

IN BRIEF

Women's tennis slated for NCAA Championships

The Oregon women's tennis team is headed to its second-consecutive NCAA Women's Championships, the NCAA announced Wednesday.

The 29th-ranked Ducks (16-7 overall, 3-5 Pacific-10 Conference) are slated as the No. 2 seed in its four-team regional held in Palo Alto, Calif. Oregon will battle Fresno State (16-8) in the first round of the 64-team tournament May 13.

"Fresno is a tough team and we look forward to the challenge," Oregon head coach Nils Schyllander said.

"I am proud of the way our team performed this season and confident last season's postseason experience will help us."

Fresno State features just one ranked singles player — Katharina Winterhalter at No. 99. The Bulldogs earned their NCAA Tournament berth after winning their fourth straight Western Athletic Conference tournament April 23 when they defeated Rice 4-0.

The Bulldogs are riding a lot of momentum heading into the postseason after having won eight matches in a row by a combined score of 42-7.

Fresno State head coach Simon Thibodeau said the Ducks will pose a "big test" for his team.

"Although we haven't played them this year, we are familiar with how

good they are," Thibodeau said. "They have had a very good year and certainly won't be intimidated by the environment of playing in an NCAA Tournament. It's important this time of year to take things one match at a time, so that's what our focus is right now."

The Bulldogs have won six of the seven matches played in the series history. The last time the two teams met, Fresno State pulled off a 4-2 victory.

If Oregon advances to the second round, the Ducks will play either Army or No. 1 Stanford, which finished the season undefeated at 21-0.

The NCAA national champion will be crowned May 22 at the University of Georgia in Athens.

— Alex Tam

Strong pitching helps softball win doubleheader

The Oregon softball team swept a non-conference doubleheader from University of California, Davis on Thursday, 4-0, 4-0 in Davis, Calif.

The wins bump Oregon's record to 32-19 overall (5-10 Pacific-10 Conference) heading into games against Stanford and California this weekend.

The Ducks used strong pitching performances from starters Alicia Cook and Amy Harris to get past the Aggies. Cook (10-6) was one out away from a no hitter in the opener when she allowed a double to UC Davis third baseman Nikki Sheldon in the bottom of the seventh.

Harris (15-10) allowed one hit in five

innings in game two before giving way to Lindsey Kontra, who tossed a pair of scoreless innings in relief.

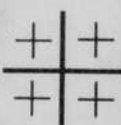
The Ducks jumped out to a 1-0 lead in the fourth inning of game two when freshman Joanna Gail drove in Kristi Jorgensen. Oregon added another run on a UC Davis error later in the inning.

Beth Boskovich hit her sixth home run of the season in the fifth inning to extend the Oregon lead to 3-0.

The Ducks made things interesting in the first game, waiting until the seventh inning to score all four of their runs. An RBI triple by Breanne Sabol scored Lovenia Chaput and Suzie Barnes to give Oregon a 2-0 lead. Catcher Ashley Richards added a two-RBI double to extend the lead to 4-0.

— Jon Roetman

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Application forms and job descriptions are available in EMU Suite 300 and online at: www.dailyemerald.com. Submit application form, resume and no more than five work samples by Tuesday, May 10 at 5 p.m.

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