

Road losses pile up for Oregon tennis

The No. 58 men lost their third and fourth matches in a row in Arizona and the No. 33 women dropped tenth of the last eleven

Tennis

Ryan Heath

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The Oregon men's and women's tennis teams continued to struggle, with losses that extended their losing streaks to four and five matches, respectively.

The No. 58 men lost to No. 52

Arizona, 5-2, on Friday in Tucson, Ariz., and fell short against No. 40 Arizona State, 4-3.

Duck sophomore Manuel Kost, ranked No. 92 nationally, was the most consistent player for the men with victories against Whi Kim of Arizona and No. 125 Pim Van Mele from Arizona State.

The Ducks were able to win all three of the top singles spots against the Sun Devils, but couldn't manage a victory in doubles.

Ducks Sven Swinnen and Oded Teig, ranked No. 42 nationally in doubles, both won their singles matches, but fell to Clinton Letch-

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Chris Russell
head coach

er and Chris Stewart. Stewart had been ranked as high as No. 21 in doubles with his old partner, Oli-

er Charroin.

"We actually competed better today," head coach Chris Russell said. "We just need to get a little better at the bottom of the lineup."

The No. 33 women dropped their fifth match in a row and 10th of the last 11 against No. 54 Pepperdine and Loyola Marymount.

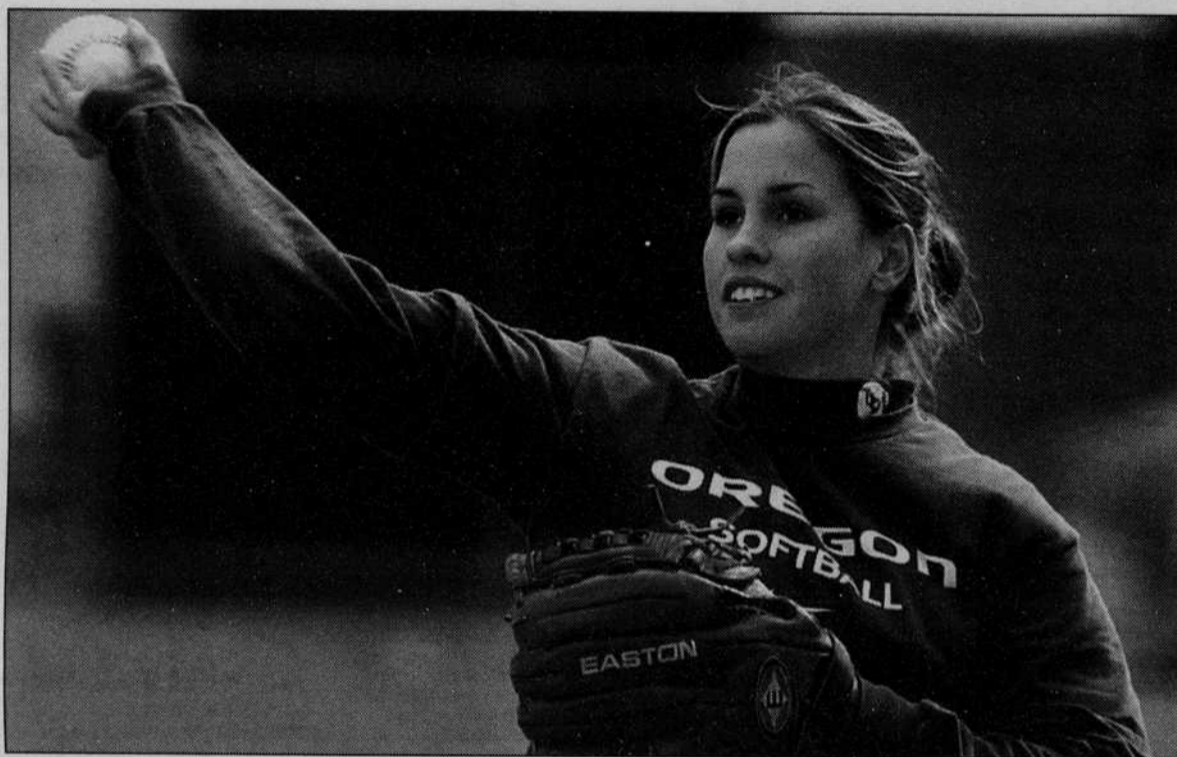
The lone victories for the Ducks on Saturday came from No. 15 Daria Panova over Pepperdine's Charlotte Vernaz, No. 51 in the nation, and No. 40 Courtney Nagle beating Merve Asimgil. No. 27 Nagle and Panova also teamed up to get the only doubles win for the Ducks.

Sunday, the Ducks fell to Loyola Marymount, 4-3, despite winning the doubles point and numbers one and three in singles.

Panova dropped Edit Pakay in straight sets and senior captain Monika Geiczys handled Diana Vinis, also in straight sets.

"There were some good individual matches out there," head coach Nils Schyllander said. "We need everybody to show up on the same day as a group. We just need to do it across the board."

Ryan Heath is a freelance writer for the Emerald.



Adam Amato Emerald

Amy Harris (above) and Andrea Vidlund combined for eight strikeouts late in Oregon's extra-innings win over Stanford.

Softball

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just need to be more consistent and string together strong offensive games in back-to-back appearances."

Oregon's two hits came from Vidlund and senior Janell Bergstrom. Both teams only walked two batters each during the game.

The Ducks faced off against the Bears again Sunday, managing one run in a 4-1 loss.

