

U.S. hockey team overpowers Belarus, 8-1 Sports briefs

By Nicholas J. Cotsonika
Knight Ridder Newspapers

WEST VALLEY CITY, Utah (KRT) — For a period Monday, there was drama. Belarus scored 20 seconds into the game, and as much as Red Wings forward Brett Hull and the U.S. men's hockey team scrambled to respond, they couldn't put a puck past a goaltender named Andrei Mezin.

A. Mezin was amazin'. But then Hull scored a breakthrough goal 46 seconds into the second period, and there was drama no more. Hull assisted on the next two goals as the Americans went on to rout Belarus, 8-1, and win their group. They earned the right to face the last-place team in the other group, Germany, in the quarterfinals Wednesday.

"It's not a given game," said U.S. captain Chris Chelios, a Wings defenseman. "But right now, to play Germany is better than playing the Czech Republic or Russia or Cana-

da or Sweden. Momentum-builder, hopefully. We've been building momentum this whole tournament here, and hopefully we can keep going."

But just after the opening face-off, the Belarussians skated around the U.S. zone, and the Americans stood around and watched. Dmitry Pankov took the game's first shot — and scored, beating Barrasso cleanly.

"Maybe it was a wake-up call," Barrasso said. "After that, we realized that it wasn't going to be given to us, that we had to work hard."

Spurred, the Americans blitzed Belarus. But in their way was Mezin, who played so well that reporters raced to read his Olympic bio. For the record, Mezin is a 27-year-old from Minsk. He is 180 centimeters tall. He weighs 77 kilograms. He plays for the Berlin Capitals of the German Elite League. He "enjoys fishing."

The Americans took 15 shots in

the first period, several of them dangerous. Hull had perhaps the hardest luck. About five minutes in, Hull ended up in front with the puck. Alone. But he was in too close, he had no net to shoot at, and he fired the puck right into Mezin's glove.

"You'd like to stay positive and think it's going to come," Hull said. Little more than midway through the first, Hull's helmet came off. According to international rules, he had to put it back on or go to the bench immediately. He put it back on. But he didn't put on his chin-strap. Referee Stephen Walkom sent Hull off for "illegal equipment," and Hull was not happy.

"I put it on," Hull said. "No one said it had to look good."

Walkom explained to Hull that he had no choice but to make the call. First shift of the second period, Hull took two shots at the net. First one went wide. Second one went into Mezin's body. What was going on? But then Hull,

whose goal with 4:30 left Saturday night gave the Americans a 2-2 tie with Russia, took out his frustration with a shot from the high slot. No matter. It went past Mezin. The game was tied, 1-1.

"It was huge," U.S. forward Tony Amonte said.

"Because," Hull said, "the longer it goes with them up, 1-0, the tighter people get. You just need to get that first one."

John LeClair, who had a hat trick Friday night in a 6-0 victory over Finland, scored twice in the second. In the third, Bill Guerin and Scott Young each scored twice, Adam Deadmarsh once. Hull finished with eight shots, the Americans 48. Belarus had 13. Afterward, Hull was hanging out in the hall when Mezin walked by.

"Great job, guy," Hull said.

"Nice goal," Mezin said.

© 2002, Detroit Free Press. Distributed by Knight Ridder/Tribune Information Services.

Cho finishes 14th at San Diego tournament

Kathy Cho's 6-over 79 Monday wasn't pretty, but it was good enough to give the senior from Honolulu, Hawaii, her best finish as a Duck. Cho tied for 14th at 159 as the Oregon women's golf team finished 17th at the Lady Aztec Invitational, played at the 6,040-yard, par-73 Lake San Marcos Country Club.

Cho's previous best finish was a tie for 19th at the 2000 Hawaii Fall Classic. Cho's 79 Monday was one of just 24 sub-80 rounds turned in as bad weather continued to plague the tournament. Freshman Jess Carlyon finished 65th at 170, sophomore Lacy Erickson was tied for 77th at 173 and junior Annie Davis, making her UO golf debut after spending the last two-and-a-half years on the track team, tied for 85th at 176.

First round leader Colorado State held on to win the team title with a 626. The Rams defeated Washington by two strokes.

— from staff and wire reports

ALL YOU CAN EAT
SPAGHETTI
& garlic bread
\$3.50
Every Tuesday
PIZZA PETE'S
2506 Willakenzie 344-0998
Oasis Plaza
2673 Willamette 484-0996
27th and Willamette

Premier Travel
• Airfare Specials •
New Orleans - \$198.00*
Tampa - \$198.00*
Mexico City - \$450.00*
Paris - \$650.00*
*tax not included, restrictions may apply. Subject to change without notice.
UO Authorized Agency!
E-mail: fares@luv2travel.com
1011 Harlow
747-0909
Student Travel Experts

look into the
ODE Classifieds
346-4343

Beavers

continued from page 5

on Thursday and then a 94-89 decision at Southern California.

