



Best Bet
Major League Baseball
All-Star Game
5 p.m., ESPN

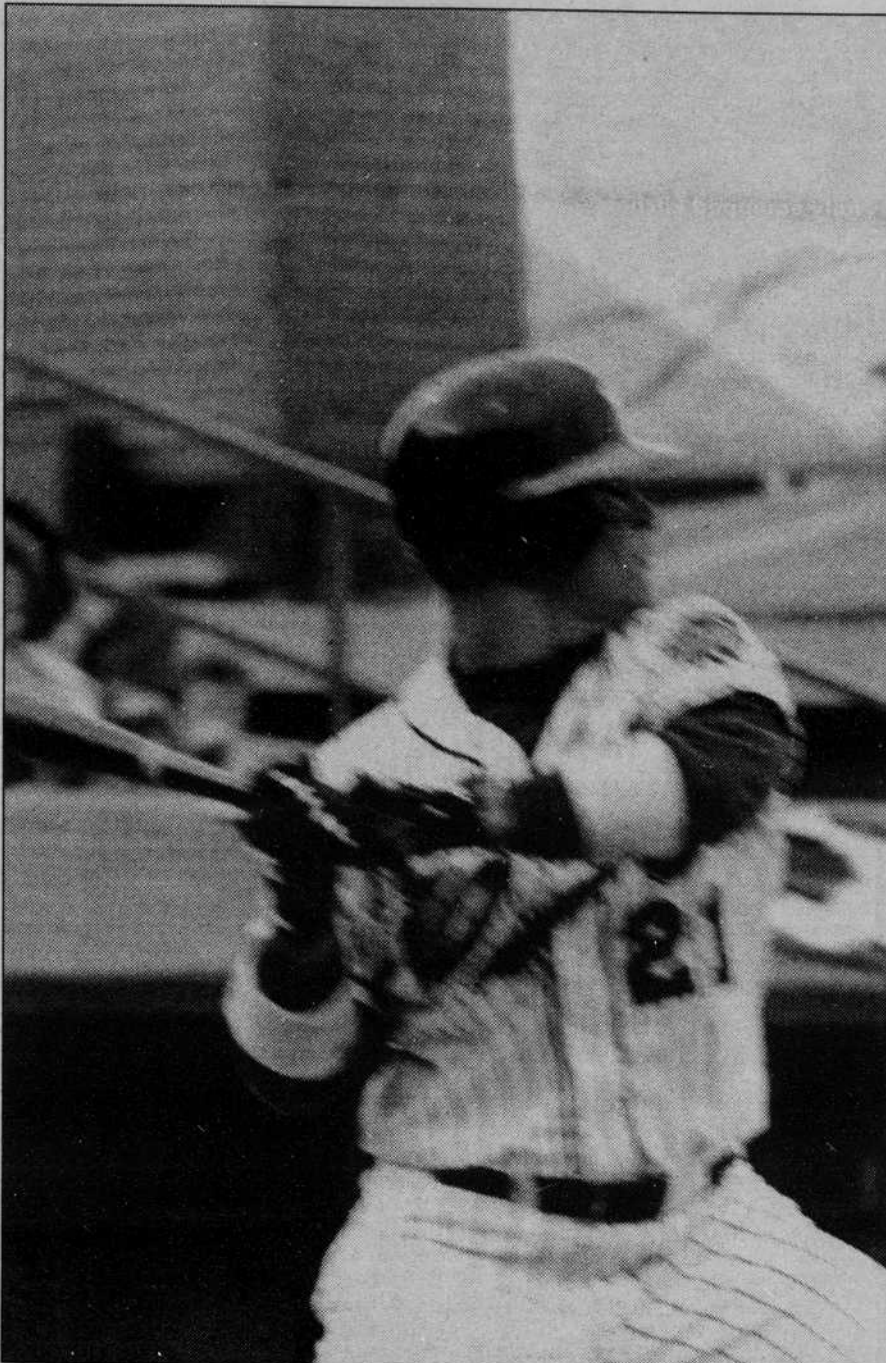
SPORTS

Notable:

In the most-recent edition of Sports Illustrated, "This Week's Sign That the Apocalypse Is Upon Us" reads: "Dodge will pay \$1.4 million over the next four years to be the official sponsor of the sports rivalry between Oregon and Oregon State."

