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## Volleyball: Djuric, Russell combine for 23 total kills

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took a 21-14 lead in game three. Oregon State called a time-out, and returned with a six-to-two run to pull within three, 23-20. Oregon led 27-24, before a five-point Oregon State run was sparked by errors from Djuric and Russell. Oregon State used a Desma Stovall service ace to overcome two late Oregon points and clinch the match.

Each time Oregon had chances to win games — mistakes and a lack of cohesion replaced early success. Djuric struggled to finish after good starts, partly due to Oregon State's emphasis on blocking.

"We knew we had to stop the hitting power of Oregon, particularly (Djuric)," Oregon State head coach Taras Liskevych said. "She's a great player. That was the turning point in the second game when we blocked her several times in a row."

Oregon State received consistent play throughout from Karah Rhoades, Brittany Cahoon, Kristin Murray and Katelyn Healy. Libero Natalie Hooper, a Roseburg High graduate like Oregon's Kristen Bitter, played three games and had eight digs. Rhoades had 12 kills, Murray 11, Cahoon eight and Healy six.

This match, just like ones before it, found Oregon at times the challenger and at other times the enigma that has troubled Moore throughout conference play. The same Oregon team that arguably peaked in beating San Francisco has struggled to maintain leads and finish games and, consequently, matches.

"You can't just keep doing the same thing over and over and over," Moore said. "You have to find a way, it's that simple."

Erin Little played two games and part of a third with an injured ankle, contributing four kills, nine digs and a .364 hitting percentage. Allyson Leavitt didn't dress due to a similar ankle injury. Alleman filled in for Little after playing the previous weekend in Los Angeles.

"Erin was great," Moore said.
"Erin tried to gut it out and just couldn't hang in there the whole way."

Djuric had a match-high 14 kills, but also had 12 errors. Russell had nine kills.

Oregon wasn't thinking long-term afterward, but Liskevych said Moore's arrival means a more competitive in-state rivalry. Liskevych coached the U.S. National Women's Volleyball Team from 1985-96.

Moore had an opportunity when he was at Texas in 1997 to join the National Team and chose to remain in college athletics.

"Jim's going to do a great job building a really good program there (at Oregon)," Liskevych said.

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## Soccer: Last-minute free kick can't find the back of the net

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the Trojans and knowing that we should have won that game," Nelson said. "I like a physical game. I like to play like that, and it's fine with me if they want to hit me."

Tantillo struck again in the second half after re-entering the game in the 78th minute. She sent in four of her eight total shots, accounting for nearly one-third of the team's total (23). Teammate Amy Rodriguez added two shots of her own. Tantillo's fifth shot broke the goal line with just more than three minutes left in regulation, sucking the noise out of the crowd, but not the drive out of the Ducks. Oregon battled to the final whistle and even had a free kick in the last 10 seconds from roughly 40 yards out. The cross fell harmlessly into a sea of cardinal jerseys looming in front of USC's net. The Oregon faithful could label the loss as a moral victory, but Erickson assured otherwise following

"We're not playing for moral victories by any means," Erickson said. "I want to win. Hopefully we can get bodies healthy for Friday's match and maybe be ready with a full arsenal of players. And maybe we're a little deeper now by getting some other girls some experience and hopefully that will help us out Friday."

Oregon travels to Corvallis Friday for a Civil War match-up with Oregon State. Erickson hopes to have midfielders Andrea Valadez and Cristan Higa back in her starting lineup, which was without the two on Sunday for the third-straight game. Erickson went to Taylor Callan and Sabrina DeMonte to fill in for her injured seniors. DeMonte is more accustomed to starting on defense, but showed her versatility playing in the midfield.

"It's hard to replace two starters, but I think I've done a decent job at it," DeMonte said. "Taylor's doing a great job filling in in the middle and I'm happy about that."

Friday's game against the Beavers kicks off at 3 p.m.

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