

Men's golf wants history on its side at Pac-10s

Oregon hopes to place high at the Pac-10 Championships

By Peter Hockaday
Oregon Daily Emerald

For the past few weeks, the No. 20 Oregon men's golf team's season has been like a scary movie: Most of the time it has been tranquil and normal, then all of a sudden a freak round will come out of nowhere to screw them up.

As the Ducks prepared for the Pacific-10 Conference Championships, which run today through Sunday at the Stanford Golf Course in Palo Alto, Calif., they wondered which

team would show up this time.

Will it be the team that played solid golf to blow out the tough field and take first at the Western Intercollegiate April 3?

Or will it be the team that played terribly against an equally talented pool of teams, and finished 19th at the Thunderbird Invitational a week after that?

Or could it possibly be the team that stood in second-place after two rounds at the U.S. Intercollegiate last weekend before dropping to seventh on the final day?

However they may play, there is no better place for the Ducks to turn their

momentum around than the Pac-10 Championships. Oregon has a history of playing well at the Pac-10s, from a fourth-place finish there last year to Pac-10 crowns in 1976 and '77. A win or a strong showing would give the Ducks momentum heading into the rest of the postseason.



But it may be hard for any Pac-10 team to dethrone Arizona State. The Sun Devils have won the past six Pac-10 titles, and are ranked fifth in the country — highest of all

the Pac-10 schools. The Devils are led by Eugene native and U.S. Amateur Champion Jeff Quinney, who is ranked 12th nationally.

The Sun Devils should be challenged by No. 6 Southern California and No. 18 Arizona. Oregon is the fourth-highest ranked Pac-10 team at No. 20, while No. 29 Washington, No. 36 California, No. 38 UCLA, No. 41 Stanford, Oregon State and Washington State round out the field.

"Top to bottom, the Pac-10 has become stronger and stronger," Oregon head coach Steve Nosler said. "It's really up for grabs."

The Ducks got a chance to see the

Pac-10 competition and the Stanford golf course last weekend at the U.S. Intercollegiate. Oregon played two rounds of sub-par golf before a disastrous final day dropped them to seventh.

The Ducks will be led at the Pac-10s by sophomore John Ellis, who is ranked 98th in the country and is the team's stroke leader. Aaron Byers and Chris Carnahan are right behind Ellis, while Matt Genovese, Brandon Harnden and Mike Sica round out the team.

Oregon will start play today with two 18-hole rounds, then play 18-hole rounds Saturday and Sunday.

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Horoscope by Linda C. Black

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (April 27). There's a lot of money coming in this year, and a lot going out. Pay off the bills, then push through into long-term prosperity. You're extra shrewd in May, especially when it comes to savings. Devise your financial strategy then. Looks like you have money to burn in June, but stash it away instead. In July, another person's admiration confirms that you're on the right track. Enjoy simple pleasures in September, and make a bold move in December. Your practicality is rewarded in February, and a dream comes true in April.

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 5 - Domestic plans are apt to go awry, so be flexible. Try not to let your feelings be hurt if a roommate doesn't share your passion. Listen to the other person's objections, and take them into consideration. This story most likely has a happy ending.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) - Today is a 7 - You could have a slight twinge of buyer's remorse, especially if you've recently done something exceptionally nice for yourself. If you haven't, well, go do it. You can shrug off that little twinge of guilt.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21) - Today is a 6 - You're perfectly positioned to win another round of the debate. If you've been doing your homework, as previously recommended, your competition doesn't stand a chance. You may have to give up something to score, however. Is it worth the cost?

CANCER (June 22-July 22) - Today is a 7 - Hold back before playing your ace. You might not have to play it at all. You're right, and that's becoming increasingly obvious. You might look even better if you let them figure it out for themselves.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) - Today is a 6 - The morning is best for meetings, phone calls and dispersing information. Once that's done, hide out. Concentrate in order to get a major assignment finished. But do not, under any circumstances, forget to make that one special call you promised to make.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) - Today is a 7 - Get the chores out of the way as soon as possible. You're just not in the mood to be a workaholic any more. And, if you've got your routine down pat by now, you won't need to. Leave them happy, and get out in time to go boogying with your buddies.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) - Today is a 7 - You need to stretch your legs - and your wings. Can you find a good reason to do so - one that's tax deductible? Perfect! Don't just play hooky. There will be a pop quiz, and you need to be there for it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) - Today is a 6 - Don't be dismayed if you can't quite get everything to pencil out. The game isn't over yet. A change of scenery would be perfect for tomorrow. Start on that project tonight, and let the other wait for a while.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) - Today is a 6 - You may have to give up a little of your authority. It's important, and it doesn't have to be painful. You must empower your assistant to make independent decisions. It's all about trust. But of course, don't be an idiot. Check this person out!

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) - Today is a 7 - You've been hustling for the past few days. You might even meet your deadline early. That would be great, because you need a break. You need some luxury and a few sensual pleasures. Set it up.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) - Today is a 5 - Love may manifest itself in a strange way. Instead of getting what you want, you may feel rejected. Don't take it personally. Try again another time, like Sunday evening or Monday.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) - Today is a 7 - You'll find it easier to relax after the crowd thins out. Meanwhile, be careful with a purchase. Keep the receipt in case you got the wrong color or size. Such a mistake is highly likely.

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