

## ■ Duck softball

# Ducks win two, lose two in Classic

BY CLAYTON JONES  
SPORTS EDITOR

The final day of the Louisville Slugger Desert Classic didn't treat the Oregon softball team kindly, as the 13th-ranked Ducks lost to both No. 8 Michigan and Oklahoma State on Sunday.

Oregon fell to Michigan 9-0 in its first game of the day as Duck freshman Alicia Cook (2-1) took the first loss of her early collegiate career. She gave up six runs on six hits in 1 2/3 innings of work.

Cook's counterpart, Michigan's Jennie Ritter, shut down the Ducks. She went the entire game giving up only three hits and striking out six batters, improving her record to 2-0.

The Ducks had to endure a rough first inning as Michigan jumped out to a 4-0 lead, highlighted by Michigan third baseman Grace Leutel's double that scored two for the Wolverines.

Michigan scored all nine of its runs in the first three innings of the game. The Wolverine offense was led by designated hitter Nicole Motycka, who went 3 for 3 with two RBIs and a run. Also contributing to the victory was second baseman Tiffany Haas, who went 3 for 4 with a homer, two runs scored and an RBI.

The Ducks finished the weekend much as they began it — roughly.

Oregon fell to Oklahoma State 3-2 on a walk-off home run by Cowgirls first baseman Jennie Killman in the bottom of the seventh inning.

Oregon fell behind early, trailing 2-0 after Oklahoma State scored a run in both the second and third innings.

The Ducks fought back as center fielder Suzie Barnes hit her third home run of the weekend, hammering a two-run homer to tie the score. The sophomore hit her first career home run Saturday in the Ducks' victory over UC-Riverside and hit another later that evening in Oregon's win against Texas State.

Johnson and Oregon starter Amy Harris (2-2) then quieted down until Harris gave up a home run to Killman to end the game. Harris went six innings and gave up three runs on five hits while striking out five and walking two.

Johnson (3-2) dominated Oregon hitters, striking out 11 while giving up five hits and the two runs off of Barnes' home



DANIELLE HICKEY | PHOTO EDITOR

Oregon center fielder Suzie Barnes, seen here last season, hit her first career home run against UC-Riverside in the Ducks' win on Saturday. The sophomore hit three homers in four games during Oregon's trip to the Louisville Slugger Desert Classic in Las Vegas.

run in seven innings of work.

On Saturday, Oregon defeated UC-Riverside 11-3 on the strength of Barnes' hitting. She went 3 for 3 with a home run, a double, four runs and two RBIs.

The Ducks scored in every inning except the second.

Ani Nyhus picked up her first victory of the season going 3 2/3 innings while still trying to recover from an arm injury.

In the night game, Oregon was powered by back-to-back home runs to defeat Texas State 7-1.

Oregon trailed 1-0 until the sixth inning, when freshman left fielder Lovena Chaput hit a home run to tie the game. Barnes stepped up next and drove a ball out of the park to give the Ducks a lead they wouldn't relinquish. Oregon scored four in the sixth and three in the seventh

to wrap up the game.

Harris shut down the Texas State offense, limiting the Bobcats to four hits and one run while striking out five and walking four in her seven innings pitched.

Oregon head coach Kathy Arendsen said her team's willingness to fight and stay in the game was key to the victory.

"I couldn't be happier with how we battled today," Arendsen said. "We put pressure on them in the fifth inning and came back again in the sixth. I am very pleased with how we continued to believe we could do this."

Oregon will travel to California on Friday to play in the UC-Riverside Invitational, where their first matchup will come against Portland State at 10 a.m.

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## ■ Duck track and field

# Track team overwhelms competition at Iowa State

Distance runner Eric Logsdon also shined as he took sixth at Washington's Husky Classic

BY BEAU EASTES  
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Sprinters Eric Mitchum and Matt Scherer paced the Duck indoor track team this weekend, registering NCAA provisional times in the 60 meter hurdles and the open 400 meter at the Iowa State Classic in Ames, Iowa.

