

NHL Playoffs

Flyers 5, Sabres 2
PHILADELPHIA (AP) — The Buffalo Sabres kept stalling and stalling, expecting Dominik Hasek to steal a game. While they were waiting, the Philadelphia Flyers swiped the series.

The Flyers scored two relatively soft goals against the NHL's premier playoff goaltender, one by Dan McGillis and the other set up by him, and closed out the Sabres 5-2 in Game 5 of their NHL first-round series Thursday night.

Devils 4, Panthers 1
SUNRISE, Fla. (AP) — Martin Brodeur and New Jersey's stifling defense held the Florida Panthers to one goal for the third straight game Thursday night, ending the Devils' first-round playoffs woes.

Brodeur made 33 saves and Sergei Nemchinov scored twice in the final four minutes as New Jersey beat Florida 4-1 to sweep the best-of-seven series. The Devils advanced to the second round for the first time since 1997, where it will play Philadelphia.

Baseball

Reds 11, Giants 1
CINCINNATI (AP) — Ken Griffey Jr. threw his slump to the wind.

Griffey hit a pair of 400-foot homers into a swirling wind Thursday, leading the Cincinnati Reds to an 11-1 victory over the reeling San Francisco Giants.

Barry Larkin also hit a two-run homer and Pokey Reese matched his career high with five hits as the Reds (8-7) moved above .500 for the first time this season.

They're a month ahead of last year, when they didn't have a winning record until May 19, then finished with 96 victories.

NBA

SEATTLE (AP) — The Seattle SuperSonics are still celebrating because they don't have to play the Los Angeles Lakers in the first round of the playoffs, only the not-as-powerful Utah Jazz.

"No one would want to play the Lakers," center Horace Grant said. "They're playing such great basketball right now."

The Sonics missed the playoffs last season when the NBA owners locked out the players for 32 games. As the No. 7 seed in the West, Seattle will open a first-round series against Utah Saturday.



Best Bet

NHL: San Jose vs. St. Louis
Game 5 Western Conference
quarter finals



Catherine Keenan/Emerald

Fits like a glove

■ After trying her hand at basketball, senior infielder Andrea Gustafson has found her niche at Oregon, going from a walk-on sophomore to a senior leader

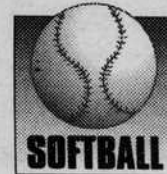
By Matt O'Neill
Oregon Daily Emerald

Her path to softball stardom was not the typical one. In fact, she didn't want to play college softball at all. She wanted to play basketball. But now she is an integral part of the No. 18th-ranked team in the nation.

Senior infielder Andrea Gustafson had basketball on her mind when she enrolled at Lane Community College. But instead she joined the club softball team because the basketball team was not very good and she wasn't having any fun.

"It wasn't what I expected," Gustafson said. "I was kinda upset with that decision [to play basketball] because I always knew I was a better softball player."

After two years of club softball, Turn to **Softball**, page 16A



“She was a kid that would come out and stay late. She has worked herself into a darn good player”

Rick Gamez
head coach

Senior Andrea Gustafson (20) is a valuable asset to the 18th-ranked Oregon softball team as a steady force at second base as well as a spark in the lead-off spot.

Track teams ready themselves for UW battle

On tap

What: Track and field
Who: Washington vs. Oregon
When: noon
Where: Hayward Field

■ Oregon men want to reclaim their tradition of beating Washington on an almost annual basis

By Scott Pesznecker
Oregon Daily Emerald

The most time-tested rivalry of Oregon men's track and field is about to make its first appearance of the new millennium.

The Oregon-Washington dual dates back to 1900, with the Ducks holding a dominant 85-32 edge in the series. History skipped a generation when the two schools didn't schedule a dual last season, but the Huskies did beat Oregon, 133.5-101.5, at the Pepsi Invitational.

Obviously, the Ducks want to get back to their winning ways when they meet again on Saturday. The first running event is the 1:45 p.m. steeplechase. Action concludes with the 4x400-meter relay at 4:15 p.m.

"That would be a really special afternoon if we beat a team as strong and as solid as Washington's team," Oregon head coach Martin Smith said. "It will be a real formidable challenge for our guys and a good athletic test for us."

But it's going to take everything Oregon has

Turn to **Men's**, page 10A

By Mirjam Swanson
Oregon Daily Emerald

Members of the Oregon women's track and field team were scattered all over Southern California last weekend, doing their respective thing in three different meets.

But beginning at noon this Saturday, the Ducks switch it up, returning home to compete as a cohesive unit against rival Washington at Hayward Field in Oregon's only dual meet of the season. In comparison, Saturday's dual will be the Huskies' eighth of the year. They're 4-2-1.

But this one, for Northwest bragging rights, is special. Always is.

"They've had somebody do seven events against us on two occasions," said Tom Heinonen, the man who's headed the Oregon program for more than 24 years. "It shows you how badly they want to beat us."

This dual meet, the two teams' 23rd such go-round, will be interesting.

"They're really good where we're not," middle distance runner Katie Crabb said, "and we're really good where they're not."

Crabb is among the Ducks to whom the "really good" reference applies. The senior set a new personal record and NCAA provisional time of 4:19.88 in the 1,500-meters at the prestigious Mt.

Turn to **Women's**, page 12A

Finally all in the same place at the same time, the Oregon women need a complete performance against a talented Washington squad