

UO tennis ready to shine at Pac-10 tourney

■ The Oregon teams have one last chance to impress the NCAA selection committee

By Robbie McCallum
Oregon Daily Emerald

Three days, 1,000 players, nine teams and four postseason bids on the line. It doesn't get much better than this for tennis.

The Oregon men's and women's tennis teams take on the rest of the Pacific-10 Conference today through Saturday in the heartland of tennis, Ojai, Calif., with the NCAA Tournament in mind.

Four men and three women represent the Ducks in the singles bracket. The rest of the team will participate in the non-qualifying invitational

section. Two doubles teams for both the men and women will also compete for two slots at the NCAA Tournament.

Sophomore Oded Teig leads the men into action. The Holon, Israel, native played the No. 1 singles position for the Ducks all season and leads the team with a 20-15 record. Teig faces California's Balasz Veress in the first round.

Teig is finishing the season strong, with two major upsets this month against ranked opponents.

Freshmen Buck Mink and Martin Pawlowski, along with senior David Becker, will also compete in the championship bracket. The top four finishers automatically qualify for the NCAA's, May 19-20 in Atlanta.

Doubles teams of Becker and Mink

and Teig and Pawlowski will compete in the championship doubles bracket. Becker and Mink (0-4) face Arizona State's Pim van Mele and Olivier Charrion in the first round. Teig and Pawlowski (1-1) meet Arizona State's Nic Dubey and Matt Klinger in the first round.

The Oregon women warmed up for a strong tourney with a regular-season ending match against UCLA Wednesday. The No. 30 Bruins routed the Ducks 6-1, but Oregon had some bright moments.

Junior transfer Vickie Gunnarsson defeated UCLA's Jennifer Donahue in straight sets, 7-5, 6-1 in singles for Oregon's lone points. The doubles team of Adeline Arnaud and Jeanette Mattsson teamed for an 8-5 win over Donahue and Chelsea Godbey.

The Ducks ended the season 5-16 and 0-8 in the conference for ninth place.

Freshman sensation Davina Mendiburu is the top Duck in the singles bracket. The Menton, France, native has a 16-6 season record and faces Washington State's Erica Perkins in the first round.

Junior Janice Nyland finished the season at the No. 1 singles position and is also in the hunt for an NCAA bid. The Davis, Calif., native faces Laresa Marino of Arizona in the first round.

Sophomore Monika Geiczys will face UCLA's Petya Marinova to round out the Oregon singles contingent.

In doubles play, the No. 49-ranked duo of Geiczys and freshman Courtney Nagle is the Ducks' top team. The

10-16 team faces the Washington team of Claire Carter and Ilona Kordonskaya in the first round. Nagle leads the team in singles wins but was held out of that bracket to focus on doubles play.

Mendiburu and Nyland represent Oregon's other doubles team. The 9-13 team faces UCLA's Mariko Fritz-Krockow and Sara Walker.

Singles play takes place today through Saturday, while doubles play begins Friday. The invitational section also begins Friday.

The blockbuster meet runs in conjunction with the Big West Championships, the California High School Championships, the Division III Regionals and a prestigious amateur invitational.

Padres' Henderson walks past the Babe into first

By Bernie Wilson
The Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — The Man of Steel lifted a record from the Sultan of Swat.

Rickey Henderson, who's usually in a head-first hurry, took a leisurely stroll to first base Wednesday for his 2,063rd walk, breaking the record he shared for a day with Babe Ruth.

It was just a day earlier that Henderson matched the record.

Always able to inject a bit of swagger into the moment, Henderson, 42, took off his batting helmet Tuesday and waved to the cheering crowd as a small burst of fireworks went off.

The walks record might seem somewhat mundane next to Henderson's many other accom-

plishments, but it's notable for a pretty big reason — the Babe.

"The name comes to mind and you think about the greatest baseball player that played the game, the guy that probably kept this game alive for so many years," said Henderson, who's been baseball's career stolen base leader for a decade.

"He's Mr. Baseball. Once you get in the catego-

ry of a Babe Ruth, it means that you went out and you did the best job you can do."

Tony Gwynn, who like Henderson is a probable Hall of Famer, laughs too, but only because his teammate's latest milestone seems a bit surreal.

"Babe Ruth is like the icon of this game," Gwynn said. "To be chasing one of his records, man, it's hard to put it in perspective."

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Horoscope by Linda C. Black

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (April 26). You can make a lot of money this year if you make wealth your top priority. If you have any bills, that's how you'll spend your newfound riches. Yes, you can be debt-free. Devise your financial plan in May, and play by your own rules in June. There's plenty of love in July, and you won't go hungry, either. Stick to your routine through summer and fall. In December, your biggest gift is to yourself. You've earned a raise by February. Spend April fantasizing about how to spend it.

To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) - Today is a 7 - Hide out somewhere where you can concentrate. There's something you need in that pile of paperwork you've been accumulating. You'll be upset if you miss the deadline, so don't put it off any longer.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) - Today is a 6 - Your dreams can come true. Sometimes it takes planning and hard work. Sometimes it doesn't, but having those disciplines can't hurt. Keep track of the pennies. When you have them all rounded up, make your choice.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21) - Today is a 7 - You may have to pull rank. Others don't know who you are, but it's not their fault. You've been hiding out, resting. You were getting ready for a moment that's fast approaching. Don't worry: You'll find the right word. Just say "no."

CANCER (June 22-July 22) - Today is a 6 - You have a lot to think about. You might have some paperwork to catch up on, too. Stay informed. That will give you more to work with when it gets to be your turn tomorrow.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) - Today is a 7 - Socially, things couldn't be better. Romantically, there could be problems. If you get too busy with your friends, your sweetheart might get jealous. You can't be two places at the same time, but you can make a schedule and stick to it.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) - Today is a 6 - Welcome back to someone else's version of reality. He or she has all sorts of ideas about how you should spend your time. It may be a bit uncomfortable to squeeze into the old routine. You've grown.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) - Today is an 8 - You've entered a new phase. Even when you're relaxed, you're taking care of business. It'll be easy once you get used to it. You'll have more structure in your life, but that can be a comfort. Relax.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) - Today is a 4 - Continue working on your calculations. You can find the money to complete a household project, just the way you imagined. This isn't easy, but you knew it wouldn't be. Sharpen your pencils.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) - Today is a 6 - If you don't already have a good partner, get one. It should be obvious which person would be best for you. Actually, he or she may be hollering at you, so stop thinking for a moment and start listening.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) - Today is a 7 - You should have your routine pretty well memorized by now. That makes it pretty easy, but don't doze off. Something you hadn't expected could throw a wrench into the machinery.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) - Today is a 6 - Something a favorite person says will let you know you're loved. Sure, you already knew that. But just in case you forgot, it's nice to be reminded. This person may not come right out and say it directly, but you'll know.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) - Today is a 6 - There's certainly a lot going on today. You might be tempted to jump right into the middle of the confusion. You'll be more helpful if you stand off to one side and make practical comments. That will make you look much wiser, too.

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