

Sports briefs

Woods named Athlete of Week

Oregon sophomore Trevor Woods on Monday became the second Duck this season to win the Pacific-10 Conference's men's field event Athlete of the Week honor.

The All-American from Coos Bay was rewarded for his win and first career 18-foot clearance in the pole vault (18-0 1/2) in the Oregon-Washington dual meet Saturday. Heading into last weekend's action, only two other vaulters nationally had met or bettered the 5.50-meter equivalent mark this season.

Woods' effort moved him to fourth all-time for the Ducks and also one of only four ever to clear the 18-foot barrier. The conference pole vault leader in 2002 also had

NCAA provisional 17-6 1/2 clearances in his two prior outdoor stops. Indoors in March, he upped his then-PR to 17-11 3/4 for third in the NCAA Championships in March — the same height as the winner but with more misses.

Last season, Woods took fourth as a freshman in the 2001 Pac-10 Championships (17-3) and was one of two freshmen invited to the NCAA Outdoor Championships.

Other winners Monday from the remaining three men's and women's categories included Washington's Eric Garner (men's track — 800 — 1:50.80; 1,500 — 3:43.40), USC's Nakiya Johnson (women's track — 400 — 52.30) and Arizona's Brianna Glenn (women's field — long jump — 21-5; 100 — 11.36).

In the award's second edition of the 2002 outdoor season, Woods

followed the lead of teammate and redshirt junior John Stiegeler, who won the honor a week prior. The fellow Coos Bay native won the javelin in the Texas Relays on April 6 with a first attempt effort and NCAA automatic mark of 242-11, barely four feet short of his season best and national-leading mark of 247-0. Stiegeler, however, tore a ligament in his left knee in the competition and will sit out the remainder of the season.

The Duck men and women look forward this week to the Mt. SAC Relays, scheduled to begin Thursday in Walnut, Calif. The Ducks will likely enter decathletes Billy Pappas and Jason Slye and heptathlete Jenny Kenyon in combined event competitions starting Thursday at nearby Azusa Pacific University.

—from staff and wire reports

Tennis

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focus solely on education.

"Greg didn't feel he was doing well enough in his major," Russell said. "He felt thought that tennis was getting in the way, and so he chose to quit the team."

Oregon has one final opportunity to win a Pac-10 match at the Washington Huskies on Saturday.

"We felt we should have beaten USC," Menke said. "This weekend was a gauge for us to see what level we're playing at right now and it's pretty high. If we practice (this) week with intensity and play like we did this weekend, then we can pull of an upset up there."

UO women extend win streak to five

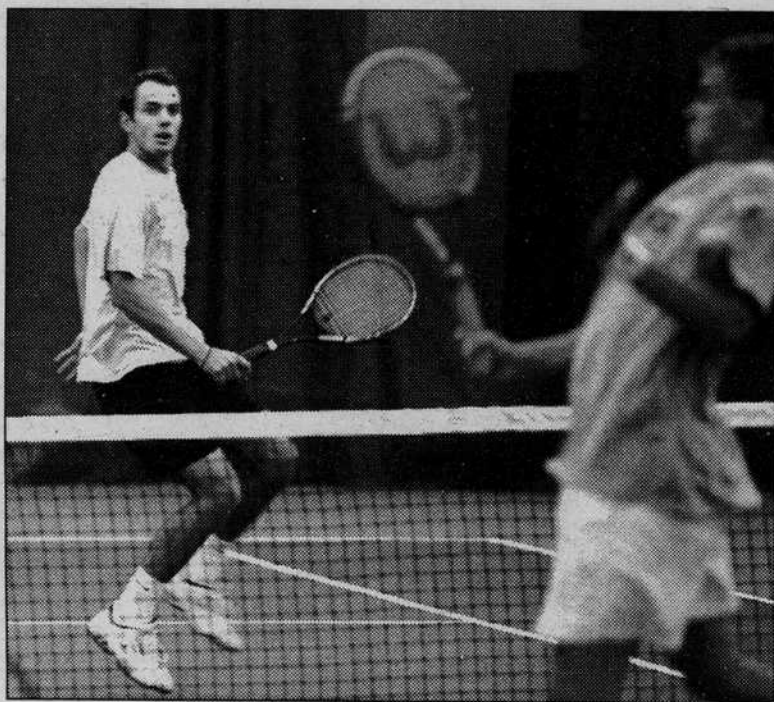
The Oregon women's tennis team played well in Louisiana and increased its winning streak to five matches.

The No. 54 Ducks beat No. 44 Louisiana State and No. 56 Tulane to improve to 12-9 overall.

