

NCAA:

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — The NCAA Division I-A board of directors unanimously approved a package of basketball rules changes Thursday, including a proposal to eliminate men's summer recruiting in 2002.

"The board is eliminating summer basketball environments as we now know it," said Penn State president Graham Spanier, chairman of the board of directors.

Spanier said the new program is designed to reduce "the unsavory influences affecting the lives of young people and the integrity of our programs."

Coaches currently are allowed 24 days of recruiting during the summer, including attending camps sponsored by shoe manufacturers.

TRACK AND FIELD:

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Despite unfavorable weather, a crowd of 20,456 — the largest Thursday attendance in the meet's 106-year history — showed up at the Penn Relays on Thursday.

Tyrone Heath opened the relay with a solid 2:08.6 leg for 800 meters, putting Georgetown in second place, just behind Florida's Erin Merten.

Nickay Penado from Brooklyn, N.Y., followed at 2:09.2, but it was good enough to give the Hoyas an 8-meter lead over the Gators. Katrina de Boer from West Linn, turned in the fastest leg, 2:08.2, lengthening the lead to 35 meters, and Sasha Spencer finished with 2:08.4.

NHL:

TORONTO (AP) — The New Jersey Devils stifled Mats Sundin and the Toronto Maple Leafs' top line, but couldn't stop third-liners Wendel Clark and Darcy Tucker.

Tucker, set up by Clark, scored 1:18 into the third period as the Maple Leafs opened their second-round playoff series with a 2-1 victory Thursday night.

Dmitri Yushkevich also scored, and Curtis Joseph stopped 32 shots as the Leafs won their third straight playoff game.

Petr Sykora scored for the Devils, who lost for the first time in the playoffs after a four-game sweep of the Florida Panthers in the first round.

Game 2 is Saturday in Toronto.

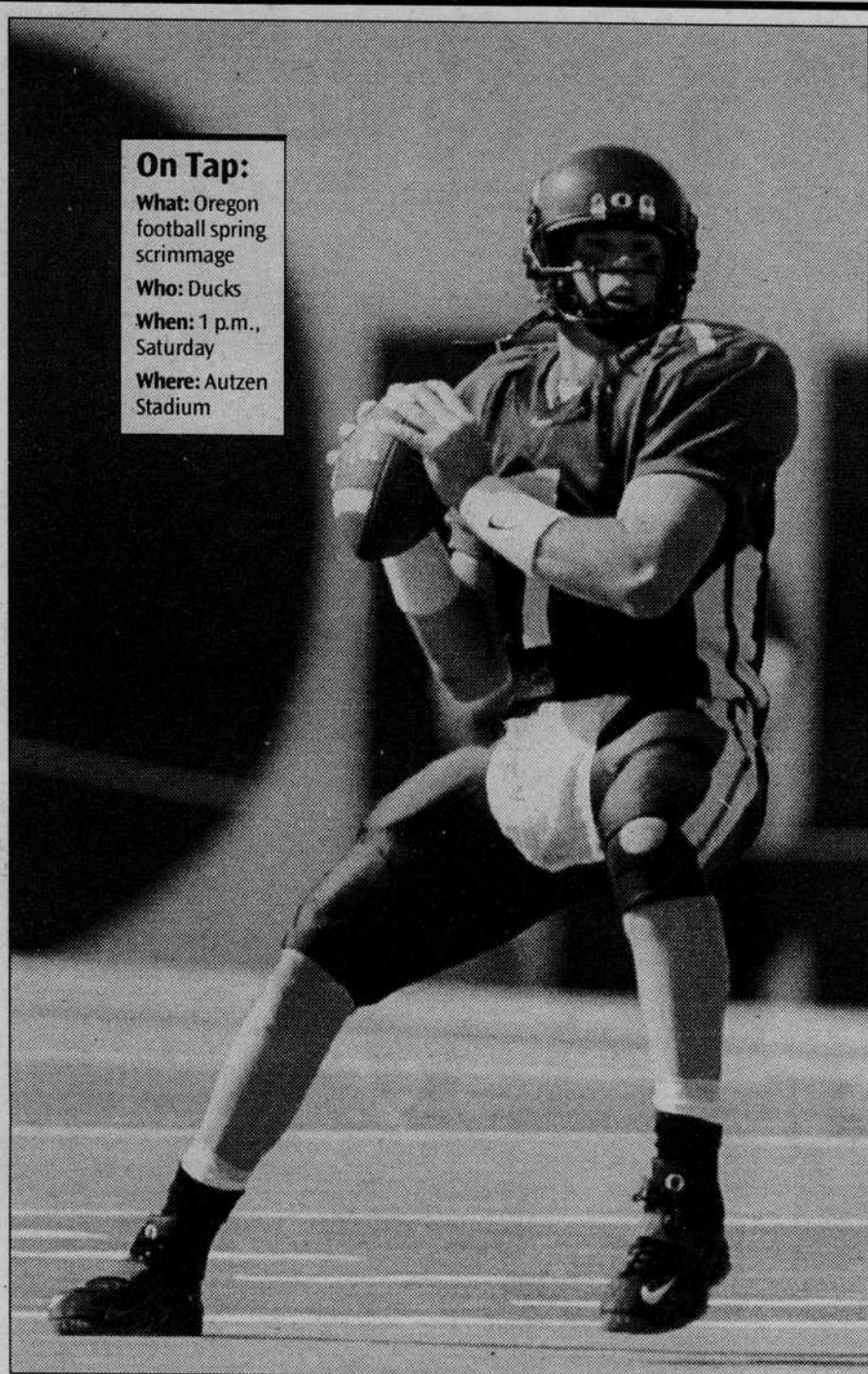
New Jersey outshot Toronto 33-21, and all five of the Maple Leafs' playoff victories have come when the opposing team had more shots on goal.



