

Panova wins Pac-10 title

The tennis teams struggle in California, but Daria Panova wins her second Pac-10 title

Tennis

Ryan Heath
Freelance Sports Reporter

Duck sophomore Daria Panova won the women's singles tennis Pacific-10 Conference Championship this weekend in Ojai, Calif.

Panova, ranked 20th in the nation, completed the Pac-10 Tournaments sweep with this weekend's victory and the Indoor Championship in January as well.

"She played a great match," head coach Nils Schyllander said. "Just a high level throughout the match."

The Pac-10 is often considered the most competitive conference in the nation with six teams in the top 25.

Panova's road to the championship was no easy task as she defeated the No. 6 and No. 7-ranked players in the nation in back-to-back matches as well as two other players in the top 100.

Panova dropped both No. 6 Emilie Scribot of Arizona and No. 7 Raquel Kops-Jones of California in straight sets.

"This is really exciting for her," Schyllander said.

The rest of the No. 41 Ducks couldn't quite get into the rhythm that Panova did as they struggled in their second round match-ups.

In the top flight, Duck sophomore Ester Bak fell to eventual finalist Kops-Jones, 6-2, 6-3, and freshman Jamie Marshall lost to No. 5 Adria Engel of Arizona State, also in straight sets despite sending the second set to a tiebreaker.

In doubles, only Bak and Anna Leksinska were able to get out of the first round of the invitational draw by defeating Washington State's Zsofi Fodor and Zorana Roganovic, 8-4.

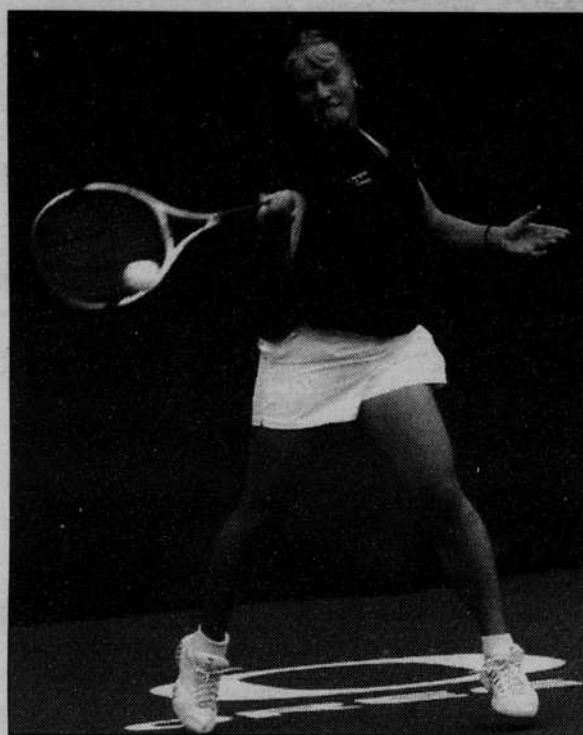
Bak/Leksinska exited in the second round after suffering an 8-2 loss to Dianne Hollands and Kelly Perry of Arizona.

The No. 66 men also struggled this weekend.

After failing to get a singles player past the second round in either draw, the Ducks moved on to doubles with the same result.

Thomas Bieri and Manuel Kost were the only Duck duo to win a match as they defeated Cal's Conor Niland and Balazs Veress. Bieri/Kost fell to Whi Kim/Paul Warkentin of Arizona, 8-6, in the quarterfinals.

Duck doubles No. 1 Sven Swinnen/Oded Teig fell to



Adam Amato Emerald

Daria Panova completed an unprecedented double by winning Pac-10 individual titles indoors and outdoors, the latter coming Sunday in Ojai, Calif.

Cal's Patrick Briaud/John Paul Fruttero, 8-1.

In the invitational draw, the Duck senior-freshman combination of Jason Menke and Arron Spencer received a bye in the first round, but dropped their quarterfinal match 8-4 to UCLA's Chris Lam and Chris Suparol.

Saturday, the Ducks were able to advance three singles players to the second round of the back draw bracket. Swinnen and junior Chris King won matches in straight sets, and Spencer took one in three.

Aside from Panova and possibly Kost, who have a chance to participate individually in the NCAA Tournament, both the men's and women's seasons have most likely come to an end.

Ryan Heath is a freelance writer for the Emerald.

Golfers struggle, finish Pac-10s last

Sophomore Johnna Nealy continues her impressive play through the final round

Golf

Scott Archer
Freelance Sports Reporter

Playing in the same town where it opened the season on such a positive note, things took a strikingly different turn for the Oregon women's golf team at the Pacific-10 Conference Championships.

The Ducks opened their season with a fourth-place finish at the OSU/Shanico Invitational. Seven months and many tournaments later, Oregon again found itself in Corvallis for the Pac-10 Championships, but under different circumstances. With possible postseason implications on the line, Oregon struggled in what could potentially be its last tournament of the year.

Oregon finished the tournament 10th overall, compiling a three-day total of 943, after shooting its best round Friday with a 312 and then slipping in Saturday's final round at 315.

Oregon was led by sophomore Johnna Nealy, who finished the tournament tied for 12th overall, shooting a 226. No other Duck provided support for Nealy as the second-best Duck finish of the tournament was freshman Therese Wenlow's 36th-place finish after shooting a three-day total of 236. Finishing closely behind was freshman Erin Andrews and her 22-over 238. Freshman Michelle Timpani finished 54th overall, followed by

sophomore Jess Carlyon at 55th.

No. 8 California earned its first-ever Pac-10 title after posting a 28-over 892. Vikki Laing, who earned the individual Pac-10 title after shooting an even-par 216, led California. No. 6 Arizona, which had won five of the last six championships and was the defending champion, finished five strokes behind California for second place. Following second-place Arizona was No. 13 UCLA, No. 5 USC and Arizona State.

The next tournament Oregon might appear in is the NCAA West Regionals, assuming the team earns a berth after finishing the season with several poor performances.


Duck men begin Pac-10 play

The Oregon men's golf team travels down to Glendale, Calif., today to begin play in the Pac-10 Championships at the par-72, 6,736-yard Oakmont Country Club course.

The Ducks will send their No. 1 player, senior John Ellis, who has six top 10 finishes for the season. Senior Chris Carnahan, who is the No. 2 golfer, is competing in his fourth Pac-10 Tournament, while junior Mike Sica is currently Oregon's No. 3 golfer. Freshman Gregg LaVoie and redshirt freshman Kyle Johnson both are making their Pac-10 debuts, along with junior Jimmy White. The Ducks finished fifth overall in last year's Pac-10 Tournament.

Oregon begins play at 8:18 a.m. and is paired with Washington.

Scott Archer is a freelance writer for the Emerald.



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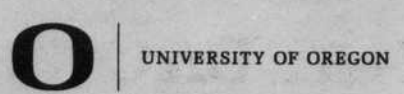
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