

Softball splits final road trip of season

The No. 19 Ducks upset No. 4 Washington with two 6-5 wins, while Amy Harris earns both saves in Seattle

Softball

Mindi Rice
Sports Reporter

Oregon made the most of its final Pacific-10 Conference road trip.

The No. 19 Ducks lost a close game on Friday to No. 2 UCLA, 4-3, but they bounced back and swept No. 4 Washington in Seattle on Saturday, 6-5 in eight innings, and on Sunday, 6-5.

Head coach Kathy Arendsen and the Ducks surpassed the squad's Pac-10 win total of six from 2000 with the sweep of Washington. Oregon improved to 30-16 overall and 8-10 in the Pac-10.

The Ducks' weekend started off rocky with Friday's 4-3 loss to No. 2 UCLA.

"We had the lead and gave ourselves opportunities to win late, so I'm pleased with that," Arendsen said Friday. "I thought our defense played very well and we were able to score early."

Senior designated player Amber Hutchison scored the Ducks' first run on a single by senior left fielder Andrea Vidlund in the top of the first inning.

UCLA answered with a solo home-run in the bottom of the first.

In the fourth, sophomore second baseman Erin Goodell walked, then scored on a double by freshman shortstop Breanne Sabol.

Freshman pitcher Amy Harris gave up two homeruns in the bottom of the fourth.

Vidlund hit her 10th homerun of the season in the top of the seventh, but the Ducks couldn't add any more runs in the 4-3 loss.

On Saturday, the Ducks played their eighth extra-inning game of the season. Oregon squeaked by the Huskies, 6-5.

"This was an outstanding win for our program today," Arendsen said Saturday. "I am extremely pleased that we continued to fight throughout. This is just a great victory."

Hutchison again scored the Ducks' first run of the game, hitting her third homerun of the season in the top of the third inning.

Washington answered with a run in the bottom of the fourth.

The Ducks scored four runs in the fifth. Sabol reached first on an error to lead off the inning. Hutchison earned a trip to first after being hit by a pitch. Freshman right fielder Beth Boskovich hit a single to score Sabol.

Vidlund followed with a hit that scored Hutchison. Senior first baseman Alyssa Laux drove in Boskovich with a single and junior catcher Jenn Poore singled to score freshman pinch runner Jackie Eliades.

The Huskies added three runs in the sixth and one in the seventh to take the game into extra innings.

Poore hit a solo home run in the eighth inning to put Oregon up, 6-5. Harris relieved Vidlund to earn the save.

Oregon is 7-1 in extra-inning games this season.

The Ducks came out strong on Sunday against Washington, picking up another 6-5 victory.

Oregon opened with four runs in



Adam Amato Emerald

Amy Harris (10) earned two saves against Washington, while Jenn Poore's (18) homerun in the eighth inning won Saturday's game.

the first. Hutchison singled, senior third baseman Lynsey Haij walked and Boskovich laid down a sacrifice bunt to advance the runners.

Vidlund drove in Hutchison and Haij then scored on a double by Laux. Poore drove in Laux for the Ducks' fourth run.

Washington tied the game with

four runs in the second.

The Ducks added a run in the third when senior outfielder Janelle Bergstrom drove in Vidlund. In the fourth, Boskovich drove in Sabol.

The Huskies added a run in the sixth, but Harris held them scoreless in the seventh.

The Ducks' two Pac-10 wins give

them their best conference record since 1999, when they won 10 games.

Oregon returns to Howe Field for its final home game of the season. The Ducks host No. 6 California on Friday and No. 12 Stanford in a doubleheader on Saturday afternoon.

Contact the sports reporter at mindirice@dailymerald.com.



Adam Amato Emerald

Chris Vincent (22), pushing of Keith Lewis, ran for 60 yards on 10 carries in the game.

Tailbacks

continued from page 11A

Bellotti said he plans to handle the tailback position the same way he is treating the quarterback position, allowing for healthy competition to improve each runner's focus and determination. Whitehead wasn't satisfied with his or the team's performance on the ground, but he said he expects better days.

"We made some good runs overall, but I feel we can run the ball better," Whitehead said. "I could of run a whole lot better. I still stand in the hunt for a starting position."

Vincent, on the other hand, knows he helped himself on Saturday but knows it's all about who's hot when it comes time for the Ducks' season opener against Mississippi State. He likened the situation to when Maurice Morris and Onterio Smith were both

at Bellotti's disposal.

Vincent plans to take his performance and run with it, hoping to improve over the offseason.

"I'm a raw running back right now, I still need a little polishing up," Vincent said. "But we have all off-season to work on that. My main focus is to get better."

Jon Roetman is a freelance writer for the Emerald.

buy sell trade
BUFFALOEXCHANGE.COM

fashion that pays to be me.

Buffalo EXCHANGE
New & Recycled Fashion

131 E. 5th Ave (between Oak & Pearl)

THE *Hot Body* CLUB

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND FOR ONE NIGHT ONLY
FEATURE MODEL & XXX SUPERSTAR
LEXI LAMOUR
MAY 14
SHOW TIMES:
8PM, 11PM, 1AM

TONIGHT - CINCO DE MAYO PARTY FREE MEXICAN BUFFET 4-7PM
MEXICAN SPECIALS ALL NIGHT

Summer Kick-Off Luau Party June 19th

2165 W. 11th Avenue ♥ Eugene ♥ 683-6021
Monday - Friday 12-2 Saturday & Sunday 2-2. www.hotbody.com

016/28