

Scoreboard

Oregon women lackluster in Arizona without coach

How significant can a coach's presence be?

The Oregon women's golf team is finding out the answer to that question — the hard way — in Arizona right now.

After one round at the Arizona Wildcat Invitational, the Ducks are 17th in a field of 18 teams. They lead Oregon State by a mere stroke.

Head coach Renee Baumgartner, who is expecting a child, did not travel to Tucson with her team.

Stanford leads the tournament, five strokes ahead of Duke, the nation's second-ranked team. Arizona, host of the tournament and the top team in the country, is a stroke behind the Blue Devils.

Oregon shot a team total 312, 24 strokes over par. If the Ducks keep pace they will shoot a 936 — their worst score of the season by far.

Individually, senior Angie Rizzo did well enough to make the top 20, shooting a one-over par 73 and earning a seven-way tie for 19th.

Rizzo, however, could not carry her team.

Junior Jerilyn White (5 over par, 77) finished 60th, while Pam Sowden, a senior, shot an eight-over 80 to finish in 80th place.

It got worse. Senior Anika Heuser finished in 90th place with a ten-over 82. Sophomore Julia Smith finished in 95th place of 96 golfers with a 14-over par 86.

The four low Ducks shot a combined 37 over par.

The 96th player was Oregon senior Kylie Wilson, participating as an individual competitor.

Monday's round may not mean the end of hope for Oregon. There are still two rounds to play, the second round today and the final round on Wednesday. Each team's lowest score is dropped at the end of the tournament, with the fifth player's score used only in a tie-breaking situation.

Stanford leads the tournament because of outstanding team play. Duke's Beth Bauer leads the pack, but Stanford has four of five team members in the top 20. Stanford's worst scorer, Hilary Homeyer, leads the Ducks' second-best golfer by two strokes.

by Peter Hockaday for the Emerald

Blazers 105, Celtics 92

PORTLAND (AP) — Arvydas Sabonis scored 19 points and Rasheed Wallace added 16 as the Portland Trail Blazers won their ninth straight by stopping the cold-shooting Boston Celtics 105-92 Monday night.

Steve Smith added 15 points for Portland, which never trailed and improved its NBA-best record to 42-11. It was the Blazers' 14th straight win at the Rose Garden.

Antoine Walker had 24 points and Paul Pierce and Eric Williams each had 14 for the Celtics, who shot just 37 percent from the field and dropped to 5-22 on the road.

