



ON THE TUBE
Major League Baseball
Atlanta vs. Philadelphia,
TBS (3), 7:35 p.m.

SPORTS

Oregon Daily
Emerald

Michael Johnson happily accepts IAAF wild card

■ **TRACK AND FIELD:** The IAAF ruling allows any current world champion to compete even if he or she failed to qualify

The Associated Press

DALLAS — Michael Johnson, happy for the invitation, will be going to the world championships after all.

He received a wild card Monday — as did the other current world champions — from track and field's ruling body for the show-case event next month in Greece.

Johnson, unable to qualify at the U.S. championships because of a leg injury, will defend only his 400-meter title.

"Training is going well and I was hoping this would happen," Johnson said after learning of the unprecedented move by the International Amateur Athletic Federation.

The IAAF is allowing the current world champs to compete even if they failed to

qualify for national teams.

"I wouldn't be going unless I was 100 percent healthy," Johnson said. "Now, if I can run a smart race I can't be beat."

Johnson, the 1995 world champion and 1996 Olympic gold medalist in the 200 and 400 meters, will run the 400 but not the 200 in Athens.

"I haven't had enough time to get ready for both races," he said. "There is no reason for me to try to double again."

Johnson, who is training in Waco, Texas, under Baylor track coach Clyde Hart, said he would run on a relay if asked.

"I would enjoy being part of the relays," Johnson said during a conference call.

Johnson also will be a television commentator in Greece.

"I'll be moving up to the booth after my race so I can analyze the 100 meters," he said.

He said he was "honored to be treated this

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MICHAEL CRISP/Emerald

Thanks to an IAAF ruling Michael Johnson, who won the 200-meter dash at the Prefontaine Classic at Hayward Field on May 27, will run in the World Championships in Greece next month.

scoreboard

MONDAY'S NEWS AND RESULTS

American League

Detroit 4	Chi. White Sox 3
Boston 18	Minnesota 5
Cleveland 3	Milwaukee 1
NY Yankees 2	Kansas City 2
Toronto 5	Texas 5
Baltimore 9	Anaheim 6
Seattle 6	
Oakland 2	

National League

Montreal 4	Philadelphia 6
Florida 5	Atlanta 10
NY Mets 4	Houston 9
Pittsburgh 5	Chi. Cubs 7
St. Louis 2	San Francisco 3
Cincinnati 4	San Diego 5
Los Angeles 14	
Colorado 12	

UO wrestling program signs high school all-American

High school all-American Jay McGuffin has signed a letter of intent to compete for Oregon, the University announced last Thursday.

McGuffin's signing marks the fifth regional wrestler to sign with the Ducks for next fall, improving on a class that was ranked No. 11 in the nation by *Amateur Wrestling News*.

McGuffin was a three-time 1A Washington State champion. This past season, he competed for Calvary Chapel in Santa Ana, Calif., placing fifth in the state championships.