Just like that, first place was out of their hands and was now being shared by USC, Stanford at Oregon with 10-4 league records, while the Wildcats stand a half-game back at 10-5. Below Arizona is California and UCLA at 9-5.

Arizona head coach Lute Olson knows that two losses on the road doesn't eliminate his team in this wacky conference race, especially with just one game separating all six teams. The Ducks lost two overtime decisions in the Bay Area, fell out of first, and then beat Oregon State on Saturday to jump right back to the top.

In Olson's eyes, his Wildcats still have an advantage since they close out the regular season at the McKale Center.

"I think the league champ or co-champs will be in that position as a result of the last game a week from Saturday," Olson said Monday. "When you take a look at the schedules, we're fortunate to have three games at home. This week, USC and UCLA are up in the Bay Area, and the last weekend Oregon is at USC and UCLA."

"The teams that are bunched in the top six will be meeting one another through the next two weeks."

Arizona may be in Tucson for the rest of the season, but it won't necessarily be smooth sailing. The Wildcats face an always dangerous Arizona State team Wednesday and then close things out a week later with Stanford and California.

The Sun Devils are coming off a 69-68 upset at UCLA and have already beat the Wildcats, 88-72, on Jan. 24.

"I was impressed when we played them up there," Olson said. "They are playing very well. Defensively, they get after you. They are a very aggressive team."

Arizona's two road losses were a rarity for the Wildcats. Under Olson, it was just the seventh time in 72 Pac-10 road trips that the Wildcats have been swept.

Polls and honor rolls

Five Pac-10 teams showed up in Monday's Associated Press top-25 poll with the Ducks climbing two spots to No. 15.

Stanford heads the class at No. 10 while Arizona's weekend losses dropped it to No. 14. USC and UCLA swapped positions from a week ago, as the Trojans jumped five spots to No. 20 and the Bruins barely made the poll at the 25th spot.

Also announced Monday was the Pac-10 player of the week award, which went to USC's David Bluthenthal, who averaged 26 points and almost 10 rebounds during two wins over the Arizona schools.

Bluthenthal was the first Trojan to receive the award this season, leaving the Ducks as the only team in the Pac-10 to not yet have a player honored.

ASU ends streak, loses SID

Arizona State accomplished something that Oregon hopes to do later this season. The Sun Devils



Thomas Patterson Emerald

Oregon State guard Jimmie Haywood, guarding James Davis, played his final game in a Beaver uniform in Saturday's loss at Oregon.

ended a long drought of losses at UCLA with their 69-68 victory Saturday.

The last time Arizona State had won at Pauley Pavilion was on Feb. 16, 1987. Similarly, Oregon's last victory at UCLA came on Feb. 9, 1984.

One employee of the Arizona State athletic department wasn't around for the conclusion Saturday, though. ASU sports information director Doug Tammaro was ejected from the game with seven seconds left for reportedly offending official Charles Range while protesting his calls.

Bracketology

Oregon's seed and its opponent stayed the same, but the location and the date of its game changed.

In this week's "Bracketology" on ESPN.com, where the entire NCAA Tournament field is projected, the Ducks remain a fifth-seed and have a first round match-up with 12th-seeded Mississippi State.

The teams are predicted to meet in Dallas, Texas, on March 15.

E-mail assistant sports editor Jeff Smith at jeffsmith@dailyemerald.com.

Summer Employment
Glacier National Park
Montana
Apply Today!
Interviewing On Campus March 4th
The Resort at Glacier, St. Mary Lodge
For information call:
1-800-368-3689
Apply Online @ www.glacienparkjobs.com

HELP WANTED
University of Oregon
Community Internship Program
2002-2003 POSITIONS
Executive Director
Associate Director
Office Manager
Events Coordinator
Marketing Coordinator
Public Relations Coordinator
Community Outreach Coordinator
Public Schools Division Head
Building Blocks Division Head
Outdoor School Division Head
Leadership Division Head
Mentorship Division Head
Human Services Division Head
PICK UP AN APPLICATION TODAY!!
Stop by our office located in the **EMU breezeway**, give us a call at **346-4351** or send us an email intern@darkwing.uoregon.edu

Kraayeveld

continued from page 5

game and leads the team in shooting (.514).

The Player of the Week honor is the first of Kraayeveld's career and

27th all time for the women's team. Jamie Craighead was the only Duck to earn Player of the Week honors last year.

Kraayeveld heads home to Seattle this weekend as the Ducks end their regular season against Wash-

ington on Saturday. Oregon (14-11 overall, 9-7 Pac-10) defeated the Huskies (16-9, 11-5) at McArthur Court on Dec. 28.

E-mail sports editor Adam Jude at adamjude@dailyemerald.com.