

# Ducks do not make NCAAs

■ The No. 19 Oregon men's golf team is upset by lower-ranked teams at the West Regionals this weekend

By Peter Hockaday  
for the Emerald

The Oregon men's golf team was a mere stroke away from making it to the NCAA Championships for the third year in a row this weekend at the NCAA West Regionals in Fresno, Calif.

Unfortunately, close only counts in horseshoes, not golf.

In a shocking turn of events, the 19th-ranked Ducks dropped from 10th to 15th on the second day of the regionals and never fully recovered. The top 10 teams from

the regionals advanced to the NCAA Championships later this month.

The Ducks finished tied with Oregon State for 13th.

Three teams finished tied for the all-important 10th spot. California won a trip to the NCAAs from Stanford and Idaho on a three-hole playoff. Oregon finished a stroke behind those three teams, and two strokes behind ninth-place Pepperdine.

"This is one of the biggest sighs of relief," Golden Bear head coach Steve Desimone said. "We were



fortunate."

The Ducks didn't get the consistent performances head coach Steve Nosler professed were the key to Oregon's success at the regionals. Senior co-captain Andrew Tredway shot a final round, two-under par 70 to lead Oregon with a one-under par 215 overall. The Ashland native finished 35th.

Oregon scored a 290 the first round, then a 292 the second round and finished with a 284, but that wasn't enough to propel them into 10th.

Behind Tredway, junior T.J. Duncan shot a one-over par 217, while sophomore Aaron Byers and freshman Chris Carnahan

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## Women

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the NCAAs [in 1993]."

After finishing last at this weekend's conference championships at Hayward Field for the first time ever (title-winner UCLA had 167.5 points, the Ducks had 35.5), next season's Oregon women's squad seems in need of such a change of fortune.

"It took us eight years to get in this situation; hopefully it doesn't take us eight years to get out," Heinonen said. "We've gotta find more athletes. It'll happen, coaches just have to make it happen."

Judging from the weekend's results, it needs to be a dramatic swing.

The Ducks did all they could against the Pacific-10 Conference's elite, despite being physically overpowered in almost every aspect of the weekend Pacific-10 Conference Championship meet.

Endia Abrante, who wasn't listed in the meet's program because of her right-of-entry status, qualified for the 400-meter final and earned three Oregon points with her sixth place finish (55.43 seconds). But the sophomore was admittedly overmatched against some of the conference's national-caliber stars.

"I caught a couple people, so I'm very pleased," said Abrante, who ran her two fastest 400s of the season. "I ran well. My hard work has paid off. No regrets. No regrets."

"Going into it, of course I wanted to win. It just didn't work out that way. But I'm young, I have a lot

to learn. I'm happy to be in the company of these esteemed competitors. It really helps me run fast."

Arizona's Carolyn Jackson won the 400 title in 52.23.

And although Oregon's additional highlights were sparse, they weren't nonexistent.

Eri Macdonald, one of the Ducks' eight freshman involved in championship competition, qualified for the 800 final, where

### NCAA marks

#### Automatic:

Niki Reed: pole vault, 13-1 1/2

#### Provisional:

Katie Crabb: 1,500 meters, 4:19.88

Karis Howell: javelin, 166-4

Maureen Morrison: hammer, 186-6

Holly Speight: pole vault, 12-3 1/2

Mary Etter: discus, 173-11

she finished last in 2:12.51.

Freshmen Mary Etter and Charyl Weingarten shone in the throws. Etter made up for a rocky first day in the hammer throw and shot put by slinging the discus a personal best 173 feet, 11 inches — announced as the 16th-best mark among the nation's collegians and likely enough for a spot at the NCAA Championships.

"I did not know what to expect," Etter said. "I haven't been throwing well lately. It helps a lot [only having competed in one

event Sunday]. You have much more energy going into the event."

Weingarten also came through with a surprisingly strong showing in the javelin: third place, 146-04.

Maureen Morrison, Oregon's all-time leading hammer thrower, finished sixth in her specialty, with a toss of 183-10.

Meanwhile Oregon's big guns — 1,500 runner Katie Crabb, javelin thrower Karis Howell (both ranked top in the conference preceding the meet) and pole vaulter Niki Reed — couldn't overcome conditions or injuries.

After leading much of the way, Crabb took the brunt of the wind in the 1,500 and finished third in a respectable time of 4:21.41.

And then, some of the Ducks were just unlucky. Redshirt freshman Lucretia Larkin, who'd made a habit of PR-ing every race this season since her return from injury, appeared on her way to another such mark when a competitor tripped and rolled into her lane right in front of the finish line.

Larkin found herself unexpectedly having to hurdle once again before crossing the line with an unappealing time of 14.59.

"It's really frustrating to see that time up there when I haven't ran that slow in weeks," a shaken Larkin said. "But I have to settle for that. I don't get another chance."

After consoling one young athlete after the meet, assistant coach Mark Stream waxed positive.

"It was tough," Stream said. "We're young. We're learning. And we'll get better."

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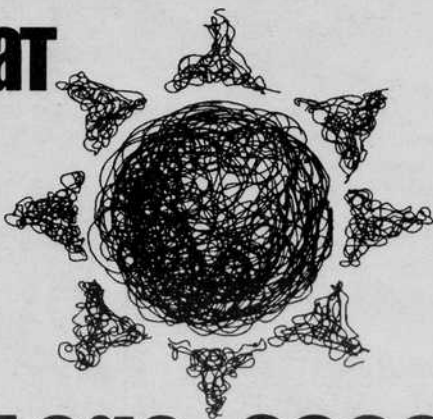
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