

IN BRIEF

Cardinals drop Game 3

ST. LOUIS — Tony La Russa grimaced, then pulled the bill of his cap down low.

Pitcher Jeff Suppan got hung up between third base and home plate, turning an easy run into an excruciating double play in the third inning of the St. Louis Cardinals' 4-1 loss to the Boston Red Sox in Game 3 of the

World Series Tuesday night.

The team with the best record in baseball ran itself out of an early chance to get at Pedro Martinez and climb back into the series.

The Cardinals are in exactly the same spot the Red Sox were a little more than a week ago, down 3-0 and looking hopeless. Boston somehow rallied against the New York Yankees, but no team has ever rallied from a 3-0 deficit to win the World Series.

— The Associated Press

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Women's volleyball

Washington moves to 17-0, remains atop national poll

The Huskies are setting the pace in the Pac-10 as conference play heats up

BY STEPHEN MILLER
SPORTS REPORTER

The elite group of undefeated teams in the nation thinned from three to two last week as Ohio State (19-1 overall) lost to Illinois. Washington (17-0, 9-0 Pacific-10 Conference) and Hawaii (18-0) are the only remaining Division I volleyball squads with perfect records.

For the fourth straight week, the Huskies sit at No. 1 in the USA Today/CSTV Top 25 Coaches Poll. Washington has swept six of its last seven opponents, which included Oregon at the beginning of that stint. The Huskies have only had two matches extend to four games and one match — against then No. 2 USC — go to five games.

Last week, Washington beat Stanford for just the second time ever at home. The Huskies set the school volleyball match attendance record as 5,712 fans congregated to see them pull off their first ever sweep of the Cardinal. That crowd's size was the largest audience drawn by a Pac-10 team this season and the fourth largest in the history of the conference.

The Huskies continue to succeed without senior outside hitter Sanja Tomasevic. As a team, they hit a combined .359 against California and Stanford. Brie Hagerty recorded a .489 hitting percentage against the two teams and landed 32 kills. Christal Morrison added 31 combined kills in both matches.

This season, Washington has compiled an attack percentage of .326 in 17 matches and averages 17.3 kills per game in comparison to its opponents' combined average of 12.7.