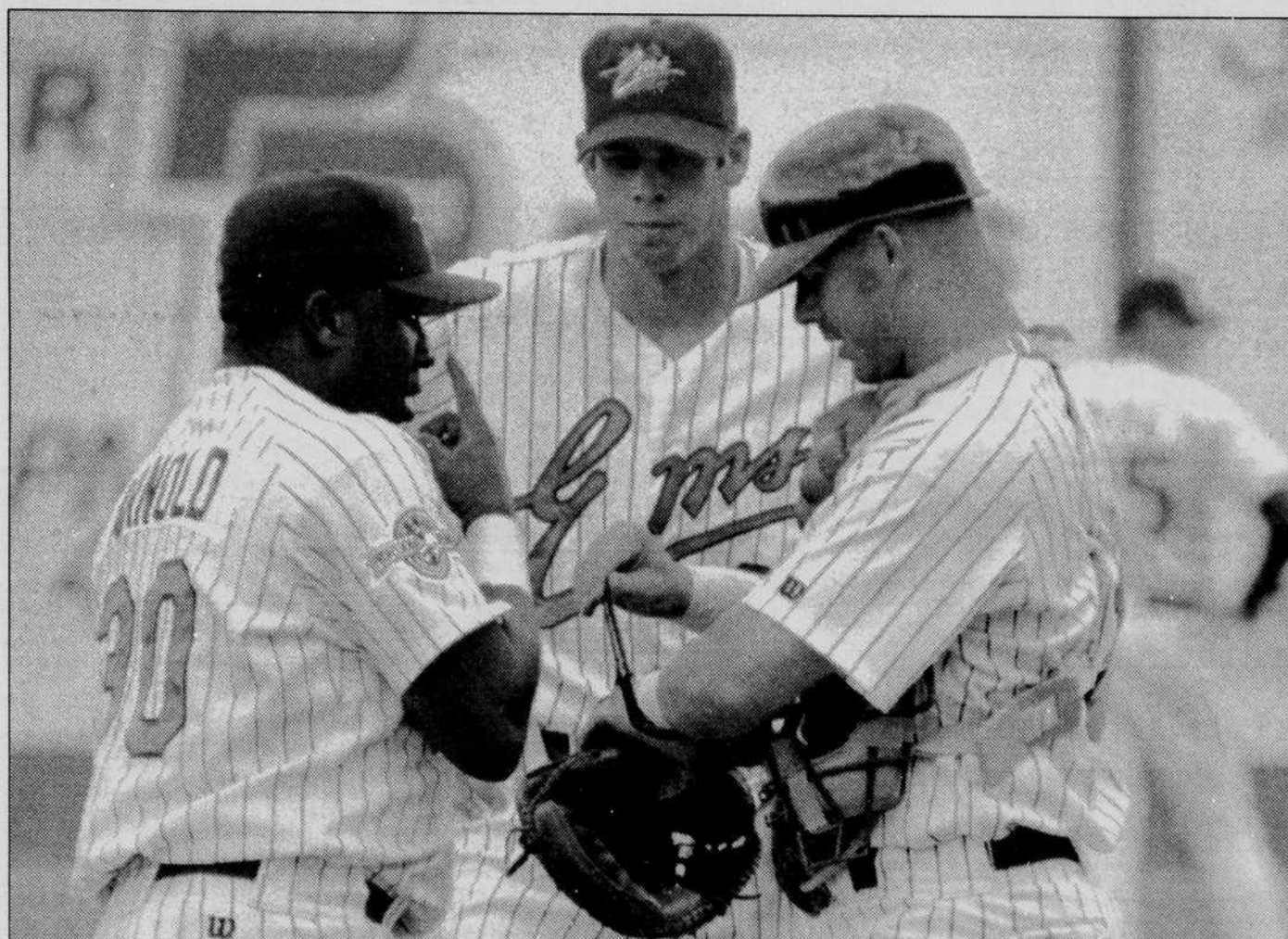
Amateur Wrestling News listed McGuffin No. 8 nationally at 135 pounds his senior year. He is projected to wrestle at 126 or 134 pounds for Oregon.

Bridge collapses at opening of Maccabiah Games; 2 dead, scores hurt

TEL AVIV, Israel (AP) — A bridge leading to a stadium collapsed Monday during the opening ceremony for the Maccabiah Games, hurling dozens of Australian athletes into a river. Two people were killed and 64 others were injured, some seriously.

For long minutes, athletes struggled to get out of the shallow Yarkon River, some entangled in twisted aluminum beams. Many linked arms and formed a human chain to pull each other out.

All the injured were believed to be from the 380-member Australian delegation, the first to cross the bridge to the Ramat Gan stadium for the athletes' parade before a crowd of about 45,000 spectators.



CHAD PATTESON/Emerald

John Arnold (left), Ben Wyatt (center), Mark Mortimer and the rest of the Ems go for their ninth win against Southern Oregon tonight at Civic Stadium.

Ems return home for three-game homestand

■ **EMERALDS:** With two Eugene wins and two Yakima losses, the Ems will move out of last place for the first time all season

By Ryan Frank
Sports Editor

Home is where the Ems are.

After a six-game road trip that took the Emeralds from Keizer to Medford, they return home for a three-game series with the Southern Oregon Timberjacks beginning tonight at 7:05 p.m. at Civic Stadium.

The Ems come into tonight's game having gone 2-3 on their road trip through Monday. Eugene still sits in last place in the Northwest League's Southern Division with an 18-8 mark.

However, Eugene is not without improvement.

Since July 1, the Ems have improved their team batting average from a league-worst .221 to their current .249.

First baseman Mark Burke, who joined the team after the start of the season, has led the Ems improvement with a .354 batting average through Monday. Designated hitter John Arnold is close behind Burke with a .339 average.

Ryan Schurman has been one of the Ems' only solid starting pitchers. He carried a 1.33 ERA and a 2-2 record into Tuesday night's games.

While the Ems sit in the division cellar, Southern Oregon is tied for second with a 13-12 record.

Outfielder Mike Koerner leads the team with a .375 batting average, and Mike Holes leads the pitching corps with a 2-0 record and a 2.51 ERA.

After closing out their five-game homestand with a 7-4 victory over Yakima a week ago, the Ems recorded their first shutout of the season with a 6-0 win over Salem-Keizer two nights later.

Ryan Schurman threw six innings, giving up only three hits while striking out six, which helped earn him the Ems' player of the week award.

EMERALDS

■ BACK HOME:

The Ems play Southern Oregon the next three nights at 7:05 at Civic Stadium

■ WHAT'S NEXT:

Eugene travels to Yakima for a five-game series beginning July 18