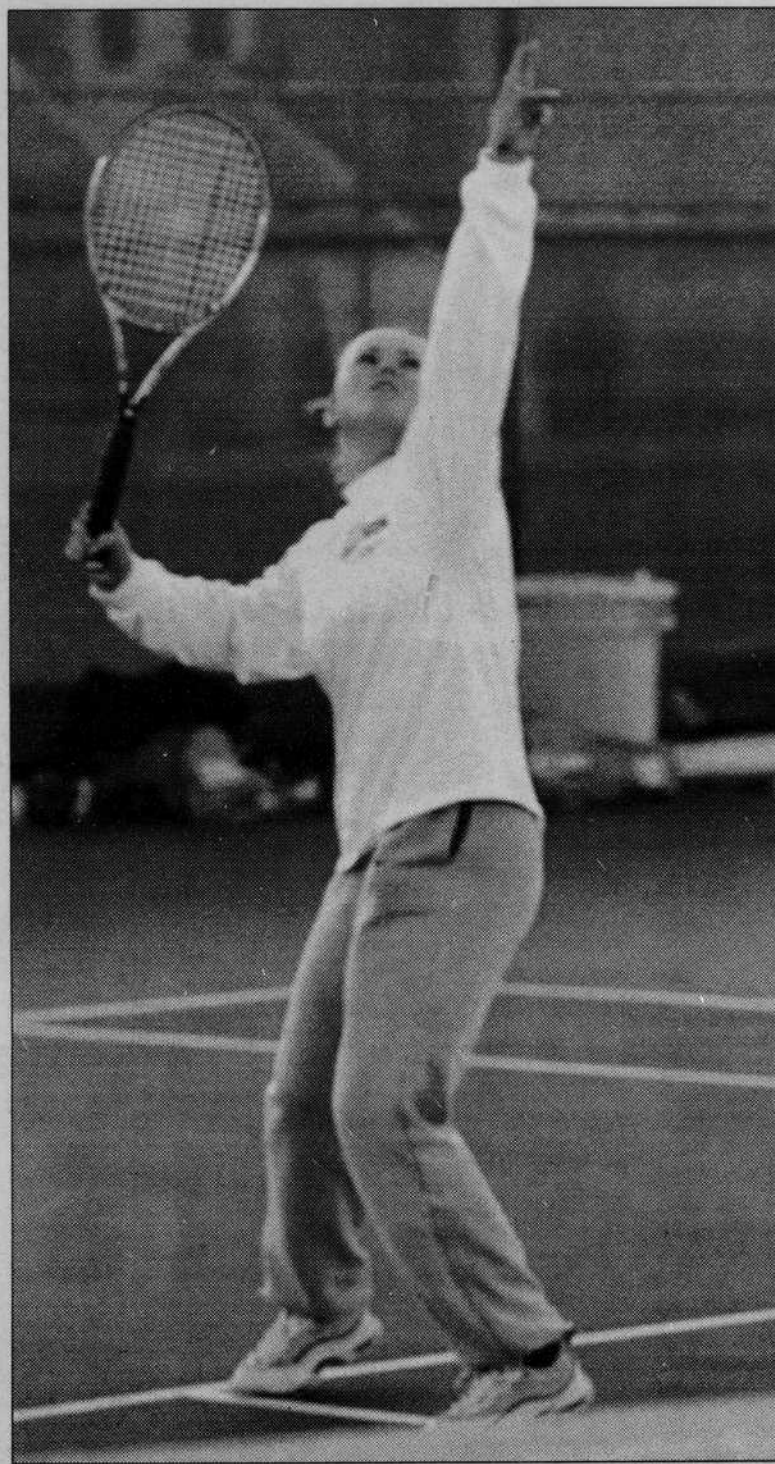
Best Bet

NBA
Houston vs.
Charlotte
5 p.m., TNT



Sports

Oregon Daily
Emerald



Monika Gieczys, a freshman from Poland, is already one of Oregon's most productive players. Kevin Calame Emerald

HEIR Apparent

Monika Gieczys has followed Alina Wygonowska's example as the second Duck to garner a national ranking

By Robbie McCallum
for the Emerald

For the past three years, the Oregon women's tennis team has been led by a highly touted Polish player. Next year, the baton will be passed to another talented Polish player.

Senior Alina Wygonowska has guided the Ducks to new heights during her collegiate career. A native of Gydnia, Poland, Wygonowska became the first Oregon player to appear in the NCAA tournament and the Ducks' first nationally ranked singles player. As she improved and rose through the college ranks, so did the Oregon program.

Head coach Jack Griffin hopes that the program will continue to rise after Wygonowska's departure with her heir apparent — Monika Gieczys. This season, Gieczys (pronounced

“She's an unbelievable asset to the team and a very hard worker. You couldn't ask for a better kid.”

Jack Griffin
head coach

Turn to **Gieczys**, page 8A

UO shooting percentages help tell stories

Fittingly, it is Angelina Wolvert's reliable scoring touch inside that saves the day against Washington

OREGON NOTES

By Mirjam Swanson and Brett Williams

Oregon Daily Emerald

Angelina Wolvert is just so money.

So you know the Oregon women's basketball team felt good when the 6-3 junior had the ball in her hands with the game — and possibly the season — on the line in Sunday's thrilling 70-69 win at Washington.

“I'm sure whoever got the ball was going to step up and make the shot,” Wolvert said during the post-game show on KUGN. “We were all just looking at each other wondering who it was going to be.”

She has a point. The way the final few minutes of Sunday's game went, Wolvert was probably right. Senior guard Nicole Strange stepped up and started the decisive 7-0 Oregon run by making a jumper, and then

sophomore Jamie Craighead buried a long three of her own.

It seemed everyone on the squad, which is currently ranked 42nd in the Ratings Percentage Index, was hitting when she needed to hit.

But Wolvert always hits — or at least 60 percent of the time (122 of 204 on the season). Her field goal percentage, boosted by her ability to shake defenders with an assortment of abrupt spin moves, is second-best in the conference behind Arizona's Tatum Brown.

Nobody's throwing in the towel

In the aftermath of its worst performance of the season — a 67-58 loss at home against Washington on Saturday night in which the Oregon men's basketball team shot 29.8 percent from the field — the Ducks insist there is no reason to wave

the white flag.

With five games to play, Oregon (18-6 overall, 8-4 Pacific-10 Conference) is still alone in third place in the Pac-10. A sweep this weekend in Los Angeles would virtually guarantee Oregon its first appearance in the NCAA Tournament since 1994-95.

“We're still in a decent position,” said forward A.D. Smith, who had a team-high seven rebounds and four assists against the Huskies. “We're in third place. We're probably too far back to be thinking about first or second right now, but we're certainly in a better position than USC and Arizona State.”

Oregon head coach Ernie Kent said it is important that the unexpected loss to Washington does not devastate team morale.

“They need to remember that there is still a lot of basketball to be played,” Kent said.

Striking similarities

Oregon field goal percentages:

Men 47.3
Women 46.3

Oregon scoring:

Men 71.5 ppg
Women 70.6 ppg