Best Bet

NBA Playoffs:
Charlotte vs. Philadelphia
5 p.m., TNT

Sports



On Tap:

What: Oregon football spring scrimmage
Who: Ducks
When: 1 p.m., Saturday
Where: Autzen Stadium

Quarterback A.J. Feeley is confident he can return to the same form that he had early last season.

Don't count him out

After experiencing the ups and downs of college football, A.J. Feeley is ready

By Jeff Smith
Oregon Daily Emerald

Something was hurting him on that October night in Southern California.

But of course, the competitor in him wouldn't let him admit it. A.J. Feeley was more devastated about his team's 34-29 loss to UCLA than some nagging arm problem. It was a loss that he nearly saved after a heroic gut-wrenching 88-yard drive with one minute and 16 seconds left.

The only problem is that Feeley's dart to wide receiver Marshaun Tucker with less than four seconds left ended one yard shy of the Rose Bowl end zone.

Little did anyone know at the time, but that heartbreaking defeat would signal the beginning of the end for Feeley's 1999 campaign.

Never mind the fact that Feeley entered the contest that night leading the Pacific-10 Conference in passing after throwing 161 passes for 1,389 yards and 11 touchdowns.

Following his 20 of 47 passing performance for 313 yards, he went on to start the next game at Arizona on Oct. 22. But after opening the game by completing just seven of 23 passes, head coach Mike Bellotti made the switch to Joey Harrington, who proceeded to rally the Ducks to the dramatic 41-38 win.

Turn to **Feeley**, page 12A

"I'm always confident. I don't look at this [the spring game] as a chance to prove myself because people know what I can do."

A.J. Feeley
quarterback

Softball hoping confidence breeds success



On Tap:

What: Softball
Who: No. 4 Arizona State vs. No. 17 Oregon
When: 2 p.m.
Where: Howe Field

The softball team has more confidence going into its rematch with UA and ASU this weekend

By Matt O'Neill
Oregon Daily Emerald

The last time the No. 17 Oregon softball team faced No. 4 Arizona State and No. 2 Arizona, the Ducks came away feeling like they'd accomplished something, despite losing two of three in Arizona.

"We don't feel that they are any better than us," junior catcher Kelly Planche said. "We know we can play with anyone."

Oregon faces the teams for a second time this weekend, beginning the three-game set against Arizona State today at 2 p.m. at Howe Field.

In the opening weekend of Pac-10 Conference play in early April, the Ducks (32-18 overall, 4-6 Pacific-10) traveled to the valley of the sun for the first go-around with the conference foes. Oregon may have lost both games and fell to 1-2 in the conference, but Planche said she felt the team started the confer-

ence slate on a promising note with the slim 3-2 loss to the Wildcats (45-7, 8-3).

"I think the biggest game of the weekend was the extra-inning loss to Arizona," Planche said. "It was our first game in the Pac-10, and we didn't look intimidated at all. That's important against teams that are ranked so high."

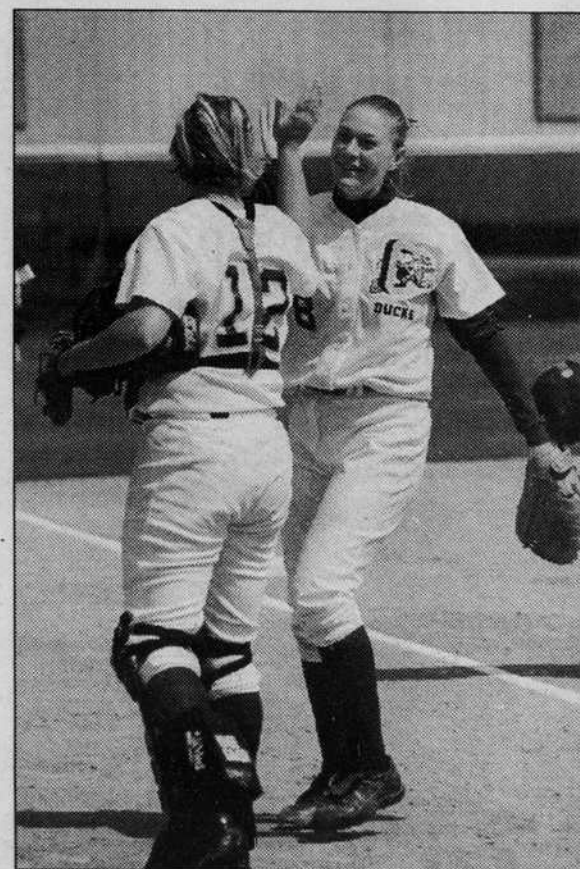
Oregon came back the next day and delivered a 10-0 drubbing of the Sun Devils (38-11, 6-6) before dropping the next game 7-3. But the team is still happy with their performance and is confident for the coming weekend.

"Those outcomes showed that we needed a lot more confidence in conference games," junior Triawn Custer said. "Looking back at those games and knowing that we've improved since then gives us more confidence now."

Custer and Planche agree that their bolstered confidence coupled with home-field advantage will work in the Ducks' favor this time around.

"We definitely have a chance to beat them, especially with

Turn to **Softball**, page 12A



Kevin Calame Emerald
Andrea Vidlund's team leading 1.90 era gives the Ducks confidence going into the weekend.