





Ducks in Hawaii for tournament

■ Seeking postseason play, the Oregon golf team will play in 3-day competition

By Peter Hockaday

For the Ducks, redemption is spelled W-a-i-k-o-l-o-a.

The men's golf team is in Hawaii for the three day Taylor Made/Waikoloa Intercollegiate Tournament, which starts today.

This will be the Ducks' first tournament since a fourteenth place finish at the Ping Arizona Intercollegiate two weeks ago. With only five tournaments before the Pacific-Ten Conference Championships, Oregon needs a strong showing to keep postseason hopes alive.

Once again, head coach Steve Nosler will rely on senior co-captains Ryan Lavoie and Andrew Tredway to lead the team both with scores and motivation. Lavoie and Tredway have accounted for the team's two lowest scores in all their tournaments this year.

"If Andrew's playing well," Nosler said, "he really gets the kids pumped up. The leadership you

get from Ryan is by example."

Chris Carnahan, Aaron Byers and Brandon Harnden round out

Twenty-four teams will play in the three-day, 54-hole tournament. The Kings' and Beach Golf Course in Waikoloa, Hawaii will host the tournament. The format of the tournament is such that the four lowest scores from each five-man team count towards the team's final

Many of the Pac-10 teams that gave Oregon trouble in Arizona will be in Hawaii as well. Washington State and California are the only Pac-10 teams who will not compete.

The Pac-10 is arguably the strongest golf conference in the nation, with six schools among the top 25 in Golfweek's power rankings. Arizona State leads the way in eighth place, while Stanford (12th), Washington (14th), Southern California (16th), Arizona (17th) and UCLA (23rd) round out the conference's top 25 teams. Oregon is 50th in the rankings

Nosler said his team's play shouldn't be influenced by the strength of the field. "I don't think how they play affects us," Nosler said, "We'd love to finish ahead of all of them.'

Although the Ducks didn't do as well as they had hoped in Arizona, the experience from that tournament should help in Hawaii. The Arizona tournament was the first for the golfers since November.

The Ducks have been in Waikoloa since Saturday, and the extra time, Nosler said, should help in today's action. The team played the Kings' and Beach Course twice this week, a privilege they didn't get in Arizona. "We played pretty well in the practice rounds," Nosler stated, but sometimes when you turn the lights on it's a different story.'

The team needs a good showing to keep dreams of the postseason at least tangible. From the Pac-10 championships, only a handful of teams will advance to the West Regional tournament in May.

If the Ducks can do well now, they will have a better chance of making that regional. The top teams from regionals go to the NCAA Championships in June.

Portland wins war against Warriors

PORTLAND, Ore. - Arvydas Sabonis scored 20 points and Scottie Pippen hit a 3-pointer with 38 seconds left as the Portland Trail Blazers beat Golden State 99-95 on Wednesday night.

Golden State's Donyell Marshall hit two free throws with 54 seconds left to put the Warriors ahead 93-92, but Pippen, who finished with 16, followed with his 3-pointer and Damon Stoudamire made four free throws.

The Trail Blazers improved to an NBA-best 40-11 with their sixth straight victory. Stoudamire finished with 19 points.

Mookie Blaylock had 22 points

for Golden State.

Portland overcame an eightpoint deficit in the fourth quarter, tving it at 86 with 4:21 left when Pippen drove the lane and found Rasheed Wallace on an alley-oop.

Stoudamire put Portland ahead 89-86 with a 3-pointer with 3:24 left, and the Blazers went up 92-86 on Sabonis' hook shot and Stoudamire's free throw. But Golden State scored seven straight points to take a 93-92 lead.

Portland opened the third quarter with a 16-5 run to take a 61-49 lead on Steve Smith's 3-pointer with 6:13 left. The Warriors rallied with a 7-2 run to cut the lead to six at 75-69.

The Associated Press