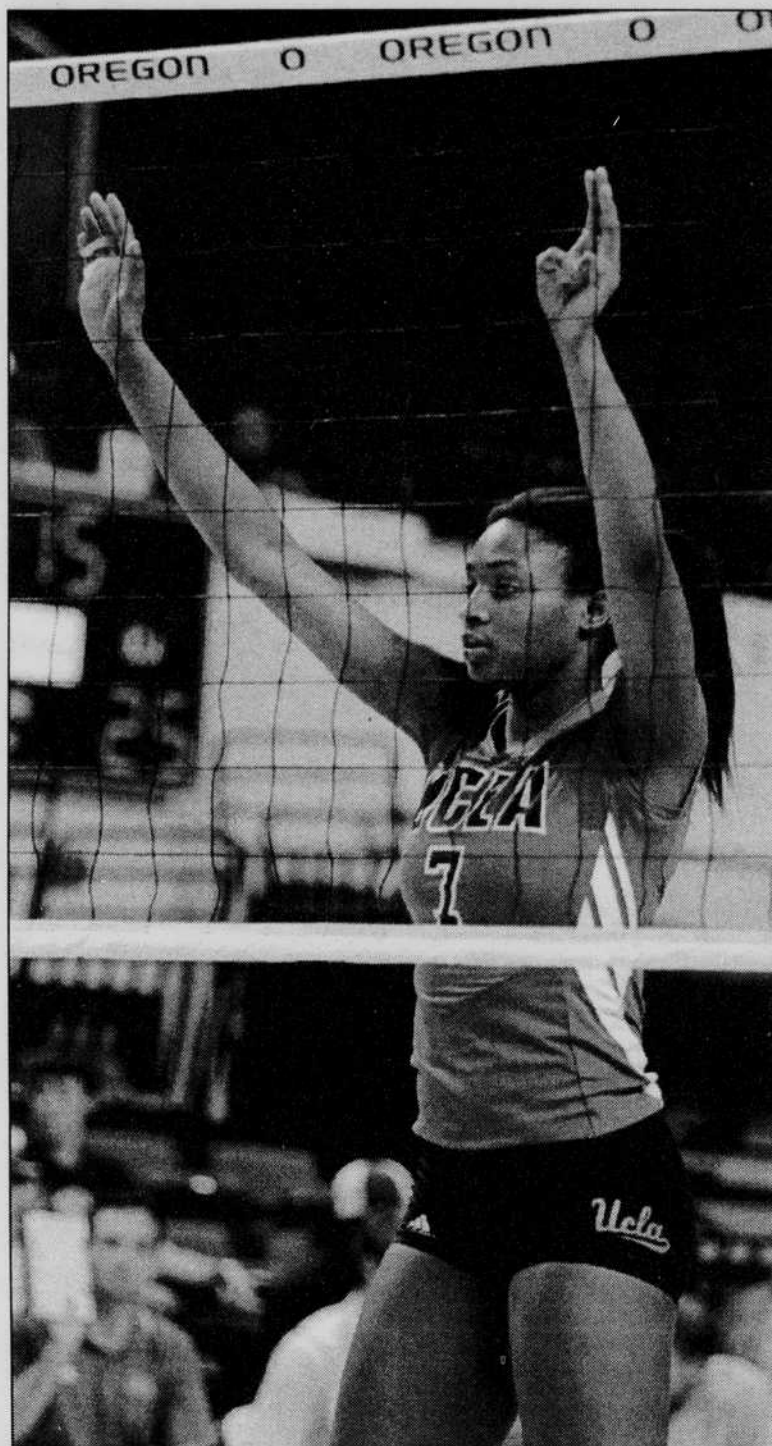
Bruins on a comeback

UCLA senior Chrissie Zartman was named Pac-10 Player of the Week for her two stellar defensive outings against the Oregon schools. She posted 24 digs against Oregon and 25 against Oregon State.

Zartman is the first libero this year to receive this honor. On the season, she has recorded a team-high 352 digs and averages 5.42 per game. This is the first time Zartman has been recognized as a player of the week. Her career total of 1,708 digs is the best among active players in the Pac-10.

Bruins middle blocker Nina Meriwether has already established a reputation as the top defensive net player in the conference. The sophomore leads the Pac-10 with an average of 1.70 blocks per game. She has collected 24 solo blocks — the most in the league — and 80 block assists.

UCLA is second in the league in



LAUREN WIMER | PHOTOGRAPHER

UCLA middle blocker Nina Meriwether leads the Pac-10 with an average of 1.70 blocks per game. The sophomore has tallied 24 solo blocks this season.

blocks and digs. The Bruins have won two games straight going into a midweek match against Pepperdine and a weekend homestand against the Arizona schools.

Hanging in there

Arizona continued its gradual fall in the national standings and wound up at No. 24 after this week's coaches' poll. The Wildcats have won four of their last five matches, however.

USC climbed back into the top five for the first time in two weeks at the fifth slot. Holding steady at their respectful positions are No. 11 Stanford, No. 12 UCLA and No. 13 California.

Anticipated return

Oregon has dropped to last place in team hitting percentage in conference matches. For the first time this season, the Ducks were swept on back-to-back nights. Sophomore outside hitter Sarah Mason is expected to return in one week after spraining her ankle in practice last week.

The Ducks (9-10, 1-8 Pac-10) await their Thursday match against Washington State, the only Pac-10 team they have claimed a victory against this season. The Cougars (3-19, 0-9 Pac-10) are 0-10 on the road this year.

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Golf: Benedetti carries Ducks in second round

Continued from page 9A

carded back-to-back 77s to lead Oregon and tie for 33rd at 154. Three Ducks finished tied for 45th at 156. The trio included senior Justin St. Clair and juniors Gregg LaVoie and Chris Dukeminier.

The first round saw the Ducks round out the top 10 in a tie at 310 with Purdue, Michigan and Minnesota. Harsh weather bogged down the field and would continue into the second

round. An originally scheduled third round was canceled prior to the start of the tournament due to storm warnings. Oregon head coach Steve Nosler felt his players' scores matched well with the weather.

"It got pretty rough out there," Nosler said. "The scores aren't very pretty, but every player just played their guts out." Individually, Bryson Young of Northwestern lead the field after the first round posting a 2-under 70. Only

two other players joined Young as medalists — Canizares and Wood.

St. Clair, LaVoie and Benedetti all carded 77s to tie for 31st at the end of Monday's play.

The 2005 Big Ten/ Pac-10 Challenge will be held at the Glen Club in Glenview, Ill. The tournament will return to Bandon in 2006.

Scott J. Adams is a freelance reporter for the Daily Emerald