8 -Monday, March 8, 2004 - Oregon Daily Emerald



"We just needed a few more timely hits," Oregon head coach Kathy Arendsen said. "But I thought our players battled until the end and really believed they could find a way

SPORTS BRIEFS

Jackson gets top team honor

team lost two

consecutive

games for the

second time

Saturday, the

Ducks were in

season

this

There wasn't much surprise Sunday when the Ducks gave out their top team award.

Luke Jackson was named Oregon's most valuable player at the team's annual banquet after leading the Ducks in scoring with 21.6 points per game

Jackson is just one of just a handful of players around the country to lead his team in points, rebounds (7.3) and assists (4.5) per game. He ranks second in the Pacific-10 Conference in scoring behind Arizona State's Ike Diogu, is fifth in rebounds and seventh in assists.

Jackson, who is a finalist for the Naismith and John R. Wooden awards, is the only player in Oregon's history to post three 500-point seasons. He scored 540 points this season, giving him 1,854 for his career, putting him third on Oregon's all-time list.

The past two Oregon team MVP's have gone on to be selected in the first round of their respective NBA Drafts. Frederick Jones won the award for the 2001-02 season and went 14th overall to Indiana. Luke

to win. It just didn't go our way, but I'm pleased with how we continued to fight."

Team USA gave Oregon its second loss Saturday. It was the first of three consecutive games the Ducks will play against Olympic-qualifying teams.

Team Canada faces Oregon in a doubleheader Wednesday at 1 p.m. at Howe Field.

Team USA beat the Ducks, 7-0. Former Arizona pitcher Jennie Finch and Texas pitcher Cat Osterman combined for a one-hit shutout.

Left fielder Dani Baird accounted for Oregon's only hit of the game.

Oregon had kept its win streak going through Friday. The Ducks opened their day with a 4-1 win against Jacksonville.

Poore was 2 for 3 with two RBIs and a home run in the victory. Infielder Ashley Richards went 2 for 4, while pitcher Amy Harris pitched a complete game, allowing three hits and striking out seven.

"I like the fact that were continuing to play with intensity and not having a let down," Arendsen said. "We have been playing to win and going out with a lot of fire and confidence.

In the second inning, second baseman Erin Goodell laid down a successful squeeze bunt that scored freshman Ann Marie Topps. In the

Ridnour won the award the next sea-

2000-01 and was selected in the second

Anderson and Andre Joseph shared

round, 58th overall by San Antonio.

Bryan Bracey won the award in

Also at the banquet, seniors Jay

son and was taken 14th by Seattle.

fourth, sophomore Beth Boskovich hit her first career triple to score Richards. She then scored on Poore's home run.

The final win in the Ducks' win streak was a 9-8 victory Friday against Northwestern.

Goodell hit a single to left field that scored Topps in the bottom of the seventh to give Oregon the victory.

"What a tremendous show of courage by our team today," Arend-sen said. "We never gave up and when we were down we continued to battle. I thought our young players showed great poise and a great ability to keep fighting."

Oregon was behind 5-0 in the fourth inning when freshman Suzie Barnes hit a two RBI single. The next batter, freshman Kristi Leiter, hit a three-run home run over the right field fence - her first career home run - to tie the game.

In the bottom of the fifth, Oregon loaded the bases and scored two runners when Northwestern pitcher Courtney Foster threw two illegal pitches, advancing the runners.

After the doubleheader against Team Canada, Oregon travels to Las Vegas for games Friday and Saturday in the UNLV Tournament.

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

best for the Orem, Utah, native. Andrus took home the team's

only automatic mark of the day, but the Ducks earned six NCAA provisional marks in Seattle and Florida. Junior pole vaulter Hannah

Moore earned a provisional by taking a personal best in the event by clearing the 13-foot-5-inch mark.

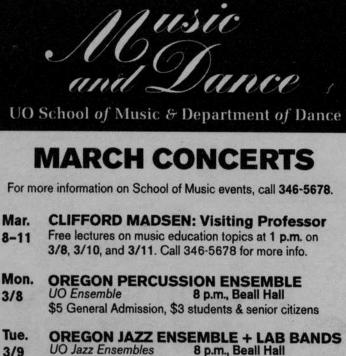
Senior Eri Macdonald ran the 800 in 2:06.75, good enough for first in the event.

Meanwhile, in Florida at the Fast-Times Qualifier, Eric Mitchum ran a 7.26 in the 55 hurdles, giving him first and a NCAA provisional mark. Sophomore Matt Scherer took third in the 400 with a time of 47.25, good for an NCAA provisional mark.

The NCAA will announce the field for the championships today. A minimum of 15 athletes will compete in each event with as many as 21 possible.

In addition to Andrus, Oregon is guaranteed to send athletes for three more events. Freshman Tommy Skipper will compete in the pole vault, while junior Magdalena Sandoval earned an automatic berth in the 5,000. The men's 4x400 relay team which consists of Scherer, Travis Anderson, Brandon Holliday and Roderick Dotts - will also compete.

- Hank Hager



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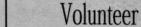
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3/9 \$5 General Admission, \$3 students & senior citizens

DANCE QUARTERLY Wed.

Department of Dance 7 p.m., Dougherty Theatre 3/10



the Jesse Nash most improved player award. Anderson was also named the John Warren most inspirational

player.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE HEARD?

Gregory Vincent, Vice Provost for Institutional Equity and Diversity

Redshirt freshman Jordan Kent took home two awards. He was named the Rear Admiral John Dick defensive player of the year. He was also honored with the Harry Ritchie scholar-athlete award, the second year in a row he has won it.

Duck track and field gears up for NCAA **Indoor Championships**

Senior Ryan Andrus led a busy day for the Oregon track and field teams in Seattle on Saturday.

Andrus earned an automatic invite to the NCAA Indoor Championships next week in Fayatteville, Ark. He took second in the 5,000-meter race at the NCAA Last Chance Qualifier in the Dempsey Indoor with a time of 13 minutes, 51 seconds.

The mark was a 16-second personal

FREE Admission

UO CONCERT CHOIR Wed. **UO Ensemble + Guest Choirs** 8 p.m., Beall Hall 3/10 \$5 General Admission, \$3 students & senior citizens

Thu. **NEW CENTURY SAXOPHONE QUARTET** UO Chamber Music Series 8 p.m., Beall Hall 3/11 Reserved seats \$12, \$25, \$29; in advance from Hult Center (682-5000) or EMU (346-4363).

Sat. **UO GOSPEL ENSEMBLES** UO Ensembles 3 p.m., Eugene Christian Fellowship 3/13 \$8 General Admission, \$5 students & senior citizens

Sun. **UO PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE** UO Ensemble 2 p.m., 198 Music 3/14 \$5 General Admission. \$3 students & senior citizens

For our complete calendar, check: music.uoregon.edu

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