

PAC-10 CHAMPIONSHIPS



MARK McTYRE/Emerald

Chris Hanell (above) helped the Sun Devils capture their fourth title in the last five years with his second-place finish. Stanford's Joel Kribel (right) tied with Hanell for second as the Cardinal took fourth place.



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Golf: Sun Devils claim their fourth conference title in the past five years

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Kribel shot 5-under-par for the tournament to finish tied with Hanell. Kribel shot a 37 on the front nine, but managed to get back into the hunt by shooting 1-under-par on the second nine.

"I was just trying to find my swing somewhere out there," Kribel said. "I just really didn't have it all day.

"I just kind of grinded. My chipping and putting were pretty good so that's what kept me in it."

The defending national champion Sun Devils won only one tournament during the season, but managed to peak at the right time for the Pac-10s. Arizona State's only win in 12 tries this year came two weeks ago in Tempe, Ariz.

"I think especially throughout the season we struggled a little bit, and we showed lately that we can play and that we have been playing," Hanell said.

"It's nice to win the championship even though we've got one more to go and that's nationals."

Individually, for Oregon State, Charles Kingsbaker scored a final-round 70 and 286 overall to close in on fifth-place be-

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Arizona State Golfer

hind Wright.

Stanford's Conrad Ray moved up one spot in the final day to finish sixth with a 287.

Behind Arizona State's 1445 for the tournament was Oregon's 1456, USC's 1464, Stanford's 1473, Arizona's 1479, Washington's 1484, Cal's 1484, Oregon State's 1487, UCLA's 1497 and Washington State's 1548.

Arizona fell out of contention Wednesday after struggling with a final-round 388. The Wildcats had previous rounds of 365, 360 and 366.

The NCAA regional competition is next up for Pac-10 teams qualifying for the event May 14-17 in San Diego.

Oregon: Croskrey top individual for Ducks

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69, his best round of the tournament. He tied for 13th place with a 292.

"I played pretty well today," Lavoie said. "I was struggling early, not hitting very many good shots, but I just kept hanging in there, and I got a little confidence on the back [nine].

"My goal for the day was to get it back to four over for the tournament and help out the team and I accomplished that, so I'm pretty happy."

Derek Croskrey and Ben Crane were the Oregon leaders going into the final round, both tied for fifth place after three rounds, but both came up with their highest-scoring rounds of the tournament Wednesday.

Croskrey shot a 75 to finish 1-over-par for the tournament at 289 in seventh place.

"I hit the ball so badly that coming away with a 75 wasn't entirely that bad," Croskrey said. "I'm totally disappointed in my last couple of holes because I putted so poorly and that's been my strong point."

Crane took his bad round the hardest, leaving the 18th green after turning in his scorecard and taking a long walk through the country club parking lot. He shot a final-round 76 to finish 2-over-par for the tournament, good enough for eighth place.

Chris Cone finished off his roller coaster week with a 73 to finish at 12-over-par for the tournament, tying for 35th place.

"It's such an up and down game," Cone said. "It's hard to let yourself get really up or really down, you've just got to keep a medium pace and that's what I was trying to do throughout the four rounds. But it's a lot easier said than done."

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id tournament with a final-round 75. He finished in a tie for 13th with a 4-over-par 292.

"I got off to a really, really rough start, but I brought it home OK," Barney said. "It would have been a great tournament if I had made more putts."

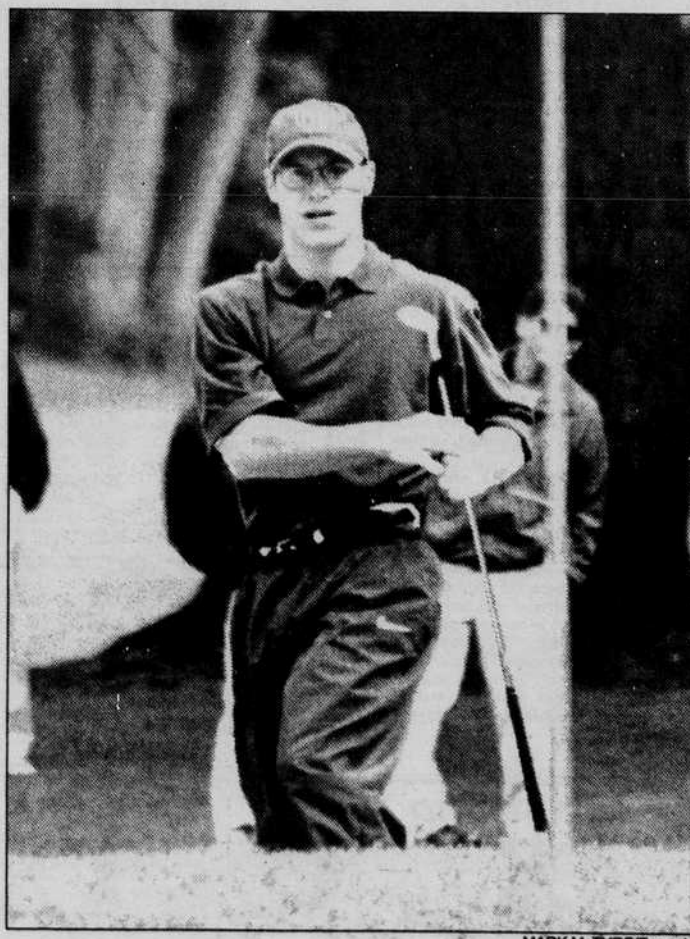
Oregon's No. 1 golfer all season, senior J.J. Astorquia, brought his frustrating tournament to an end with a final round 80. Astorquia led off with a good first round, but fell apart in the final three to finish in 49th place.

"I came out solid in the first round and I just lost touch with the putter," Astorquia said. "I took a few bad shots that cost me more than they should have. I couldn't get anything going."

Now the Ducks turn their attention toward the regional tournament in San Diego, Calif., next week.

With the added confidence from this week's performance, the Ducks figure anything could happen down there.

"Our goal at the beginning of the season was to get into post-season play," Nosler said. "Now we're in it. Now the second season is starting."



MARK McTYRE/Emerald

Oregon's Ben Crane shot a final-round 76 to finish at 290 for the tournament. He took eighth place.