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Tennis plays at home

The Duck men and women have a bevy of matches at the Student Tennis Center

Tennis

Ryan Heath

Freelance Sports Reporter

Didn't get a ticket for the basketball game this weekend? Don't worry, there's plenty of Duck tennis to fill the live-sports void.

The No. 49 women kick the weekend off with a match against No. 75 Sacramento State at 6:30 p.m. Friday. They continue the long weekend when they take on Pacific at 1 p.m. Saturday and No. 71 California-Irvine and Portland State at 9 a.m. and 6 p.m., respectively, on Sunday.

Sacramento State is led by No. 51 Margarita Karnaukova and California-Irvine boasts the No. 60 doubles team of Jenny Bowman and

Tiffany Chang.

The Ducks, led by No. 28 Daria Panova, are coming off a successful weekend at the Student Tennis Center, during which they won two matches without losing a set.

Panova is on a nine-game singles winning streak, while senior Monika Gieczys and junior Courtney Nagle are both 3-1 in the young regular season.

The No. 72 men will work their way into the big tennis weekend by taking on Portland on Saturday after winning two matches on the road last weekend.

"We are looking for guys to not expect things to be easy because of two recent wins," head coach Chris Russell said. "We had guys that won last weekend that didn't do all the things that they were supposed to, so hopefully they desire continued improvement."

The Ducks will look to freshmen Thomas Bieri and Arron Spencer,

both 4-0 in singles play, to continue their dominance as senior Oded Teig chases the Oregon singles victories record from the No. 1 spot.

Despite their recent successes, the Ducks aren't looking past any opponents.

"We have a tough schedule," Russell said. "So if we are processing the right stuff, we will be very competitive."

"We have a bunch of guys who have the ability to be playing at a different level come late March through May."

No. 64 Manuel Kost returned from an abdominal injury last weekend to pick up wins in his first two matches of the regular season and sophomore Sven Swinnen looks to improve on his own two game win streak.

All matches will be held at the Student Tennis Center, located behind McArthur Court.

Ryan Heath is a freelance writer for the Emerald.

Sports briefs

Softball takes on Seminole Classic

The Oregon softball team is headed in the right direction under new head coach Kathy Arendsen, and the Seminole Classic will give Oregon its first taste of ranked teams.

In the Ducks' first preseason tournament, they earned a 4-1 record. The team's only loss came to Arkansas in the final game of the Southwest Texas/CenturyTel Classic, 3-1.

Today, Oregon faces off against

Southeastern Louisiana and No. 9 Florida State. Saturday the Ducks battle No. 17 Georgia and Florida A&M.

The tournament is the second of the preseason for the Ducks. Oregon will play in six preseason tournaments on six consecutive weekends before conference play begins in mid-March.

Four pitchers split the team's four wins at the SWT/CenturyTel Classic. Oregon won its first game 10-0 against Texas A&M - Corpus Christi. The Ducks' next three games - against Texas Tech, Southwest Texas State and Houston - each ended with a 2-1 final score in

Oregon's favor.

Woman trackster heads to Idaho

Junior Abby Andrus travels to Pocatello, Idaho for the Mountain State Games that begin today.

The pentathlon competition continues through Saturday, with Andrus the only Oregon representative.

The men will send participants to the Iowa State Classic on Feb. 14, while the women will send athletes to Seattle for the Washington Invitational the same weekend.

-Mindi Rice

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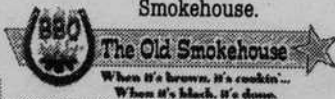
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Oregon Daily Emerald

Women's

continued from page 7

played as well as we could in those first five minutes and then we started to gamble and they created confidence with that."

Yet Oregon stood strong through the first 12 minutes off three three-pointers by sophomore Brandi Davis and solid play by the other Duck starters.

The Ducks suffered as the four-player bench hurt them, and the offense was not executing as it began. The Cardinal had everything going their way in the final minutes and went on an 11-0 run at one point to lead 40-28.

Oregon did not weather the storm, as the Ducks headed to the locker room down 45-28.

Stanford had sizzled through the first 20 minutes, shooting over 66 percent from the field and outrebounding the Ducks 17-8.

Freshman Carolyn Ganes would

get the first bucket of the second half to bring Oregon within 15 points and let hope linger that a comeback was possible.

The Cardinal quickly tried to break Oregon's spirit after the first six minutes, by upping their lead to 56-34. The Ducks could never get closer than 20 after that point, despite all their efforts.

"The most important thing right now for us is to recoup and recharge those batteries because they are on low," Smith said. "This was going to catch up to us sooner or later in this long Pac-10 season."

Oregon finished its night shooting 35.7 percent from the field after shooting over 40 percent in the first half. The Ducks were over 80 percent from the foul line, yet lost the battle of the boards again, 39-22.

The Ducks were led by Ganes and sophomore Amy Taylor with 10 points on the night. Taylor matched her career-high with her double-fig-

ure output. Davis, who had a quick nine points to start the night, did not score after the first 10 minutes, and ended up shooting just 3-for-14 from the field.

Not surprisingly, Powell set the pace for Stanford with 15 points in her 30 minutes, along with sophomore Kelley Suminski, who also added 15. Sophomore Azella Perryman added a solid performance with 14 points, eight rebounds and shot 6-of-6 from the charity line.

The Cardinal finished the night shooting 56.4 percent from the field along with nine bombs from downtown.

Oregon must now recover from the tough loss and get ready to face California on Saturday in Berkeley. The Ducks defeated Cal in the teams' first matchup Jan. 9 at McArthur Court.

Contact the sports reporter at jessethomas@dailyemerald.com.

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