



MARK McTYRE/Emerald

Senior Kara Yoshida and other Oregon athletes will be trying to bring home trophies from this weekend's Pac-10 Individual Championships in Ojai, Calif.

Duck netters swing into postseason

Mark McTyre
Oregon Daily Emerald

The Oregon men and women's tennis teams will face their toughest competition of the year when tournament play kicks off today at the Pac-10 Individual Championships and the Open Collegiate Championships in Ojai, Calif.

The four-day Pac-10 Individual Championships will showcase 18 men and 23 women who are individually ranked among the nation's best. The Ducks will be represented by their best double pairings of Kara Yoshida and Elise Adams for the women and Hans Forsberg and Dougal Williams for the men.

These four players have been nothing short of outstanding this year for Oregon, all holding the No. 1 spot in singles action at one time or another. In singles, none have been better than Yoshida and Williams. Yoshida compiled a 13-18 record and was named to the Pac-10 Northern Division all-conference team. She will be the lone Duck to participate in singles competition. Williams set a new school record for victo-

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THURSDAY

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Softball team takes on PSU

The Oregon softball team will make up a non-conference game today as it takes on Portland State at 3 p.m. at Howe Field, playing a game originally scheduled for April 9 in Portland.

The Ducks travel to the Bay Area on Friday for games against Stanford on Saturday, California on Sunday and finally against UCLA (played at Berkeley) on Monday.

Hardin, Tate sign on with NFL clubs

Former Ducks Steve Hardin and Willy Tate have signed free-agent contracts with NFL teams.

Hardin, who played offensive tackle for the 1995 Pac-10 Championship team, signed with Indianapolis after Sunday's NFL draft left the 324-pounder still available.

Tate, who played tight end for the Ducks before leaving the team for personal reasons prior to his senior season, signed with Kansas City.

According to *The Register-Guard*, both Hardin and Tate will report to mini-camps later this week.

Oregon contingent to pave new Oregon Trail

A nine-person Oregon contingent that will include head football coach Mike Bellotti, head men's basketball coach Jerry Green and head women's basketball coach Jody Runge will embark on a four-day tour of 12 cities to promote Oregon sports, assistant athletic director Jim Barco has announced.

The Ducks' contingent will depart Monday morning, May 8, from Eugene by motor home and conclude its spring caravan Thursday evening in Portland.

The group will stop in Florence, Coos Bay and Roseburg on Monday, Grants Pass and Medford on Tuesday, Bend, Salem, Albany and Newport on Wednesday and Lincoln City, Seaside and Portland on Thursday. All functions are open to the public.

Third AD candidate visits Oregon

Oregon will interview its third candidate for the vacant director of intercollegiate athletics post today as current Fresno State Director of Athletics Gary Cunningham will be on campus.

Visits have also been made by Dr. Eve Atkinson, athletics director at Lafayette College, and Bill Moos, athletics director at Montana.

Mills, Hare lead Ducks to fifth in Pac-10

Kris Henry
Oregon Daily Emerald

The Oregon women's golf team pulled a few tricks out of its bag on Wednesday and shot its best score of the Nike/Pacific-10 Conference Women's Golf Championships in the final round to finish in fifth place.

The Ducks finished just two strokes out of third place as they shot a 296 on the final day, bettered only by Arizona State's 282 and USC's 292.

"We played really well today," Oregon head coach Lara

Mack Tennant said Wednesday night. "I'm really proud of the team. We did the best we could."

Oregon seniors Karly Mills and Shannon Hare led the final round charge, with Mills finishing fourth and Hare finishing tied for sixth in the individual competition. Mills carded a final-round 2-under-par to finish at 216 while Hare shot a 72 to finish at 218.

"I think if we would have finished fifth playing poorly, we would have been disappoint-

ed," Mack Tennant said. "But to finish in fifth place after playing a solid final round, we're just really happy."

Hare was also given a much deserved award on Wednesday when she was named to the all-conference team as an honorable mention.

"To make honorable mention in the Pac-10 is like making the first team in the rest of the nation," Mack Tennant said, putting the honor in perspective. "That is a great honor for Shannon. She's had a great year."

WOMEN'S GOLF

Nike/Pac-10 Conference Women's Golf	
1. Arizona State	858
2. UCLA	891
3. Stanford	896
4. Arizona	897
5. Oregon	898
6. Washington	904
7. USC	905
8. Oregon State	949
9. WSU	958

EMERALD

Fear of football players is not the answer

A lot has been made of the recent series of stories in the *Emerald* on football players and intimidation.

Depending on who you are, you probably have an opinion one way or another on the subject.

Those who have experienced "incidents" in which football players were involved probably tend to agree with the sweeping generalization that this deviant behavior is characteristic of the Oregon football program as a whole.

While it would be ridiculous for me to condone ANY incidents of violent behavior by Oregon football players, or anybody else for that matter, there has to be some kind of middle ground in which people realize that these are far from problems of epidemic proportion at Oregon.

Athletes aren't the only ones on campus who cause trouble.

Many cross-sections of this University have had their problems with violent behavior, but



CHRIS METZ

it seems that being in the public spotlight never allows high-profile athletes the chance to overcome the ill-advised things they've done.

Everybody knows the difficulties involved with adapting to college. For student-athletes, while they are afforded many advantages, adapting to campus life involves more than academics; they must also learn to juggle their athletic life, including their new-found status as a campus celebrity.

It's easy enough to make generalizations in life but, in the case of Oregon football, a few incidents does not a program make.

The reality is that this isn't a perfect world and groups are only considered as good as their weakest links.

For the Oregon football program and college football programs in general, being in the public eye intensifies any wrong-doings by any of its players.

In this way, the players have a responsibility to the University and the team as well as themselves to conduct themselves in a way so as to avoid these types of incidents.

There's no question that football players, as well as other athletes, have a responsibility to stay out of trouble.

At the same time, it does no good whatsoever to promote widespread fear of these players through unfair generalizations.

A football team, much like a student population, is made up of individuals who freely think and act for themselves and have the ability to differentiate themselves from any type of group mentality.

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