

Women to go after national invite

By Steve Mims Oregon Daily Emerald

The Oregon women's golf team will be looking to qualify for its first NCAA championship berth as it competes in the west regional, beginning today in Tucson, Ariz.

This is the first year women's golf has used regional qualifying for NCAA play. Eighteen teams are playing in the 54-hole event. which concludes Saturday.

The top nine teams will advance to the NCAA championships in Athens, Ga., May 26-29. In addition, seven teams from the east regional, being played in Baton Rouge, La., this week, will also advance to nationals.

Oregon, ranked 24th, is coming off of its strongest regular season ever as the Ducks finished in the top 10 at all nine tournaments they competed in. The Ducks did not win any tournaments, but they finished second at the Brigham Young and

Oregon State invitationals.

The Ducks finished tied for fourth at the Pacific-10 Confer-Championships last ence month, tying their best finish ever at the tournament

Senior Shannon Maier and sophomore Karly Mills lead the Ducks with 78.2 scoring averages. Maier finished second at the Brigham Young Invitational in March and is coming off of an 18th-place finish at the conference championship.

Mills boosted her scoring average by shooting 230 at Pac-10s to finish tied for 10th place. Mills finished second at the Bruin Classic in the fall when she played as an individual.

Leigh Casey, a sophomore from San Jose, Calif., is right behind Maier and Mills with a 78.3 scoring average. Casey paced the team with four top-10 finishes this year, including a second-place tie with Mills at the Bruin Classic.

Sophomore Shannon Hare has

finished in the top 10 in each of her last two tournaments. including a tie for seventh at the Pac-10 championships. She shot rounds of 75, 78 and 76 at the conference tournament for her best three-round total in a college tournament. Hare finished 10th at the Oregon State Invitational earlier in April.

Junior Cappy Mack, who has a 79.3 scoring average, will round out the Oregon roster for regionals. Mack's best finish of the year was at the Stanford Intercollegiate in the fall when she shot 227 to finish 11th.

Some of the top-ranked teams also invited to the west regional include defending NCAA champion San Jose State, Arizona State, Texas, UCLA, USC and Oklahoma State.

The tournament begins this morning with 18 holes at the Tucson National Golf Club, followed by one round Friday. Play concludes with 18 holes on Saturday

Spurs, Suns prepare for game two

PHOENIX (AP) - After seeing his Spurs outrebound Phoenix by a wide margin only to lose at the free-throw line, San Antonio coach John Lucas is thinking about making some adjustments.

'I may have to look at other combinations out on the floor." Lucas said of tonight's game two in the best-of-seven Western Conference semifinal.

Tuesday night, the Suns played rubber-band basketball, opening double-digit leads almost at will before a surge by the Spurs made it close again. Each team had just one field goal in the final 2:12 of the Suns' 98-89 victory,

That was a game that we were in but we were not in." Lucas said. "Everything for us was a struggle: we never had any flow.

Phoenix coach Paul Westphal, whose team has now won four straight postseason games, said he was playing the same chess match as Lucas.

They have a lot of versatility on their team and John is a resourceful coach." Westphal said. "I'm sure they'll throw whatever they have at us, and whatever they throw, we'll try to fight back. I just hope we have the answers.'

The Spurs had more rebounds (48-36) and field goals (38-36) in game one. The Suns' vaunted bench failed to score in the first half and had only six points until Oliver Miller and Danny Ainge scored in the final 37 seconds.

Charles Barkley was five for 21 for the night and finished with 18 points, and David Robinson of San Antonio had 32 points, 10 rebounds and sev-

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And yet the Suns made it look easy just two days after escaping a first-round series with Los Angeles that was stretched to the full five games and an overtime after the Lakers won the first two in Phoenix

To dig ourselves out of that hole. ... Now I think it's where it's going to pay dividends. We feel so confident. We feel we can play so much better," said Kevin Johnson, who had 25 points, seven assists and five steals.

Phoenix held San Antonio's second-leading scorer in the playoffs. Sean Elliott, to less than half his average with eight points, two in the second half, and Lucas said he was thinking of drastic measures to protect the sleek small forward from the influence of his native state.

"I might have to take Sean back to San Antonio and then fly him in for the game," Lucas said. "Every time he comes to Arizona, he struggles a little bit.

Elliott agreed

"I don't know what it is. Of all the years I've been in the league I've only played two good games here," said Elliott, who grew up in Tucson and played his college ball for Arizona. He said it wasn't the homecoming that took him out of his game.

"There are just some places you don't play good," he said.

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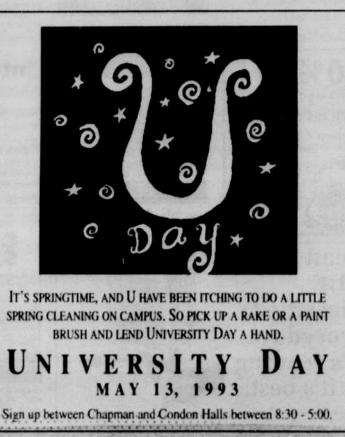
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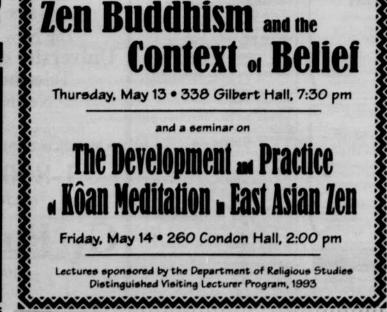
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