Mitchum, a junior, finished third (7.76 seconds) in the 60 meter hurdles, tantalizingly close to the NCAA automatic qualifying mark of 7.70 seconds. The Calumet City, Ill., native ran a 7.74 in the preliminaries, a time that only three collegians had beaten this year going into Saturday's meet.

Scherer, also a junior, won the meet's 400 meter with a blistering time of 46.40 seconds. The time, which tied his indoor school record from last year, kept the Sumner, Ill., native ranked seventh nationally and second in the conference behind Arizona State's Domenik Peterson (46.36).

Senior sprinter Kedar Inico, who currently holds the nation's 15th best 200 meter time (21.10), did not race this weekend.

## Distance runners excel in Seattle; Skipper wins again

Senior Eric Logsdon bested another NCAA automatic qualifying mark this weekend, taking sixth (13:49.99) in the 5,000 meter at Washington's Husky Classic while topping the NCAA automatic qualifying time of 13:53.10. Logsdon, who has already qualified in the 3,000 meter for next month's national meet, broke the Oregon indoor 5k record set by Ryan Andrus in 2004. The race was arguably the most competitive in the nation, as the top-eight finishers are all ranked in the top ten nationally.

TRACK, page 10

## ■ Duck tennis

# Women suffer first loss of season to No. 9 Washington

BY ALEX TAM  
DAILY EMERALD FREELANCE REPORTER

Confidence was as high as ever for the Oregon women's tennis team heading into Saturday's dual match against No. 9 Washington.

The 25th-ranked Ducks were riding an eight-match winning streak after defeating Washington State 6-1 at home on Friday. The team was right where it wanted to be entering its matchup against a top-10 team and its rival from Seattle.

"We started the season feeling extremely confident. We need to take it to the extra level. We can't wait for the Huskies," Junior Anna Leksinska said before the Washington match.

However, the Ducks (8-1 overall) faltered and were upended by Washington, 5-2, despite jumping out to a 1-0 lead after capturing the doubles point.

Oregon then lost five of the six singles matches to suffer its first loss of the season.

The only singles victory came from sophomore Dominika Dieskova at the No. 2 position, who defeated Dinka Hadzic in straight sets, 6-3, 6-0. The 22-year-old Dieskova, ranked No. 34 in the nation, improved her singles record to 8-1.

"Every time we play Washington it comes down to a couple of points here and there," Oregon head coach Nils Schyllander

said. "They are obviously one of the best teams in the country, and that's where we want to be."

The Ducks remain confident as they have another shot at the Huskies on Mar. 22 in Seattle.

"If we keep playing the way we have, we are very capable of beating them," Schyllander said.

Senior Daria Panova, ranked No. 31, suffered her first singles loss of the season against the Huskies' Dea Sumantri in straight sets, 6-4, 6-2. Panova's singles record fell to 7-1.

The Oregon women begin Pacific-10 Conference play in two weeks when they travel to take on Arizona Feb. 25 at 1:30 p.m. and Arizona State on Feb. 26 at 11 a.m.

## Men capture win after losing twice last week

The Oregon men's tennis team broke its two-match losing streak when it defeated UC-Santa

Barbara, 6-1 on Sunday.

The Ducks (6-3 overall) returned to their winning ways after losing to Boise State on Friday and Brigham Young on Feb. 5 in two 6-1 defeats.

"It was good to get back on the winning track," Oregon head coach Kevin Kowalik said. "We are still trying to find our niche as a team, but I felt we competed a lot better than we did against Boise State."

Senior Sven Swinnen improved his singles record to 8-0 as he easily triumphed over Santa Barbara's Ivan d'Argence, 6-1, 6-2. Swinnen is Oregon's all-time leader in career victories with 72.

Oregon's only loss of the match came at the No. 6 position after first-year Duck Chris Liao lost to Hagen Brody in straight sets, 6-3, 6-4.

The Oregon men hit the road to face Minnesota on Friday at 3:30 p.m. and Northwestern on Saturday at 6 p.m.



DANIELLE HICKEY | PHOTO EDITOR

Oregon's Anna Leksinska hits a backhand during Oregon's victory over Washington State on Friday. Two days later, the Ducks lost at home to rival Washington.