

# Panova leads Ducks for Pac-10 victory

The Oregon women triumph to take the first game of the Pac-10 season

By Alex Tam  
Freelance Reporter

In an emotional and spirited dual match, the 42nd-ranked Oregon women pulled off a 5-2 upset victory over No. 18 Arizona State at the Student Tennis Center.

## DUCK TENNIS

The win is the first against the Sun Devils at

home in the program and continues the Ducks' undefeated winning streak to start the season.

Oregon head coach Nils Schyllander said he is impressed with the way his team is playing and snatching up the first game in conference play.

"(This win) is huge," Schyllander said. "It's the first time we beat Arizona State in front of our fans. We played great. That was total team effort."

Oregon (7-0 overall, 1-0 Pacific-10 Conference) won two of the three doubles matches to earn the first point of the dual contest. The Ducks improved their doubles record to 18-3 for the year.

At the No. 1 position, the team of junior Daria Panova and senior Courtney Nagle led the way when they beat Lauren Colalilla and Kady Pooler 8-2.

However, the singles portion of the match established the tone for the rest

of the night as the Ducks took four of the six singles contests.

Panova cemented the win for Oregon in a thrilling three-set match when she defeated Joslynn Burkett, the Sun Devils' No. 1 player ranked 50th in the nation, 3-6, 6-4 and 6-3. Things did not look good from the start when Burkett took the first set and led the second, 2-0. Right after, Panova took two break points away to come back to win the set and won the match when Burkett hit long along the baseline in the third.

At the No. 2 position, freshman Dominika Dieskova won her sixth singles match of the season as she easily handled first-year Vana Thomas in straight sets, 6-2, 6-1.

"I played well," Dieskova said. "(Thomas) was very tough. I played

my game, I stayed aggressive and went to the net very often. My serve was very effective."

In another exciting match, senior Davina Mendiburu took care of freshman Wendy Pilecka in a third-set tiebreaker 6-4, 5-7, (10-2) at the No. 4 position. Mendiburu held onto her perfect duals singles record and improved her overall record to 14-1.

"I played pretty good in the first set," Mendiburu said. "She put more pressure on me (in the second set), but I pulled it out in the end."

Oregon continues action when they host No. 34 Arizona Saturday at noon in the Student Tennis Center.

Alex Tam is a freelance reporter for the Emerald.

# Ducks slip three spots to 16th in Hawaii

The Ducks look to make a run at the top ten with a charge in Friday's round at Waikoloa

By Brian Smith  
Freelance Reporter

The Oregon men's golf team continued to struggle Thursday at the TaylorMade/Waikoloa Intercollegiate, held at the par-72, 7,074-yard

## DUCK GOLF

Waikoloa Kings' Course in Waikoloa, Hawaii. Despite bettering their

first round score by four strokes, the Ducks slipped three spots into 16th place after a second-round team score of 289, which gives them a two-day total of 583.

In spite of falling into 16th, the

Ducks stand poised to make a move into the top ten if they can put together a solid third-round on Friday. Oregon trails the trio of schools tied for ninth place by only four strokes, and if the Ducks play a spectacular round, they could possibly jump into the top five. Arizona State and Arkansas, currently tied for fifth, lead the Ducks by only twelve.

Recovering from hometown jitters, freshman and Hawaiian native Matt Ma posted the biggest turnaround of the day for the Ducks. Ma turned around a tough first-round 77 into a team-leading 1-under 71 second-round, which moved him up into a tie for 64th. Sophomore Kyle Johnson, the highest Duck individual, shot an even par-72 in the second round, bettering his first-round total by one. Johnson is tied for 40th overall, with a 1-over total of 145. The Ducks top

man of the first day, Gregg LaVoie, slipped to a tie for 48th after a second-round 74, leaving him with an overall total of 146. After finishing in the top 20 for the first time in his career, Hawaii has proven to be unkind for freshman Dustin Pearchuk. Pearchuk shot a second-round 73, putting him into a tie for 69th with a two-day total of 149.

The tournament leader, fifth-ranked Georgia Tech, cooled off from their blistering 16-under total posted in the first round. The Yellow Jackets shot a second-round 291, 19 strokes higher than their 272 yesterday. Both fourth-ranked UCLA and UC Davis now sit only two strokes back, after they shot second-day totals of 283 and 281, respectively. Washington carded their second-straight 283 for a two-day 566 and fell a spot into fourth. Arkansas and No. 8 Arizona

State are tied for fifth at 571. Southern California is in seventh with a 574, followed by Stanford with a 578. The trio of teams tied for ninth at 579 include TCU, Nagoya Commerce (Japan) and Pepperdine.

The first-round individual leader, Georgia Tech's Nicholas Thompson, surrendered his first-round lead by shooting a poor second-round score of 77, 13 strokes worse than his first-day performance. Thompson fell into 13th place with a 3-under 141. Sitting atop the leader board is UC Davis's Scott Gordon, who posted a second-round 6-under 66, finishing with an overall score of 136. Gordon sits two shots clear of the field.

