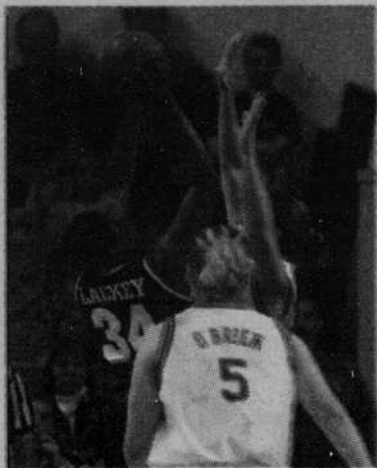


Sports



Getting crowded at the top

Not quite halfway through, and both men's and women's races are much too close to call. See Pac-10 notes. **PAGE 9**

Scoreboard

Morris' coach says it's UO

According to many recruiting services, the Oregon football program has received a non-binding verbal commitment from Fresno City College running-back Maurice Morris. Two recruiting services, PrepStar and SuperPrep, listed Morris as the top junior college running back.

The announcement by Morris' junior college coach, Tony Caviglia, that the 6-foot-2, 195-pound, sophomore had chosen the Ducks over the Southern California and South Carolina, was a complete turnaround from earlier reports by Morris' father, saying that Maurice was headed to Southern California.

PrepStar reported on its' web page that Morris would have had to taken two more classes to qualify for the Trojans in the fall, while he has already qualified for Oregon.

At Fresno CC, Morris set a national junior college rushing record when he amassed 3,708 yards in 20 games during two years of play.

Out with a bang

ST. LOUIS (AP) — On Tuesday, two days after winning his first Super Bowl and after a long talk with his wife, 63-year-old coach Dick Vermeil decided to retire.

A team source confirmed the retirement, and the announcement was to come at a news conference Tuesday night. The decision elevates offensive coordinator Mike Martz to head coach.

The Rams signed Martz to a new two-year contract in December that assured he would inherit Vermeil's job.

Vermeil coached two Super Bowl teams 19 years apart. He led the Philadelphia Eagles to the NFL title game in 1981, and that 27-10 loss fueled his return to the profession in 1997.

Better luck next year

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — In a blur of Titans blue, thousands of fans filled downtown to thank the team for an unlikely journey that fell 3 feet short.

The parade Tuesday wound through downtown where players and coaches rode in convertibles and were showered in confetti in near-freezing temperatures.

The motorcade ended up at Adelphia Coliseum, where the team went undefeated en route to its first Super Bowl and a heartbreaking loss to the St. Louis Rams.

Best Bet

Women's college hoops
Tennessee vs. Connecticut
4 p.m., ESPN



Can't knock the hustle

Excitable guard Felicity Willis leads her Arizona women's basketball team into McArthur Court for a meaningful matchup with the Ducks

By Mirjam Swanson
Oregon Daily Emerald

It's a hot, still-90-degree-at-dusk type of summer evening in Apple Valley, a small high desert city in Southern California.

And a group of 13- and 14-year-old softball players are playing catch in front of a couple hundred people: family, friends, middle-aged guys on their way to slow-pitch games. A whole range of folk.

Felicity Willis stands alone, chillin' near the dugout, looking on.

The girls on the field, naturally, proceed to discuss who's here and with whom, gossiping and giggling and sneering like only 14-year-old girls can.

Someone on the team notices Willis. And, surely, that someone has to comment.

Saying something like: "Look who's here ... Over there, look, it's that girl Felicity."

