

■ Duck tennis

Oregon women take three in weekend sweep

Jamie Marshall wins all three of her singles matches to lead the Ducks past UC Irvine, Portland and Utah

BY ALEX TAM
DAILY EMERALD FREELANCE REPORTER

Jamie Marshall has had the potential to be one of Oregon's top tennis players, but several nagging injuries throughout her career have impeded that development.

The 5-foot-6 junior, however, now feels the best she has been in a long time and had one of many standout performances for the Ducks this weekend. The Oregon women (3-0 overall) won all three home dual matches, including a 6-1 victory over UC Irvine on Sunday at the Student Tennis Center.

Marshall, a diabetic, said she recently switched to an insulin pump to help control her blood sugar levels, which in turn has contributed to her improved performances.

"I feel a lot healthier and everything is working right now," Marshall said.

The 21-year-old won all three of her singles matches over the weekend, including a straight-set, 7-5, 6-1, win over UC Irvine's Hui Leow that clinched the dual match victory.

"I feel like I'm playing a lot better and I feel like I'm in better shape and moving better and everything,"

Marshall said.

The flu and minor injuries also became concerns during the weekend. However, Oregon head coach Nils Schyllander said he was "really proud" of how his team battled through it.

"I think the team came a long ways this weekend because we dealt through a lot of adversity," Schyllander said.

Sunday's victory was also the Ducks' 11th straight win at home in the Student Tennis Center — a streak that dates back to last season when Oregon held a perfect 8-0 record.

"We're comfortable in here, we practice here and we got great fans, so it's a great venue to play at," Schyllander said.

The bottom half of the singles lineup was one of the big reasons for the Ducks' success over the weekend. Throughout the weekend, the quartet of Marshall, Anna Leksinska, Monica Hoz de Vila and Ester Bak combined for an 8-1 singles record.

"They played pretty solid," Schyllander said. "Jamie Marshall played great all weekend and we just don't make mistakes down in the lineup right now. I just feel like we played solid tennis."

Oregon also captured a pair of 6-1 victories over Portland and Utah on Friday.

The Ducks will next travel to Minneapolis for the Minnesota Court Classic on Saturday.

Men take two

The Oregon men (3-1 overall) continued their tennis success with two dominating 7-0 home victories over Gonzaga and Linfield Saturday.

"We just had to make sure we focused," senior Sven Swinnen said. "We knew coming into the match, if we focused we would win, and I guess that's what we did."

Swinnen, ranked 16th in the nation, picked up his team-leading 10th win of the season when he defeated Linfield's Tim Layman in straight sets, 6-0, 6-1.

Oregon continues dual-match play at home with a doubleheader Saturday against St. Mary's at 11 a.m. and Eastern Washington at 5 p.m. in the Student Tennis Center.



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IN BRIEF

Oregon football lands highly touted recruit

Jonathan Stewart, considered by many recruiting sources as the nation's top running back prospect, announced Friday in Seattle that he will sign with Oregon.

The 5-foot-10, 220-pound Stewart is the all-time leading rusher in Washington high school history with 7,755 yards, destroying the previous record by 1,600 yards.

During his senior season at Timberline High School in Lacey, Wash., he rushed for 2,301 yards and 32 touchdowns, giving him 95 for his career.

Stewart had narrowed his choices to Oregon and Washington State. Both schools sent recruiters to Timberline on Thursday for a final pitch, but Stewart said he had already made up his mind.

The verbal commitment isn't binding, but Stewart said his decision is final. It will be official when and if he signs Feb. 2, the first day

high school athletes can sign letters of intent with colleges.

If Stewart signs, it marks the fourth year in a row the Ducks have signed one of the top-ranked recruits in the nation.

Oregon signed defensive tackle Haloti Ngata in 2002, quarterback Dennis Dixon in 2003 and wide receiver Cameron Colvin and running back Terrell Jackson in 2004, all regarded as top players in the country at their respective positions coming out of high school.

— Clayton Jones

Men: Sun Devils' Serge Angounou scores 20

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career-low-tying 10 points. Diogu also grabbed 10 rebounds.

Arizona State forward Serge Angounou led all scorers with 20 points on 7-of-11 shooting and grabbed 10 rebounds.

Jordan Kent grabbed a career-high 10 rebounds for the Ducks in 15 minutes.

Despite consecutive home losses, the Ducks said they're not panicking and are capable of turning things around.

"We hope the character is strong enough on this team," Hairston said. "We need to stick together and just continue to move forward and learn from our losses."

jonroetman@dailyemerald.com



KIRA PARK | DESIGN EDITOR

Oregon's Malik Hairston looks for an opening in the Ducks' loss to Arizona State Saturday. Hairston led the Ducks with 17 points, but went 8-of-18 from the field, including 1-of-8 from behind the arc.

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by Adrian Raeside