The final round tees off Friday at 6:45 a.m.

Brian Smith is a freelance reporter for the Emerald.

## SPORTS BRIEF

### Wrestling takes mat against Oregon State

The Oregon wrestling team makes its last home appearance of the season Sunday at 2 p.m., when the Ducks face the Beavers in this season's second Civil War match.

Oregon (1-11 overall, 0-6 Pacific-10 Conference) hosts Oregon State (10-6, 6-2) at McArthur Court for the Ducks' fourth home meet of the season.

In the first Civil War, Oregon State scored 16 consecutive points at the end of the dual meet for a 23-18 victory.

The Ducks' victories during the match were redshirt senior Jason Harless, redshirt sophomore Joey Bracamonte, redshirt freshman Cody Parker and true freshman Cyle Hartzell.

After offseason back surgery, Harless has built a 13-6 record at the 133 weight class in his final season as a Duck. He leads Oregon with 30 team points in dual meets and has a career-high four pins this season.

Redshirt junior Luke Larwin and redshirt sophomore Chet McBee are the only other Ducks with more than ten victories. Larwin is 22-10 at 165 this season while McBee has a 13-11 record at 174.

—Mindi Rice

## WIN

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"I think the girls just did a great job of finding me," Haring said. "I just happened to be in the right spot at the right time."

Gunderson had a career night as well with 13 points and 7 rebounds in 26 minutes on the court. She made her first three-point shot since Dec. 6 and added three assists.

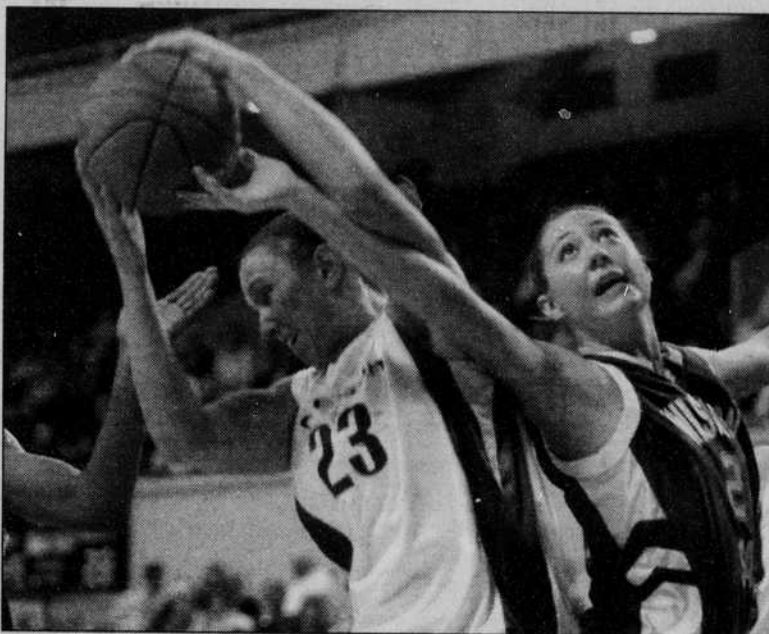
"I thought those two just did an outstanding job at both ends," Smith said. "I thought they played very tough. (Eleanor) just really gave us some offensive ignition."

"(Gunderson) went to her strengths offensively. Her shot selection was perfect. She hit a three for us, she got people out and went by them, she got a couple offensive boards and that's Kedzie Gunderson at her finest. Those two were real important lynchpins for our team."

Oregon gave everyone on the bench minutes on the court Thursday. Freshman Cicely Oaks scored two points in four minutes playing in her sixth game this season, while sophomore Yadili Okwumabua added two points and two rebounds in seven minutes.

Benz led the Cougars with 17 points while guard Jessica Perry scored 11 and Stratton added 10.

Mizusawa, Oregon's transfer junior from California's Saint Mary's College,



Tim Bobosky Photographer

Oregon's Kedzie Gunderson scored a career-high 13 points in the Ducks' victory.

moved up another place in the Oregon record books with an eight-assist performance against the Cougars. She is now No. 4 all-time on Oregon's single-season assists list with 154.

The Ducks have a day off today before they host Washington at 2 p.m. Saturday at McArthur Court.

"I think we have more to prove to ourselves (than to Washington on Saturday)," Smith said. "We know that

we're a better team than we were a month ago."

In January, Washington beat Oregon, 95-50, on the Ducks' trip to Seattle.

"We definitely owe them a big one," Gunderson said. "They crushed us the last time we played them. We're definitely looking to come in, defend our home court and give them a run."

Contact the senior sports reporter at mindirice@dailymerald.com.

## Today's crossword solution

L	I	M	A	T	C	E	L	L	B	A	S	H
A	R	E	S	O	L	D	I	E	A	S	H	E
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