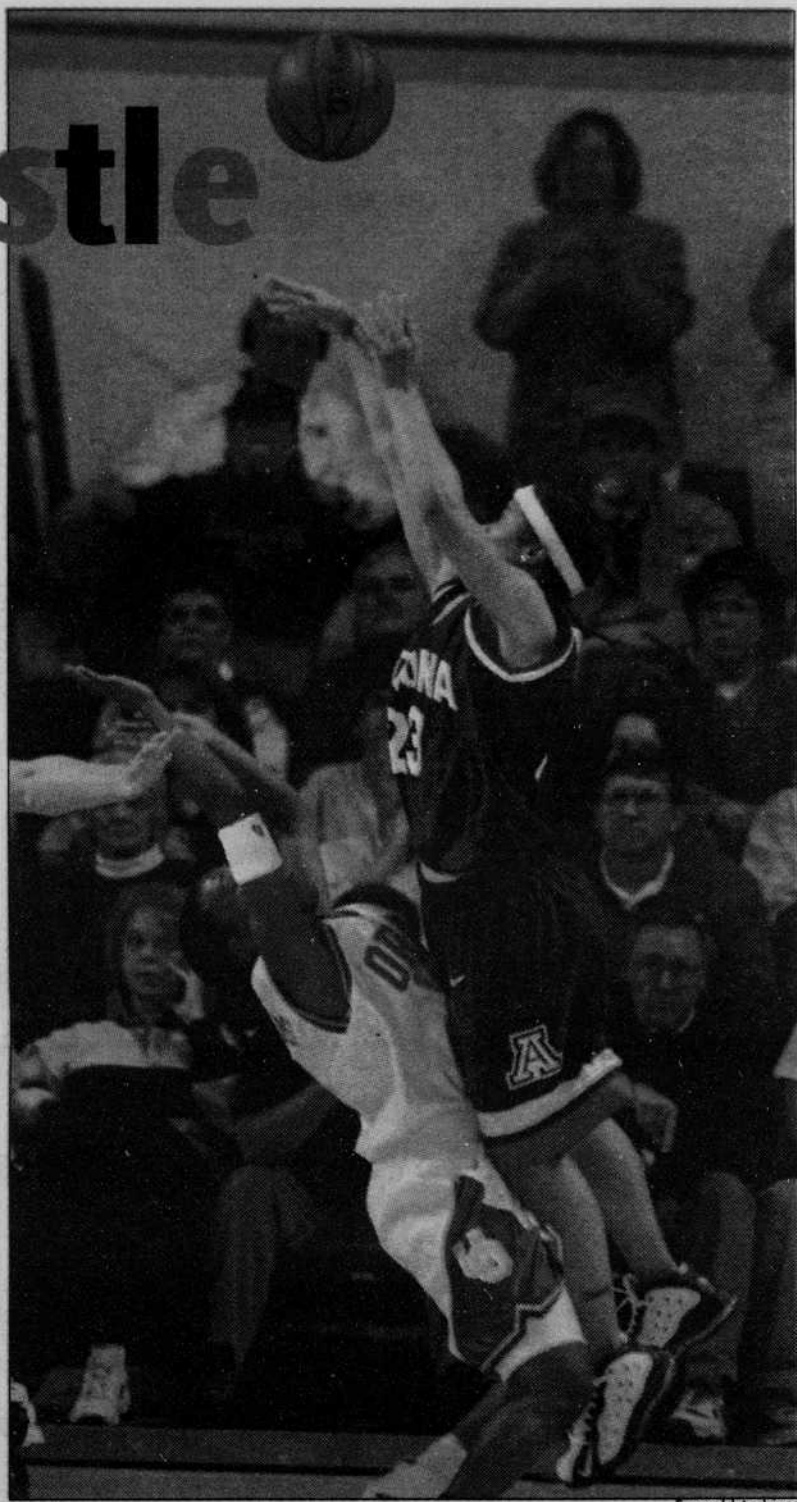
A statement that reverberates with her teammates, along the lines of: "She thinks she's all that. Thinks she's too good to play softball."

"Trying to be a guy, playing baseball."

That's people for you. Jealous.

Or just raucous. Check out the crowd's reaction at McArthur Court this Friday when Willis' Arizona women's basketball team visitse.

Turn to **Basketball**, page 8



Emerald Archives

Oregon's Shaquala Williams will 'D'-it-up against her friend Felicity Willis again this Friday.

Oregon finishes poorly in Arizona



■ The Ducks' display a weak team effort at the Ping Arizona Intercollegiate

By Peter Hockaday
for the Emerald

The men's golf team turned in a below-par performance at the Ping Arizona Intercollegiate Tournament Tuesday. Unfortunately that describes their execution and not their score.

The Ducks shot a combined 46-over par 898 over the two day, 54 hole tournament. They finished in a tie for 14th place with Louisiana-Lafayette. Eighteen teams competed in the tournament.

Southern California, with a four-under par 848, won the tournament by seven

strokes over host Arizona. New Mexico, San Diego State, Stanford and UCLA rounded out the top six.

Individually, senior Andrew Tredway finished tied for fourteenth overall with a seven-over par 220. Tredway is co-captain of the team with Senior Ryan Lavoie.

Lavoie, who had been in third place after the first round, ruined his chances of placing in the top 20 by shooting a ten-over par 81 in the second round. Lavoie finished in a tie for 31st.

The other Ducks to compete in the tournament were Chris Carnahan (tied for 74th), Aaron Byers (tied for 93rd) and Matt Genovese (tied for 95th).

The three underclassman golfers finished only six strokes apart.

Oregon was the only Pacific-Ten Conference team

to compete in the tournament and not finish in the top ten. Oregon State, who finished 10th with a team total 887, was the closest Pac-10 team to the Ducks. Washington State was the only Pac-10 team not to compete in the tournament.

Arizona freshman Ricky Barnes won the tournament with a nine-under par 204. USC's Nick Jones was the runner up with a five-under 208.

Oregon's finish was their lowest of the 1999-2000 season. The Ducks had placed third, eighth, second and fifth in their four previous tournaments. The Arizona Intercollegiate was the team's first tournament of 2000.

The Ducks will travel to Hawaii Feb. 17 for the Taylor Made Intercollegiate at the Beach and Kings Golf Course in Waikoloa.

Top individual finishers

1. Ricky Barnes, Arizona 204 (-9)
2. Nick Jones, USC 208 (-5)
3. Han Lee, California 210 (-3) Ducks
- T14. Andrew Tredway 220 (+7)
- T31. Ryan Lavoie 222 (+9)