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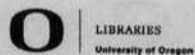
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UNIVERSITY OF OREGON LIBRARIES

BOOK SALE

Wednesday, June 2
Knight Library Browsing Room
10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.*

* From 10 a.m. to noon, the sale will be open to members of the UO community only; current university ID required.



SPORTS BRIEFS

Duck tennis players get academic praise

Six Oregon tennis players were honored by the Pacific-10 Conference on Friday for their academic efforts this year.

Juniors Sven Swinnen and Manuel Kost were named to the second team to pace the Oregon men. Swinnen earned a 3.36 grade point average in pre-business administration, and Kost was named to the team because of a 3.40 in business administration.

Four women were named. Juniors Ester Bak and Daria Panova also were named to the second team. Bak is an accounting major and earned a 3.57 GPA, while Panova, an economics

major, carried a 3.38.

Sophomore Anna Leksinska and senior Courtney Nagle earned Pac-10 honorable mention praise.

Oregon golfers earn five

The Oregon golfers weren't far behind their tennis counterparts on Friday, taking home five Pac-10 academic honors.

Sweden native Therese Wenslow placed as one of six members on the Pac-10's first-team all-academic. Wenslow, who took home a CoSIDA Academic All-District VIII At-Large second team nomination on Thursday, earned a 4.02 GPA — the highest among players on the first two teams — in business administration.

Senior Katie Cunningham, junior

Jamie Seefried and sophomore Michelle Timpani all earned honorable mention honors. Seefried's mention marks the third season in a row that the Spokane, Wash., native has earned an honorable mention bid.

California senior Sarah Huarte, who won the national championship last week, was named to the honorable mention squad.

Redshirt freshman Dustin Pewardchuk was the lone nominee for the men, taking a second-team mention after posting a 3.77 GPA in pre-business administration.

To be eligible for a Pac-10 academic award, a student-athlete must have at least a 3.0 GPA and be a starter or significant contributor.

— Hank Hager

HAGER

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anything but. However, all of the fans of Pacific-10 Conference teams should be thankful this time of year.

Remember the 1990s? For those who have forgotten what happened then, look no further than the black and gold of Colorado.

Back then, the Pac-10 considered expanding to 12 teams. They flirted with the idea of adding Colorado and Texas to the lineup, which most likely would have split the conference into two divisions.

But Colorado and Texas turned down the offers, instead becoming institutions in the Big 12.

Back then, it may have been a sign that the Pac-10 was down on its laurels, a forgotten piece of the major college puzzle. But now, if anything, there should be signs of relief coming from the Pac-10 offices in Walnut Creek, Calif.

Texas was and is pivotal. The Longhorns would have helped open up the Texas market, stretching the conference further east from its farthest point in Tucson, Ariz.

Texas is a national power in football and baseball — hey, it could have made

the Pac-10 an actual 10-team conference in baseball — and is climbing up the ranks in Oregon, mirroring the fashion in which Oregon has done.

But then there's Colorado.

A number of women came forward with allegations of rape and sexual assault in the last couple of months. Players were allegedly taken to strip clubs during the time they were recruited. Sex was allegedly offered to these same recruits, some of which played integral roles on Buffalo teams that, prior to this year, challenged for conference titles.

Had Colorado migrated to the Pac-10, the conference could have been right in the thick of things.

Granted, the Big 12 has been left relatively untouched since the whole ordeal started a few months ago, and there's no reason why the conference should be indicted in that whole mess. Member institutions provide a sort of living advertisement for their conferences, but realistically, no leagues can govern enough to ensure no major incidents happen.

In other words, it's up to the programs themselves to maintain a level of decency and dignity.

But there's nothing in the mess that should make anyone think positive thoughts.

Would Colorado have brought national attention to the Pac-10 on the football field? Sure. The Buffaloes, after all, played Oregon in the 2001 Fiesta Bowl. They got trounced, but still provided one of the feel-good team stories of the year.

Would Colorado have helped the Pac-10 get more notice in the Denver area? Sure. Its inroads into a major metropolitan area is never a bad thing.

Would Colorado have provided the Pac-10 with more headaches than it's worth? Based on what's happened in the most recent months, without a doubt.

The Pac-10 is kind of like the quiet kid who never comes out and plays; it believes it's got the talent and the teams to do well. Its teams may not always be national powers, may not challenge for national championships in the major sports and may not be tops when it comes to tradition.

But each program within is part of a major academic university and generally acts in the best interests of its students and its athletes.

I'll take that any day.

Contact the sports editor at hankhager@dailyemerald.com. His opinions do not necessarily represent those of the Emerald.

SERIES

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takes that had occurred in Wednesday's 10-1 loss to No. 1 Colorado State. The Ducks knew they needed to score more runs and improve their defensive game if they wanted to capture their first-ever win at the NCBA World Series.

Again, Oregon faltered in the first inning. Pitcher Jordan Shaw gave up a three-run home run to Central Michigan's Jacy Harnois. Harnois' 425-foot

we needed."

After Oregon's losses to both Colorado State and Central Michigan, Ficek said Oregon's "inexperience and nerves" might have played a factor in both games.

"We spent a lot of time and energy trying to get here, and we couldn't recover fast enough to be ready in time for the World Series," Ficek said.

Even though Oregon will go home without a win after their debut, Loomis said the team will be better

"The biggest thing is that we now know what we need to do differently. ... In the past, teams needed two or three or even four tries before they won a game. A lot of teams have gone 0-2 and then have come back and won a national championship."

Jon Loomis
Oregon catcher

home run gave Central Michigan a commanding 4-0 first-inning lead.

"The first inning and the home run took the wind out of our sails," catcher Jon Loomis said.

From then on, the Ducks could not find their offensive and pitching threats that carried them past the 2003 NCBA National Champions, Weber State, in the Northern Pacific Regional Tournament last month. Even with hits from Loomis, first baseman Jeffrey Douglas and right fielder Brad Ficek that put two runs on the board in the second inning, Oregon never came within two runs of Central Michigan.

Despite the Ducks' three-run rally late in the seventh and final inning, Central Michigan's pitchers got the best of Oregon, Douglas said.


"We didn't do a good job of taking pitches," Douglas said. "We let him play his game and we didn't get the hits

prepared for next season. Although the team's goal was to make a decent showing in Bradenton, Fla., Loomis said it is important to keep in mind that most championship teams have struggled in past years before they experience success at the World Series.

"The biggest thing is that we now know what we need to do differently," Loomis said. "In the past, teams needed two or three or even four tries before they won a game. A lot of teams have gone 0-2 and then have come back and won a national championship."

Colorado State — Oregon's first-round opponent — beat North Carolina State in the championship game Monday, 8-1, and was crowned the 2004 NCBA National Champions.

Kirsten McEwen is a freelance reporter for the Emerald.




Fifth Annual Oregon Quarterly Northwest Perspectives

Essay Contest Reading

7 p.m. Thursday, June 3, 2004 -- FREE
Gerlinger Alumni Lounge
1468 University Street, University of Oregon

Opening remarks by contest judge Brian Doyle, editor of *Portland Magazine* and author of *Leaping: Revelations and Epiphanies*. Readings by this year's winners.
Open Category: Michele Taylor, Melissa Hart and Martha Gies
Student Category: Emily Moore and Susan Pesznecker



The magazine of the University of Oregon

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