

SPORTS

Wednesday
April 7, 1999

Best Bet
Major League Baseball
Chicago vs. Seattle
7:30 p.m., FoxSports Northwest



Ducks drive way to fourth-place finish

Oregon shot a 298 on Tuesday in the Western Intercollegiate to move up one spot in the 13-team tournament

By Brett Williams
for the Emerald

There truly is no "I" in "team."

As much was discovered by the Oregon men's golf team on Tuesday, when despite Adrian Burtner's fall from fifth place Monday to 13th in individual scores, Oregon moved up a notch to earn fourth place in the 53rd-annual Western Intercollegiate at the Pasatiempo Golf Course in Santa Cruz, Calif.

The two-day tournament got off to a rocky start Monday, when rainfall flooded the course and caused a five-hour delay. When play resumed, teams appeared flustered by the array of obstacles nature provided.

Regardless, play resumed Tuesday in fair

conditions, and Oregon squandered its lead over Pacific-10 Conference foe Oregon State. The Beavers score of 601 surpassed the Ducks and gave them third place overall. Washington led the first day with a score of 299, a lead it never relinquished, shooting a 285 the second day to take first-place honors.



Despite not winning the tournament, Oregon head coach Steve Nosler is optimistic about the Ducks postseason aspirations.

"I was real pleased with our effort," Nosler said in a released statement. "The guys played hard in very difficult conditions the first day and in wet but better con-

ditions today. We've put ourselves in a real good position for regionals with our play so far this year."

Burtner's 13th-place finish tied him with teammate Ben Crane. Oregon golfer Ryan Lavoie finished three shots back from Crane and Burtner with a final score of 152.

The Pac-10 represented itself impressively in the tournament. Stanford's Joe Kribel finished in first place with a score of 139, propelling the Cardinal to a fifth-place finish. California tied for seventh place in the tournament.

Oregon's pursuit for the postseason continues next week, when the Ducks will participate in the Arizona State Thunderbird at Tempe, Ariz.

The Leader Board

Teams	Score
1. Wash.	584
2. Pepp.	599
3. OSU	601
4. UO	602
5. Stan.	604

Individuals

1. J. Kribel	139
2. R. Rashell	144
T13 Ben Crane	149
T13 A. Burtner	149

Baseball, Yanks eye repeat of '98

Just five months removed from homer hysteria and Yankees' dominance in the best major league baseball season of my lifetime, the boys of summer are back at it.

And fueled by manager Tony LaRussa's prediction that he will hit 75 home runs this time and the nation's awe-struck attention — not to mention that sometimes illegal substance — St. Louis Cardinals' slugger Mark McGwire is back at it, too.

Opinion



Tim Pyle

Big Mac left the yard for the first time this season on opening day Monday, and so the countdown to 70 taters, perhaps the most famous number in sports these days, officially began.

But besides McGwire's saga and all the other interesting individual subplots in baseball this season — including Tony Gwynn, Wade Boggs and Cal Ripken, Jr., closing in on the hallowed 3,000-hits mark —

there is a pennant race to be run.

So, without further ado, I give you my predictions.

American League West

Seattle would love nothing more than to celebrate the opening of Safeco Field, which will occur in July, with the Mariners in the thick of the A.L. West race.

But Seattle will face its usual problem: the porous pitching staff lags behind the staggering offense.

However, even if the Mariners cannot locate consistent pitching, Ken Griffey, Jr., and Alex Rodriguez ensure that Safeco Field's first summer will at least be entertaining, if nothing else.

Anaheim expects big things from big first baseman Mo Vaughn, a free-agent who formerly powered Boston. Couple Vaughn with other offensive dynamos such as Darin Erstad and Tim Salmon and the Angels should be tough, something new for a Disney product.

Texas boasts Juan Gonzalez, Ivan Rodriguez and new-addition Rafael Palmeiro in its formidable lineup.

