



ERIK R. BISHOFF | PHOTOGRAPHER

Oregon shortstop Breanne Sabol, seen here last season, went 9 for 15 with five RBIs and six runs, while being named to the all-tournament team at the Hawaii Paradise Classic last weekend.

■ Duck softball

Ashley Boek pitches three-hit shutout, lifts No. 9 Huskies

Washington's standout hurler strikes out six and shuts down an Oregon team that had been averaging 9.7 runs per game

BY CLAYTON JONES
SPORTS EDITOR

An undefeated start for the No. 13 Oregon softball team was brought to a sudden halt by No. 9 Washington, 6-0, in the final game of the Hawaii Paradise Classic on Sunday.

The Ducks (3-1 overall) were limited to three hits by the Huskies' (3-0) Ashley Boek. She shut down a Duck team that had scored 29 runs in its previous three games and went the distance, striking out six to pick up her second win of the season.

The Huskies got on the board in the third inning when they loaded the bases. Oregon hurler Amy Harris (1-1) hit center fielder Aimee Minor with a pitch, forcing in a run and giving the Huskies a 1-0 lead.

Harris gave up three more runs in the fourth inning, three of which were unearned, due in large part to three Oregon errors. The Huskies put up two more in the sixth inning, ignited by All-American catcher Kristen Rivera's solo

home run off senior pitcher Lindsey Kontra. Rivera was named the tournament's most valuable player after going 6 for 9 with seven RBIs, six runs and two home runs in three games.

"Obviously we didn't want to finish the tournament this way," Oregon head coach Kathy Arendsen said. "We have been playing very well as a team and need to focus on continuing to improve each time we take the field."

Other than the loss to Washington, Oregon had a very successful weekend at the tournament.

On Saturday, the Ducks, behind an impressive performance by freshman pitcher Alicia Cook, beat Jacksonville, 5-0.

The Elmira native allowed a mere two hits in six innings of work to get her second victory of the season. In nine innings over the course of the tournament, she allowed only two batters to reach base, while not giving up a single. She was selected to the all-tournament team

for her performance.

The Oregon offense was led by junior shortstop Breanne Sabol. The Buena Park, Calif., native went 3 for 4 with two RBIs, two runs scored and two stolen bases. Sabol finished the tournament 9 for 15 with six runs and five RBIs. She was also an all-tournament selection.

Outfielder Dani Baird also had a solid game offensively, going 3 for 4 with a double and an RBI. First baseman Beth Boskovich added a home run for the Ducks, her second of the season.

Later that day, Oregon defeated host Hawaii, 10-2, behind an offensive explosion led once again by Sabol. She went 3 for 4 with two doubles, two RBIs and a run scored.

Freshman catcher T.J. Eadus also had a very productive day at the plate going 3 for 4 with a double and three RBIs.

Oregon next travels to Las Vegas to play in the UNLV Desert Classic starting Friday against Baylor. The Ducks are slated to play national powerhouse and No. 8-ranked Michigan on Sunday.

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■ Duck wrestling

No. 1 Oklahoma State makes short work of Oregon

The defending national champs use a plethora of nationally ranked wrestlers to out-dual the Ducks

BY SCOTT J. ADAMS
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Competing on the road is something all Oregon wrestlers have grown accustomed to, but Saturday night in Stillwater, Okla., was not a typical dual for the Ducks as they faced reigning NCAA champion and No. 1-ranked Oklahoma State.

The Ducks (5-9 overall, 2-5 Pacific-10 Conference) threw everything they had at the Cowboys but could not keep pace with the Big 12 juggernaut, whose roster included six nationally ranked wrestlers who almost completely shut down the Ducks in a 46-4 victory.

For Oregon, the loss came on the heels of another road defeat suffered the night before against No. 6 Oklahoma in Norman. The Ducks once again came close to upsetting a heavily favored opponent but fell short of the Sooners by eight team points, 30-22. Last week, Oregon senior Scott Barker mentioned the importance of upsets for up-and-coming programs like Oregon's in gaining national recognition.

"Upsets can do a lot for a team," Barker said. "When you pull one off or even come close, you get respect for it."

