

# Golfers break top five on tourney's final day

The men move up three places on the final day in California, while the women drop a spot to ninth at their tournament in Washington

By Peter Hockaday  
Oregon Daily Emerald

The Oregon men's golf team, in college golf terms, is off to a good start.

The Ducks improved three spots on the final day to finish fifth at the Pepperdine Intercollegiate in Ox-

nard, Calif., Tuesday.

After a fifth-place finish at the Northwest Classic to start the season, and a second place finish at the Husky Invitational two weeks ago, the Pepperdine Intercollegiate was a significant milestone for Oregon. It would have been the ninth-straight top-five finish for the Ducks if they hadn't placed 13th at the NCAA West Regionals last May.

For the first time this season, the Ducks failed to take the individual crown at a tournament. After Chris Carnahan won the Northwest Classic and John Ellis won the Husky

Invitational, juniors Aaron Byers and Brandon Harnden tied for 13th at the Pepperdine Intercollegiate.

Carnahan rallied on the final day of the Pepperdine to finish 20th. It was the sophomore's third-straight top-20 finish, something no one else on the team has accomplished this year.

Oregon will have nearly a month to prepare for its next tournament, the Prestige at Palm Desert in Cali-

fornia. That tournament will be the Ducks' last of 2000.

Just as the men were breaking the top five in California, the women were dropping a spot at the Edean Ihlanfeldt Invitational in Redmond, Washington.

The Ducks stagnated on the second day at the Sahalee Country Club, shooting a 316 and allowing California to move into eighth, while Oregon dropped to ninth.

Claire Hunter leads the Ducks in Seattle with a ten-over-par 154 over two rounds, and stands in 23rd

place.

Southern California and Arizona State flip-flopped their scores on the second day of the tournament, but USC managed to hold on to first place. The Trojans shot a 292 on Monday, but a 307 on Tuesday, while the Sun Devils shot a 311 and a 294. When the dust settled, USC led at the end of the day by six strokes.

The Ducks have one more round to play before concluding the Edean Ihlanfeldt Invitational. They start the final round of 18 holes today at 10 a.m.

# Mariners crush New York and contemplate the World Series

By Ronald Blum  
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Freddy Garcia and Seattle's bullpen put the New York Yankees right back in their postseason funk.

Garcia pitched 6 2/3 innings in a six-hitter, and Alex Rodriguez and Rickey Henderson supplied the offense, leading the Mariners over New York 2-0 Tuesday night in the opener of the AL championship series.

Garcia, one of the young pitchers obtained two years ago from Houston in the Randy Johnson trade, allowed just three hits, struck out eight and handled the two-time World Series champions like an old pro.

The 24-year-old right-hander let runners reach third base in the third and fifth innings and escaped a two-on, no-outs jam in the sixth.

With the crowd on its feet,

Mariners manager Lou Piniella stayed with Garcia, who struck out Paul O'Neill and Bernie Williams, then retired David Justice on a fly-out Mike Cameron caught one step in front of the center-field fence.

Jose Paniagua, Arthur Rhodes and Kazuhiro Sasaki combined for three-hit relief, with Sasaki getting three outs for his third save of the playoffs.

With the crowd again on its feet, Williams singled leading off the ninth as Sasaki repeatedly stepped off. Justice struck out, and Tino Martinez singled up the middle to bring up Jorge Posada, who homered off Sasaki twice in three at-bats in the regular season.

But Sasaki got Posada to fly out to right, and Luis Sojo flied out to center to end it.

Seattle pitchers struck out 13, including Derek Jeter three times. The Mariners bullpen has pitched 14 scoreless innings in the postseason.

New York, which hit just .244 and scored only 19 runs in its 3-2 win over Oakland in the division series, was 0-for-8 with runners in scoring position. Sojo and Chuck Knoblauch had two hits each.

After taking a 6-0 lead over the Athletics in the first inning of Game 5, the Yankees have scored one run in their last 17 innings, looking like the tired, old team that lost 15 of its last 18 games during the regular season.

While the Yankees are struggling, the Mariners are hot, spurting with a mixture of youth and experience as they try to get to the World Series for the first time.

Despite trading Ken Griffey Jr. before spring training, they qualified for the playoffs as the wild card, then swept Chicago, the team with the AL's best record, 3-0 in the first round.

Seattle had just five hits off Den-

ny Neagle, Jeff Nelson, Randy Choate and Jason Grimsley, but three of those hits led to runs.

Neagle, bypassed in the first round after ending his regular season with three straight subpar starts, pitched for the first time since Sept. 27, and was wild but pretty effective.

He started six of 32 batters with 3-0 counts but walked just three and gave up three hits.

Neagle kept the game scoreless until the fifth, when Mark McLemore doubled with two outs and Henderson, cast off by the crosstown Mets this spring, slapped a single in the hole between first and second and through into right.

Oakland showed during the first round that O'Neill's arm isn't what it was. O'Neill stutter-stepped as he picked up the ball, and McLemore scored easily ahead of O'Neill's

bouncing throw.

Rodriguez then led off the sixth with a smash that hit high off the screen attached to the left-field foul pole, a massive drive that would have landed in the upper deck if unimpeded.

**Notes:** Pregame introductions were canceled because it was 48 degrees and Yankees owner George Steinbrenner didn't want his players standing out in the cold. ... The teams combined for 22 strikeouts, an ALCS record. ... Jeter ranged from shortstop to make a great over-the-head, inning-ending catch on David Bell's looper to left in the second. ... O'Neill was hit in the right shoulder by a foul ball hit by Jeter while standing behind the plate waiting to bat in the fourth. ... Glennallen Hill pinch hit for O'Neill in the eighth with a runner on first, and Rhodes struck him out. ... Rodriguez's homer was his second in postseason play.

# Celtics star returning to work after stabbing incident

By Howard Ulman  
The Associated Press

WALTHAM, Mass. — Paul Pierce bounced the ball, bent his knees, raised his right arm and shot his free throw. Good.

He moved to the right corner, took two steps toward the baseline and shot a 15-footer. Good.

Then he dribbled to his left, stopped and flicked his hand as he sent another jumper toward the hoop. Good.

The prognosis for Pierce's return to playing soon for the Boston Celtics is very good, considering how, just two weeks ago, he was recovering from surgery after being stabbed several times in a Boston nightclub.

"The wounds that hit me could have easily been one inch left or one inch to the right and I probably wouldn't be here today," he said Tuesday, wearing a hat with the words "Only The Strong Survive"

on the front.

One wound was seven inches deep, and Pierce, stabbed in the chest, had lung damage and underwent surgery the day of the stabbing Sept. 25.

A week later, the Celtics began training camp without him. But since then, he's worked out on a treadmill, shot baskets and participated in light workouts. He wouldn't rule out playing in Boston's season opener Nov. 1 at home against

Detroit.

Pierce, who turns 23 Monday, averaged 19.5 points and was second in the NBA in steals last season, his second in the league.

"He's very close to coming back," Celtics coach Rick Pitino said. "He looks great, feels great. He's a little winded but everything else, I think, is almost normal."

He said he hadn't known the seriousness of his condition until he had undergone surgery and already

was getting better.

"I'm just trying to put it behind me and focus on basketball," he added. "That's what I came to Boston to do and that's what I want to do."

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