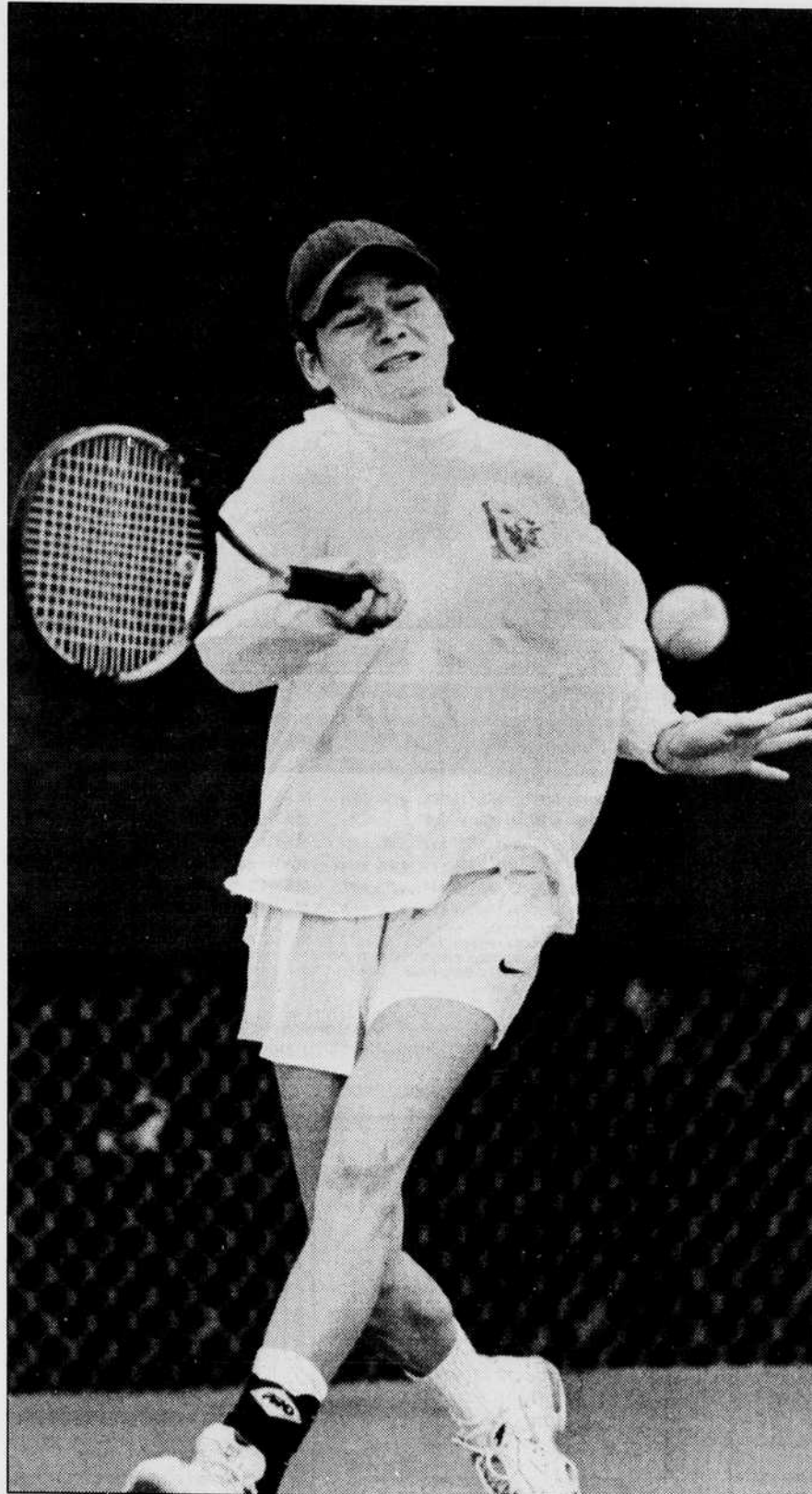
The division title should come down to the Rangers and Angels, with pitching being the deciding factor.

A.L. Central

Defending division-champ Cleveland looks even tougher with All-Star Roberto Alomar joining brother Sandy on the Indians. The Alomar-Omar Vizquel double-play combination promises to be scintillating, and Cleveland's offense should be as prolific as always.

Turn to PREDICTIONS, Page 9

Outspoken senior aims to outplay UW



For the second time this season, Petrovic and her teammates will try to beat the Huskies

By Mirjam Swanson

Oregon Daily Emerald

Andrea Petrovic is a very straight-forward type of person. She's a fifth-year senior who's going to tell it like it is.

What are her feelings about her stature on the No. 31 Oregon women's tennis team?

"The team is really young," Petrovic said. "I'm 24 and [the three freshmen] are 18, so there's a six-year difference. I feel like a grandma."

What does she think about the line-judges who have officiated the Ducks' matches?

"They suck," she said, before softening her stance a bit. "I don't want to say in general, but it's really hard for them to watch three courts. I really wish we had six judges because there would be far less trouble. But it's a tough job, so I don't blame them."

What do the Ducks need to do today when they face No. 22 Washington?

"It's time to raise the level again," Petrovic said. "We beat Washington once, so they're definitely going to be ready to play us. We've got to prove it again."

That victory over the Huskies a month ago in Seattle marked the Ducks' first win in 44 attempts against Washington, and it helped vault Oregon to its highest-ever ranking. The rematch today is at noon on either the outdoor 15th Street Courts on campus or the Eugene Swim & Tennis Club, depending on the weather.

"That was the best win I've had with this school," said Petrovic, a native of Croatia. "It was so emotional. Everyone was just very, very happy."

"The ranking is great. I'm really happy for [head coach] Jack [Griffin]. He really puts a lot of time into this, so I want to do this for him."

While Oregon appreciated having attained the recognition, the Ducks' opponents have also taken heed. After they earned the top-30 ranking, Oregon lost four in a row before beating Boise State last weekend.

On tap

What: Women's tennis

Who: Washington (9-7, 0-4) vs. Oregon (10-7, 0-5)

Where: 15th Street Courts or Eugene Swim & Tennis Club

When: Today at noon

Andrea Petrovic brings a 10-11 overall record into today's showdown with Washington at noon.

Scott Barnett/Emerald

Turn to TENNIS, Page 12