


Schott must leave game

Marge Schott is at it again. Schott, Cincinnati Reds' controversial owner, appeared on ESPN's SportsCenter Sunday night praising the life of Adolph Hitler.

This, coming from a woman who was suspended for a year and fined \$25,000

OPINION

Pete Schneider
by Major League Baseball's Executive Council in 1993 for bringing "disrepute and embarrassment" to baseball

with her repeated use of racial and ethnic slurs.

During the interview, Schott said "everybody knows [Hitler] was good at the beginning, but he just went too far." It was not the first time Schott publicly praised the former Nazi leader. In 1992, she said "Hitler had the right idea with the Jews, but he just went nuts."

I didn't think it was possible for Schott to do or say anything that could further shore up her image as a bigoted, racist, vulgar and confused woman. Schott, 67, never ceases to amaze me at her ability to embarrass the Reds, Major League Baseball and humanity in general.

This is not, by any means, the first time Schott has seemingly reached an all-time low in terms of racism and lack of tact. Her pattern of disgusting behavior and general cluelessness toward sensitive issues such as death, gay rights and minority hiring is as appalling as it is long-lived.

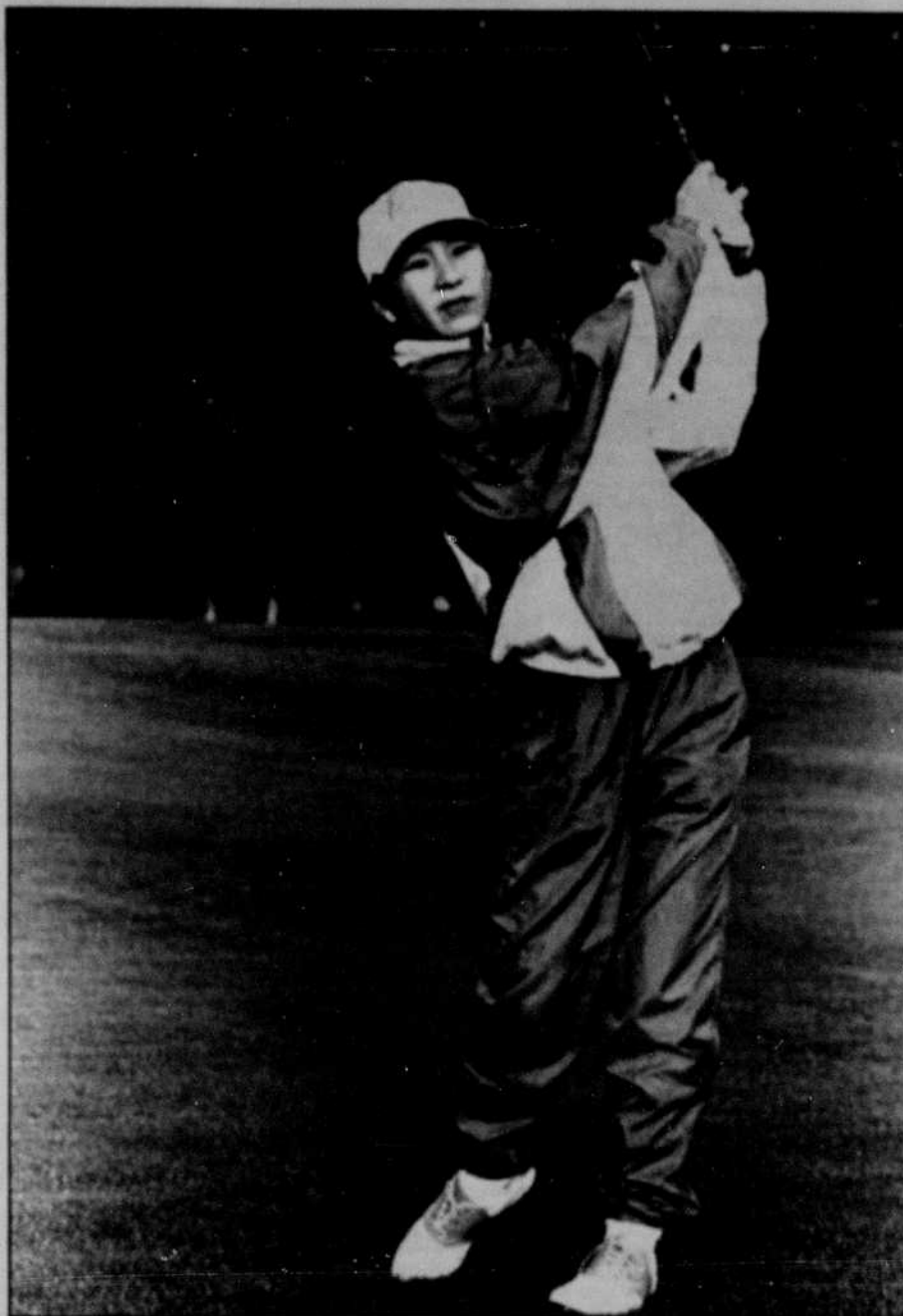
Controversy has surrounded Schott since she took control of the Reds in 1984. It began with her penchant for stealing the spotlight from her Cincinnati players by parading around Riverfront Stadium with her Saint Bernard and admitting to hiring managers only if they liked dogs.

Schott began rocking the Major League boat in 1985 when she refused to allow Reds players to wear jewelry or sport facial hair. She further infuriated the Major League brass by refusing to abide by the anti-smoking regulations instituted in all major league ball parks.