California opened the scoring with one run in the second on a throwing error.

The Ducks came back in the top of

the third. Freshman Breanne Sabol hit a two-out single, and both Laux and senior Amber Hutchison followed with walks.

Freshman shortstop Beth Boskovich hit a single to left field, allowing Sabol to score from third base. Laux was thrown out at home attempting to score from second, ending the inning.

Harris pitched 4 2/3 innings, striking out three batters and earning the loss. Junior Anissa Meash-intubby relieved Harris, facing the last seven batters. Harris is 6-8 on the season after starting all three games over the weekend.

California and Oregon met in the championship game of the National Invitational Softball Tournament earlier this season. California came away with the 6-0 win in that game.

Oregon opens its home season on Wednesday afternoon in a double-header against Portland State. The games were rescheduled after rain and wind postponed them from March 15. The Ducks then host Pac-10 rivals Washington and UCLA for three games on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Contact the sports reporter at mindirice@dailyemerald.com.

Title game provides intriguing matchups

Knight Ridder Newspapers (KRT)

Two seniors vs. a freshman. A fast-paced offense against a zone. Perhaps no two programs in college basketball are as diverse as Kansas and Syracuse. Still, when the two teams square off tonight at the Louisiana Superdome, they'll be battling for the same thing: a national championship.

Point guard: Aaron Miles vs. Gerry McNamara. With 18 points Saturday against Marquette, Miles fell just two points short of a career high. He's also cut down on his turnovers and has developed confidence in a once-shaky outside shot. A feisty freshman, McNamara is the team's leading three-point shooter (34.6 percent). He's also a player you don't want to foul, hitting 90.9 percent of his free throws.

Advantage: Syracuse.

Shooting guard: Kirk Hinrich vs. Kueth Duany. Even after averaging 23 points in his last two games, don't be surprised if Hinrich has saved his best for last. KU's top defender, Hinrich may end up guarding Carmelo Anthony before all is said and done. Duany is Syracuse's only senior starter. His 6-foot-6-inch frame makes it difficult for perimeter shooters to get open on the wing.

Advantage: Kansas.

Swingman: Keith Langford vs. Carmelo Anthony. Langford is known for playing well in NCAA Tournament games, but he's never faced a challenge this stiff. The 6-foot-8-inch Anthony is 4 inches taller than Langford. Anthony lit up a similar-sized player (Texas' Royal Ivey) for 33 points Saturday. It might be wise for KU use a

bigger body like 6-foot-9-inch Nick Collison or 6-foot-6-inch Bryant Nash to defend Anthony.

Advantage: Syracuse.

Power forward: Nick Collison vs. Hakim Warrick. A first-team All-American, Collison is probably the best post player in the country. 'Nuff said. Warrick is Syracuse's second-leading scorer (15.1) and rebounder (8.7). He benefits from Anthony's talent because he often finds himself open when Anthony attracts the help defense.

Advantage: Kansas.

Center: Jeff Graves vs. Craig Forth. Now, more than ever, the Jayhawks need one of Graves' sporadic flashes of brilliance. He's a strong, physical defender — but not always a "smart" defender. He's also an underrated passer. Forth is a serviceable center who averages only 17 minutes a game. He usually gives way early to Jeremy McNeil.

Advantage: Kansas.

Coach: Roy Williams vs. Jim Boeheim. Williams has already turned in the greatest coaching job of his 15-year career. But it will be even greater if he concocts a way to stop Anthony. Boeheim's Orangemen have won their five NCAA Tournament games by an average of 10.1 points. So he hasn't needed much final-minute strategy. Either way, one of these legendary coaches will win his first national title.

Advantage: Kansas.

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Horoscope by Linda C. Black

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (April 7). This year you'll learn the value of playing by the rules. Learn them first, and well, to gain a hidden advantage. Then, make changes for the better.

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 9 _ Before you can advance, you'll need to take care of business close to home. Don't cut corners. Do it right, or it'll take even longer.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) _ Today is a 5 _ Don't put a lot of extra stuff on your agenda for today. Give yourself a break. Just making ends meet will be difficult enough.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21) _ Today is an 8 _ It's time for a change, and you're liable to be the one who makes it happen. Stand up for basic values. Others are listening.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) _ Today is a 6 _ Don't assume you're so smart that you can break the rules. Listen and learn so that you'll know what to expect.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) _ Today is a 9 _ Your friends are behind you 100 percent, and that's a wonderful feeling. However, don't goof off and forget to do your job.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) _ Today is a 5 _ Stay in communication with the person in charge of the cash. The two of you need to keep a lid on everyone else's spending.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) _ Today is a 9 _ You're finding out the inside story on a lot of different topics. The more questions you ask, the more secrets you'll learn.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) _ Today is a 5 _ Others are making a lot of noise but not really saying anything. They're letting you know how much they know, and how much they don't. Continue to listen carefully and take notes.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) _ Today is an 8 _ The debate is made even more interesting by the fact that sometimes your adversary is right. To show you're wise as well as smart, adopt the suggestions that work.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) _ Today is a 5 _ You're still way too busy, but tomorrow should be better. Prepare to delegate, and you'll be even more efficient.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) _ Today is an 8 _ When you've settled on rules that work for you both, you'll find that life becomes a lot easier. You're building a structure to depend upon, so put in the time that's required.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) _ Today is a 5 _ While juggling career and home life, ever wonder which side will win? Home life, of course. But it may take some fancy dancin' to get much free time at home during this busy week.

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