women's Basketball Player of the Week on Monday.

### Cougar woes continue

Washington State has become the doormat on the Pac-10.

The Cougars sit in last place in the conference standings with a winless record of 0-16

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