

Ducks eighth in Houston

HOUSTON — If you're used to playing in gales up to 40 mph, on grainy, burmuda-grass greens or in 99-per cent humidity, then finishing any place but first would not be too thrilling. But if you have spent half the winter and spring playing golf in raingear and trying to handle an umbrella, while hitting a two-iron, then eighth place can be somewhat encouraging.

And that's exactly where the Oregon golf team ended up in the All-American Classic played at the Atascocita Golf Club last week.

But the Ducks' 72-hole total of 1201 was only three shots back of fifth-place finisher Arizona State. "We were so close," said Oregon Coach Jim Ferguson. "Our goal was to go to Houston and finish fifth and we came close."

Although the weather ranged

between warm and pleasant, windy and warm and hot and humid, the Oregon squad opened the tournament with 294 total (only the top four scores count) good enough for fifth place, six shot back of the leaders.

Peter Jacobsen opened his quest for his third individual title of the season with a one-under par 71, three shots off the first round pace.

But Jacobsen ran into trouble as he slipped to a second round 75 and a 146 total. Behind Pete were Dave Jacobsen (74-75) and Jeff Sanders (74-75) tied at 149. Two shots back was Don Wiggins (75-76) and three strokes back was Scott Tuttle, who fired the team's best second-round score, a 72. The Oregon team slipped to seventh place.

If the second round was bad,

then the third round was worse. Peter fired a 77, Dave a 76, Sanders an 80 and Wiggins an 84. Once again Tuttle led the team as he posted a two-over par 74, on a day in which the wind blew as hard as 40 mph in gusts. After the disaster of the third round, Oregon found itself in tenth place.

The final day found the weather in the mid-70s and the humidity down around 65 per cent, all of which the Ducks took advantage of to climb back up to their highest finish in the All-American since 1971, when Craig Griswald, Dave Glenz, Pat Fitzsimons and company finished fifth. This year's total is 35 shot lower than the score posted a year ago.

Peter Jacobsen finished the golf classic with a 74 for a 297 total, 13 shot behind the 284 totals posted by a pair of Florida golfers, Andy Bean and Phil Hancock. Bean won the individual title via a play-off.

The other Jacobsen, Dave, finished with a 73 and a 298 total, one shot ahead of Tuttle. Scott fired a last round 73, as he played the final 54-holes in three over par.

"He's just been getting better," said Ferguson of Tuttle. "He's only a freshman and I expect he'll get even better."

Jeff Sanders, the team's other rookie, finished at 307 after carding a closing 78. Don Wiggins closed with a 79 and a 313 total.

Four wrestlers sign letters

The Oregon wrestling team began to get results last week from the spoils of its first Pac-8 championship ever, as it attracted four outstanding newcomers into the fold for the coming year.

Coach Ron Finley has letters of intent from Rick Rexius of South Eugene, Gary Bailey of Roseburg, Charley Bowman from Prineville, and Brian Dunnigan from Timberline High School in Olympia, Wash.

Rexius is a 136-pound state

champion in Class AAA competition, and a runner-up in 1974. He recorded a 32-1 record at South this season.

Bailey is a two-time state champ from Roseburg at 157. He was 22-1 as a senior.

Bowman, 31-0 this past season, was a state AA champ from Prineville at 123 while Dunnigan was a 178-pound runner-up in the Washington state AAA tournament, losing his championship bout 11-10.

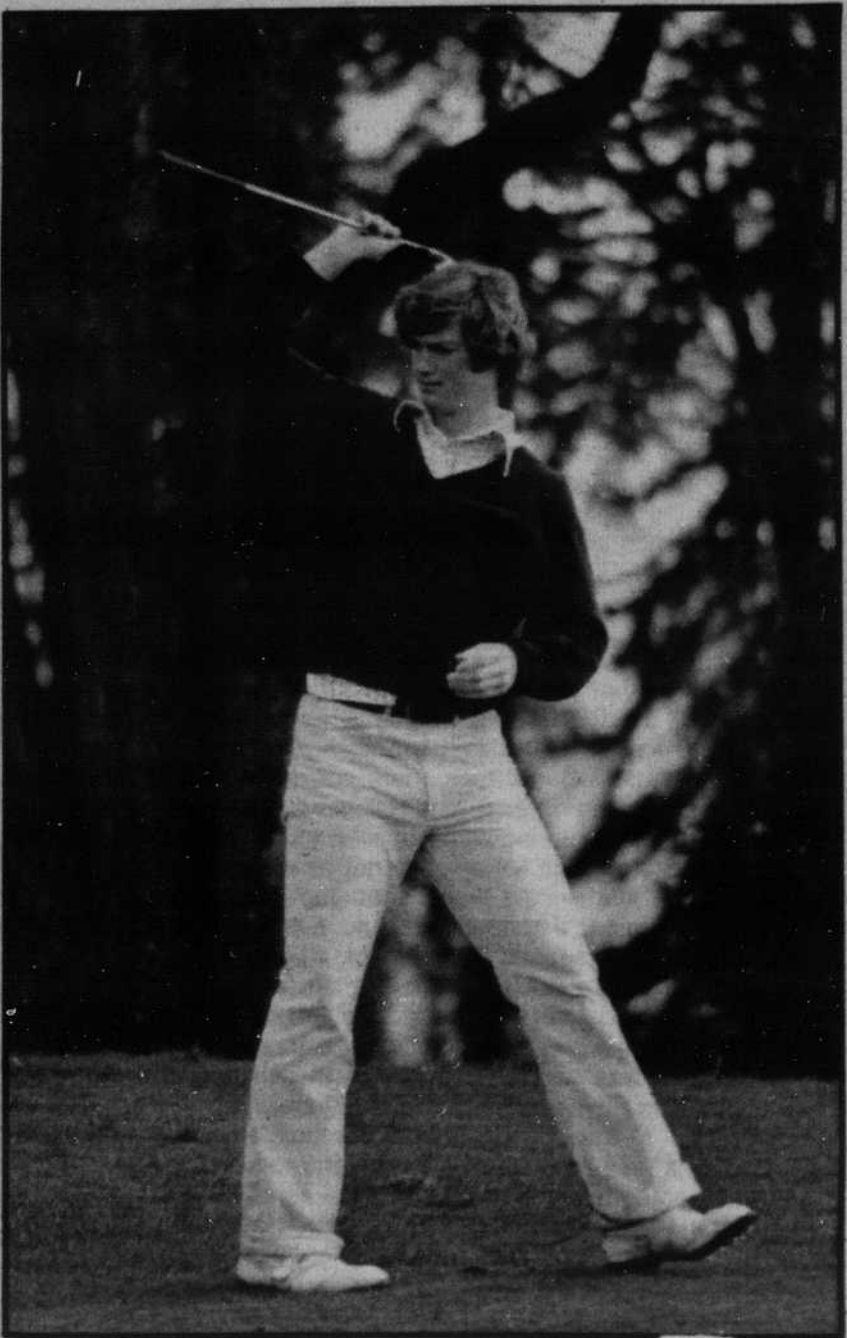


Photo by Greg Clark

Peter Jacobsen slipped back

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