"My parents are really proud ... And this is [my brothers' and my] dream, to hopefully make it to the bigs."

Kevin Bass
Ems left fielder



Left fielder Kevin Bass, Northwest player of the week for the week ending July 4, hopes that both he and his team heat up again soon.

Catharine Kendall/Emerald

Baseball in the BLOOD

Eugene left fielder Kevin Bass is the middle of three brothers with major-league aspirations

By Mirjam Swanson
Oregon Daily Emerald

For Emeralds' left fielder Kevin Bass, baseball is a family affair.

His older brother, Jayson, is a sixth-year pro currently playing outfield for the Richmond Braves, Atlanta's Triple-A affiliate.

Meanwhile Kevin, who is a switch-hitter and the middle Bass child, is in Eugene striving to improve his game with the Emeralds. As the Cubs' third-round pick out of Fayette County (Ala.) High School in 1998, Kevin joined Eugene this season after playing for the organization's rookie club in Mesa last summer.

And Kevin's little brother, Bryan — still in high school in Alabama — is also expected to play professionally.

If he does, then all three Bass brothers will be scattered throughout baseball's pro ranks, chasing their big-league dreams and having a nice time doing it.

"It'll be neat," Kevin Bass said. "My parents are real

proud. But really, they're happy that we're happy. And this is our dream, to hopefully make it to the bigs."

So far, pro ball is everything that Bass expected it to be, although he said he'd like to help improve the Ems' 10-14 record and last-place standing.



"I'm enjoying it," Bass said. "You just wish you could do

good every night, so that you can please yourself and also the fans that come out to watch."

As the Emeralds starting left fielder, Bass has played brilliantly for days at a time. He's had spells where he produced one timely hit after another while looking completely comfortable in a position that he only began playing after arriving in the pros.

For that period of production, he was awarded the Northwest League player of the week award for the week

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Duck coaches, athletes share their winning ways

Soccer, tennis, volleyball and track and field camps put on by Oregon programs run this week

By Mirjam Swanson
Oregon Daily Emerald

In addition to the 400 IntroDUCKtion students learning their way around campus this week, up-and-coming athletes are also on hand, getting schooled by Oregon coaches and players in volleyball, track and field, soccer and tennis.

While most of the youths participating in this week's camps aren't prodigies, they're all taking advantage of a week of experienced mentoring to improve their skills and, most importantly, to have a good time.

"It's a learning camp," women's track and field head coach Tom Heinonen said. "But we want them to have fun. We want them to learn about track and field and go away from here with a greater appreciation of it and a respect for what it takes to be really good at track and field — for them to get really excited about track and field."

Oregon runs 15 different athletic camps during the summer, four of which are in effect this week.

The Nike Oregon volleyball camp, focusing on general skills and setters play, is the first of three camps that Oregon head coach Cathy Nelson and staff provide. It runs

through Thursday.

"It's something we do every summer," Nelson said. "Four days and a lot of volleyball, it's a well-rounded camp. We do a good job with our camp, so people like to come back."

The next general skills camp begins Saturday, and a "high-potential" camp aimed at incoming college players starts July 22.

Oregon's head tennis coaches, Chris Russell and Jack Griffin, are also in charge of separate camps.

This week they're co-directors of the Nike Oregon tennis camp, scheduled to run until Friday. Next week they'll conduct another Sunday-through-Friday camp for kids ranging in age from 8 to 17.

"They're cute" former Duck and current camp counselor Jaime Martin said. "And they were good [Sunday] night. They went to bed on time with no problems."

As is the case up the street at McArthur Court, where the volleyball players are gathered, more players are enrolled in the tennis camp this year than in years past.

Forty-nine kids are taking part this week. It's a noticeable increase, according to one second-year camper.

"There's a lot more kids this year," 16-year-old Kari White said. "It's a lot bigger. It's nice."



Camper Anne Neumann stretches to hit a groundstroke during a tennis exercise Monday afternoon. The tennis camp is headed by Duck coaches Chris Russell and Jack Griffin.

Catharine Kendall/Emerald

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