Women golfers finish strong in Dixie Classic

By Steve Mims Emerald Sports Reporter

The Oregon women's golf team came back from a slow start at the Utah-Dixie Classic to shoot the lowest round of the tournament on Tuesday and finished second in Sandy, Utah.

Oregon sophomores Karly Mills and Shannon Hare shot their best rounds of the tournament, 73 and 75, respectively, to lead the Ducks to a 299 Tuesday. Oregon shot rounds of 320 and 315 in the opening two rounds, and its total of 934 was seven shots behind Texas A & M, but comfortably ahead of third-place Brigham Young, which shot 941.

Senior Shannon Maier finished tied for second place individually at 230 after shooting a 78 Tuesday. Maier opened the tournament with a 79 Monday, but she followed that with a 73 in the afternoon. Holly Reynolds of Kansas shot a 78 on the final day to win the individual title at 224.

Oregon sophomore Leigh Casey finished ninth after shooting a 76 in the final round to finish at 233. Casey shot rounds of 79 and 78 during the first two rounds Monday.

Mills and Hare finished tied for 19th place at 237 after their rounds on Tuesday. Hare opened the tournament with an 80 in the first round, but slipped to 82 in the second round at Sunbrock Golf Club. Mills shot back-to-back 82's in the first two rounds before coming back with a 73 on Tuesday.

Freshman Leanne Wong opened with rounds of 82 and 83 in her first tournament for the Ducks but came back with a 75 in the final round.

Freshman Christel Tomori played as an individual and finished in seventh place at 231. Tomori was in second place after shooting rounds of 76 and 74 on Monday, but slipped to an 81 on the final day. Amy Elieff also played as an individual and shot rounds of 81, 79 and 83 to finish in 40th place.

The Ducks will take the rest of March off, before resuming play with three tournaments in April beginning with the Lady Sun Devil Invitational in Tempe, Ariz. April 2-4.

Eight Pac-10 teams still hoping for tourney bids

By Dave Charbonneau

Going into the final week of the men's Pacific-10 Conference schedule, eight teams still have the possibility of qualifying for either the NCAA or NIT tournament.

Arizona and UCLA are locks to qualify for the NCAAs. The Wildcats (15-1, 22-3) get an automatic berth as conference champs, and UCLA (10-6, 20-9) will easily secure an appearance because of its

Arizona State and California will also likely be invited to the NCAAs. The two teams are tied with UCLA in second place. The Golden Bears (10-6, 17-8) salvaged a weak start and have won seven of their last eight games, including a win over Arizona. California is in Oregon this weekend to play Oregon State and the Ducks. Even if they did the unimaginable and lost both games, Cal would still have a good chance of making the tourney.

The Sun Devils (10-6, 17-8) have been the surprise of the Pac-10. They will play UCLA and USC at home this weekend. One win will probably assure them a spot, but two losses may put them "on the bubble"

The only other team that may have a chance is USC, but the Trojans (9-7, 15-11) will have to beat both Arizona and Arizona State in Arizona if they are to even be considered. USC will likely be a top seed in the NIT.

An upset of Cal tonight and a win over Stanford could be enough to get Oregon State into the NIT, but a loss to either throws the Beavers' (8-8, 12-13) out the window because the NIT only accepts teams over .500.

Washington (7-10, 13-13) and Washington State (8-9, 14-12) play in Seattle Saturday. The winner of this game could have a shot at the NIT, and the Cougars may make it even if they lose. The Huskies are a big long-shot.

Oregon and Stanford are the only teams left, and they play tonight to decide who finishes ninth and 10th in the conference.





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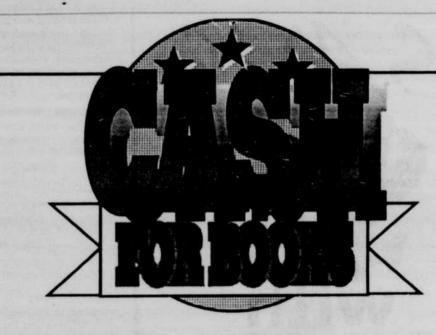
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