Against Tulane, Oregon won four out of six singles matches to win 4-3. The team lost two out of three doubles matches to lose the doubles point.

Freshman Daria Panova lost 6-1, 6-2 in her fifth match as a Duck. Junior Monika Gieczys lost 4-6, 6-3, 6-3 in the No. 2 spot for the only other loss of the day.

Senior Janice Nyland, senior Vickie Gunnarsson, sophomore Davina Mendiburu and sophomore Courtney Nagle all notched victories.



Thomas Patterson Emerald

Oregon's Sven Swinnen (left), a native of Switzerland, rips a shot past a UCLA opponent Sunday. Swinnen and doubles partner Oded Teig lost the match 8-5.

"We were really solid at the bottom of our singles lineup," Oregon head coach Jack Griffin said. "We were extremely pleased with our level of play."

Oregon beat LSU, 5-2, Saturday to begin the two-game road trip.

The Ducks struggled again in doubles, losing two of three, but won five singles matches.

"We came out fired up after losing the point in doubles," assistant coach Nils Schyllander said. "We had a great match beating a very good LSU

team on their home courts."

Panova upset No. 65 Bruna Colasio at No. 1 singles to lead Oregon.

"This was a great win for Daria, over a three-time All-American," Schyllander said.

The Ducks have two matches left this season. They will try to win their first Pac-10 match in two years at home against Washington and Washington State this weekend.

Peter Martini is a freelance reporter for the Emerald.

Yankees, Pettitte go down in Boston

By Anthony McCarron
New York Daily News

BOSTON (KRT) — This would be another Red Sox heartbreak, wouldn't it? Even with Andy Pettitte in the clubhouse with an elbow injury that could loom over the rotation, after another crucial fielding mistake had socked them in the gut and another poor hitting day from several principles, the Yankees still had a chance to beat Boston in the ninth inning Monday.

Against Boston's erratic closer, Ugueth Urbina, whom the Yankees tried to trade for last year, they attempted to make up a one-run deficit, getting runners on second and third with one out.

But Rondell White, who by his own admission "was terrible" Monday, struck out. So did John Vander Wal, who thought the full-count pitch he watched go by was outside. Instead of a rally-extending walk, Vander Wal had to walk back to the dugout, dejected and angry, as the Red Sox celebrated a 4-3 victory at Fenway.

The Yankees' Boston bummer was a Patriots' Day weekend that ended with the Yanks' third loss in the four-game series against their rivals — all by one run. Throughout the series, the Red Sox won the kind of games that the Yankees usually do.

Derek Lowe, the Sox closer most of last year who is now in the rotation, pitched seven terrific innings Monday, allowing just two hits and one run. He struck out a career-high nine, crushing the already-fading Yankee hopes for a solid road trip.

The Yankees had won the first two games of the eight-game trip that ended Monday. But they've lost five of their last six. "When you start 2-0, you have higher aspirations than coming back 3-5," New York manager Joe Torre said.

It seemed like the Yankees might even the series and the road trip when Derek Jeter homered in the eighth inning, a

two-run shot that pulled them to within a run. Jeter had boot-ed a grounder by Tony Clark in the first inning that loaded the bases and helped the Red Sox add a run.

But Jeter's homer, his second of the year, gave the Yankees life. In the ninth, Jorge Posada singled and Robin Ventura doubled before White (0-for-4, 4 Ks) and Vander Wal struck out.

No one in the Yankee clubhouse believed that the 3-2 pitch to Vander Wal had nipped the corner. Several Yankees may have strayed near fine territory with their appraisals of Larry Young's call.

"It was maybe a foot outside," Torre said. "It's too bad. I'm not an umpire-complainer, but there's not much you can do about it. That one was real bad."

"Just take a look at the replay, that's all I can say," Vander Wal said. "It was a big ballgame. They're all big ballgames to us."

"In my opinion, it was a ball. There's no doubt in my mind. But I'm not the one calling balls and strikes."

Vander Wal was asked if the ball tailed away from him. "You could say that," he replied.

Meanwhile, Torre also seemed to be sensitive about the Yanks' fielding, which cost the team repeatedly over the weekend. The Yankees entered Monday with the most errors and worst fielding percentage in the American League.

"You make a couple of errors in a key spot, everybody thinks it's a terminal disease," Torre said.

Losing to the Red Sox certainly would be. It's bad enough that Sox manager Grady Little thought that his team got a charge out of winning this series.

"I think, as it turns out, it's going to mean a lot around here," Little said. "As close as they were and to come out on top makes it mean a lot."

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