



NCAA Men's Basketball
South Carolina vs. Vanderbilt,
ESPN (34), 6:30 p.m.

Finley calls it a career

The Oregon wrestling head coach will step down after 28 years and more than 300 career wins

Timeline

■ **1961:** Finished second at the NCAA Championships at 137 pounds

■ **1962:** Named the outstanding wrestler at AAU Greco-Roman Championships

■ **1963:** Captured gold medal at Pan-American Games

■ **1964:** Finished fourth at Olympic Games in Greco-Roman

■ **1967:** Became head coach at Reedsport High School

■ **1970:** Named head coach at Oregon

■ **1972:** first took Ducks to NCAA Championships

■ **1975:** Voted Pac-8 coach of the year after 16-2-1 record with the Ducks

■ **1982:** Voted Pac-10 coach of the year after 14-4 season

■ **1984:** Named USA Wrestling's Coach of the Year after leading U.S. Olympic team to four medals

■ **1997:** Recorded 300th win of career against Southern Oregon



Coach Ron Finley announces through tearful eyes that this season will be his last with the Ducks. Finley was optimistic about the future of wrestling at the University.

By Joel Hood
Sports Reporter

Ron Finley, who has led Oregon to more victories than any coach in school history and who has brought Duck wrestlers to 22 NCAA Championship appearances in 28 years, will retire at the end of the season, he said at a press conference Monday.

The Oregon Athletic Department has not named a replacement.

Addressing a crowd of about 60 people at the Casanova Center, a teary-eyed Finley said his reasons for leaving were numerous: partly financial, partly because he felt he had given all he could to the team and the program, and partly because it felt like the right time to do so.

"This just feels like this is the right time to step down and let someone else have their chance," an emotional Finley said. "A coach should never stay in a program so long that he becomes ineffective. I can't do all of the things that I used to do. It really just felt like the right time."

Finley has led the No. 19 Ducks to a 7-3-1 overall record this season and a 4-2-1 record in the Pacific-10 Conference.

"I think the program is in good standing," Finley said. "We're ranked nationally, we're still in the upper echelon of the Pac-10 and we have a solid freshman class coming in. I've had a lot of great things happen to me in my career. It was important for me to leave on good terms."

Finley has led the Ducks to eight winning seasons in the last 10 years and has guided Oregon to four consecutive fourth-place finishes in the Pac-10. Last season, he produced his 19th and 20th All-Americans and led the Ducks to a tie for 14th place at the NCAA Championships.

His announcement came as a surprise to many of his wrestlers.

"I had heard rumors that he might retire at the end of the season," 158-pound Sean Morgan said. "But I was still surprised to

Turn to FINLEY, Page 8

Magistrate hears first witnesses

The PGA plans to use videotaped testimony by golf legends Arnold Palmer and Jack Nicklaus

By Jeff Barnard
The Associated Press

Casey Martin limped to court Monday seeking to play on the professional golf tour the only way he can — using a cart.

Martin, afflicted with a rare circulatory disorder that makes walking long distances painful, has already generated an outpouring of support with his Nike "I Can" TV ad and a Capitol Hill news conference last week where he won the backing of former presidential candidate Bob Dole.

"From a public opinion standpoint, it's a loser," PGA Tour commissioner Tim Finchem acknowledged before heading into court. "This is a very unfortunate system we find ourselves in, having to litigate whether a fellow we think a great deal of can play the game."

Martin, hobbling on his frail right leg,



Turn to TRIAL, Page 9

Still no word from top running backs

With signing day approaching, Oregon has not received an oral commitment from any of the four heavily recruited prep backs

With one day left before signing day, the Oregon football team is still attempting to land a big-name prep running back and Marshfield High School standout Mike Belisle.

There are four outstanding running backs coming out of California high schools who have yet to make an oral commitment. Signing any of the four would be tremendous for the Ducks.

Losses drop Cardinal to second-place tie

Arizona ended one streak and began another in beating the formerly undefeated Stanford Cardinal on the road last Thursday.

Stanford had begun the season 18-0 but quickly found itself tied for second in the Pacific-10 Conference with UCLA after losing to Arizona State on Saturday. The Cardinal will attempt to end its two-game losing streak Wednesday at California before facing Connecticut on Saturday in a nationally televised game.

While it didn't signal success for the

team, sophomore forward Mark Madsen returned to action for Stanford over the weekend, scoring 15 points and grabbing five rebounds in 14 minutes of the Cardinal's overtime loss to the Sun Devils.

Madsen was leading the conference in shooting percentage when he suffered a stress fracture in his right foot in early January.

A couple of dopes

Two former Pac-10 hoopsters were suspended from the Fresno State roster during

FOOTBALL

Recruiting
Report
by Ryan Frank



DeShaun Foster is the crown jewel of running backs remaining to commit. He is a 6-1, 205-pound running back from Tustin, Calif., who some call one of nation's top two running backs.

Turn to BACKS, Page 8

OPINION



Rob
Moseley

Turn to MEN, Page 12