She also set a standard for frugality as an owner, unwilling to pay high salaries and bonuses.

The penny-pinching, heavy-smoking, pooch-praising Schott only seemed like a slightly annoying character until 1987 when several Cincinnati employees began publicly accusing

Turn to **SCHOTT**, Page 12



Courtesy Photo

Senior Christel Tomori has placed the Ducks in the last two women's tournaments and looks to lead Oregon to its second-straight trip to the NCAA championship.

Ducks head for West Regionals

■ **GOLF:** Oregon makes its fourth-straight appearance at the NCAA tournament

By **Trevor Kearney**
Sports Editor

For head coach Renee Baumgartner and the Oregon women's golf team, post-season play is familiar territory.

Oregon has survived a tough Pacific-10 Conference and advanced to the NCAA West Regionals in each of the last four years, marking one of Oregon's most successful programs in recent history.

"Oregon golf has developed itself into one of the top programs in the country, and it is expected that we go to Regionals and that we go to nationals," Baumgartner said. "I don't think the players expect anything less."

At the 1993 West Regionals, the Ducks finished 17th overall but moved up to 14th place in 1994. But last year, Oregon hit the jackpot with a fourth place finish at the West Regionals — the school's best-ever showing — propelling them to the NCAA Championships, where Oregon placed a school-best 13th.

This year, minus four key seniors from last year, has been no different. Thursday's tournament in Omaha, Neb., marks Baumgartner's second-straight trip with Oregon and fourth straight in as many years, as she took USC to the Regional tournament in both of her years as the Trojans' coach.

The Ducks will take seniors Christel Tomori and Susie Roh, sophomore Paula Patterson and freshmen Karen Bristow and Kylie Wilson to the tournament. But that youth, Baumgartner said, would not hurt the Ducks.

"A lot of people thought the women's team was going to have trouble this year because we lost those four seniors," Baumgartner said. "But we are not rebuilding, we are just kind of reloading."

The Ducks had strong showings in their last two tournaments this year, placing fourth at the California Collegiate before taking sixth at the Pac-10 Championships on April 22.

Turn to **GOLF**, Page 12

Blazers' problems stretch beyond loss

■ **BLAZERS:** After suffering a 102-64 loss on Sunday, Portland must now contend with its personnel problems

PORTLAND (AP) — After a season with more ups and downs than an elevator gone berserk, the Portland Trail Blazers face some serious personnel decisions.

The season's end couldn't have been much uglier than Sunday's 102-64 loss to the Utah Jazz in the deciding Game 5 of their first-round playoff series.

"The longest day any of us had to sit through," Blazers president Bob Whitsitt said. "That sting is going to stay with us, and hopefully we'll use that to have a good summer of work and motivation for next season."

Among other things, the Blazers must decide whether to trade unhappy point guard Rod Strickland, who has two years left on his contract but has made it clear he doesn't want to play for coach P.J. Carlesimo.

Whitsitt also must determine whether to exercise the option year of contracts with Clifford

Robinson and James Robinson. And there's the question of whether to resign 36-year-old Buck Williams. Whitsitt might let any or all three go and use their salary slots to sign a free agent.

"I'm not going to rush into saying anything," Whitsitt said Monday. "We've got until July 1 to make those decisions."

Strickland, who had his best NBA season but left the team for six games in a dispute with Carlesimo, said Sunday that he didn't expect to be back.

"I've got one foot out the door and the other on a banana peel," he said. "I think I'm pretty much out. I think it's time for a change."

But Whitsitt said he'd made no promises to Strickland and would not trade his point guard just to get rid of him.

"With Rod, I'll do the same thing I did last year," Whitsitt said. "I'll let a month or so go by and we'll sit down and talk and go from there. Rod had a very good year. He's a very important part of what we're doing."

There's certainly a reluctance

Turn to **BLAZERS**, Page 12

Payton honored with NBA defensive award

NEW YORK (AP) — Gary Payton of the Seattle SuperSonics, who led the NBA in steals with 2.85 per game, was selected today as Defensive Player of the Year.

Payton received 56 of a possible 113 votes from a panel of sports writers and broadcasters. Chicago's Scottie Pippen was second with 15 votes. Denver's Dikembe Mutombo, last year's winner, was third with 13 votes.

Other players receiving votes were San Antonio's David Robinson (9), Houston's Hakeem Olajuwon (8), Chicago's Michael Jordan (7) and Dennis Rodman (4), Golden State's Latrell Sprewell (1), Orlando's Horace Grant (1) and Bo Outlaw of the Los Angeles Clippers (1). Olajuwon, Robinson, Rodman and Jordan are past winners of the award.

Payton, a two-time NBA All-Defensive team selection, helped Seattle lead the league in steals (10.7 per game) for the fourth consecutive season. The SuperSonics also led the league in turnovers forced with 18.5 per game.

sideline
TODAY IN SPORTS

Irvin may be in more trouble with drugs

DALLAS (AP) — Michael Irvin, the Dallas Cowboys star under felony indictment, bought cocaine before and after the charges stemming from a motel raid where drugs were seized, according to a broadcast report.

Fort Worth television station KXAS reported Sunday night that Irvin paid \$100 for drugs two days before his April 1 felony indictment in connection with seizure of cocaine and marijuana at the Irving motel room.

Another drug buy two weeks later also was detailed in the report, accompanied by a videotape clandestinely placed in the back seat of a vehicle in which Irvin was riding.

The attorney representing Irvin in the trial scheduled to begin June 24 denied the allegations.