On Saturday, Oklahoma State recorded five pins in its win over Oregon and surrendered only one

loss, which came at the hands of No. 17 Joey Bracamonte, who wrestled in the 165-pound weight class. Bracamonte defeated Sam Lewnes by way of a 15-5 major decision — his 22nd win of the season. There were no bad feelings in Oregon head coach Chuck Kearney's analysis of the dual as he expressed respect for the highly ranked Cowboys.

"They proved why they are the No. 1 team in the country," Kearney said. "We got a taste of how we need to wrestle. They have an aggressive style that we try to emphasize in our program."

The dual started in the 125-pound weight division where Oregon sophomore Joey Lucas wrestled No. 18 Coleman Scott. Scott came away the victor by recording a 12-1 major decision. Oregon junior Martin Mitchell (133) competed next and made for a stubborn opponent for No. 8 Nathan Morgan of the Cowboys, who topped Mitchell 11-7. A trio of pins followed for Oklahoma State as Oregon underclassmen Elliot Tracy (141), Nate Gipson (149) and Stewart Bogart (157) sequentially fell to Dan Frishkorn, No. 2 Zack Esposito and B.J. Jackson, respectively.

Bracamonte's ensuing win would

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■ Women's tennis

Oregon improves to 7-0 in duals, keeps trend of preseason success

BY ALEX TAM
DAILY EMERALD FREELANCE REPORTER

The Oregon women's tennis team has become accustomed to fast starts over the past three seasons.

Last year, the Ducks won their first nine dual matches and in 2002, they jumped out to a 10-3 record.

This season, the Oregon women (7-0 overall) remain undefeated after triumphing over Texas Tech, 7-0, on Friday and San Diego State, 4-3, on Sunday.

"I really feel good about where the team is at right now," Oregon head coach Nils Schyllander said. "On any given night, someone on this team steps up."

The Ducks showed no signs of letting up after continuing their impressive performances in doubles and singles matches. For the season, the team has combined for a 19-2 record in doubles and a 34-8 record in singles.

Three Ducks already hold six singles wins, including seniors Daria Panova and Davina Mendiburu, and sophomore Dominika Dieskova.

Panova, who dropped from her No. 8 preseason ranking to No. 31, had an easy weekend after dominating Texas Tech's Tara Browning, 6-2, 6-1, on Friday. The 22-year-old also defeated San Diego State's Dita Hauerlandova in straight sets, 6-2, 6-0, Sunday.

"I just tried to play my game," said Panova, who improved her singles record to 6-0. "In the second set, I just tried to finish first."

Mendiburu also added two victories to her career total and moved into third place on Oregon's all-time career wins list with 66. She passed former teammate Courtney Nagle, who finished her career last season with 65 wins and is now a student assistant coach.

In addition, Dieskova continued her stellar play, racking up two more singles wins over the weekend. On Sunday, the 20-year-old clinched the dual-match victory with her win over San Diego State's Aleysa Vidov, 6-0, 6-3.

"I played very well (Sunday)," Dieskova said. "I just played aggressive, and I came to the net. I didn't give (my opponent) a chance to play her game style."

However, the question surrounding the Oregon women is whether they can carry over their great play into the start of the Pacific-10 Conference schedule in two weeks against the Arizona schools.



DANIELLE HICKEY | PHOTO EDITOR

Sophomore Dominika Dieskova, seen here earlier this season, holds a 6-1 singles record this year after adding two wins to her total over the weekend.

The Ducks have not fared well in the past in Pac-10 play, compiling a 2-6 record last season and a 3-7 record in 2002.

The team, though, remains confident and upbeat about how they've played and prepared for each match.

"We are pretty ready every match," Dieskova said. "We give a good energy and we get off to good starts. Every match we've won, we've won very fast."

Schyllander has credited the top half of the lineup — consisting of Panova, Mendiburu and Dieskova — for taking care of business, combining to win 18 of 20 singles matches.

"Everybody's played pretty well," Schyllander said. "I think at the one, two and three positions, it's been exceptional. There were no mistakes from them all weekend."

The Oregon women look to once again defend their home court this week against Washington State at 1:30 p.m. Friday and Washington at noon on Saturday. All matches are held at the Student Tennis Center.