

## SPORTS

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Best Bet  
NHL playoffs:  
Colorado at San Jose  
7 p.m., ESPN



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## Oregon's Nyland recognized for sportsmanship

■ Janice Nyland, who will lead the Ducks into the NCAA Tournament, is one of eight finalists for national award

By Peter Martini  
for the Emerald

For the past four years, senior Janice Nyland has been the heart and soul of the Oregon women's tennis team.

Now she's getting national recognition for it. Nyland received the Regional ITA Cissie Leary Award for Sportsmanship and is one of eight finalists for the national award.

"I was surprised," said Nyland, an Oregon co-captain. "I try to be professional and represent the team well when I'm on the court, and to get an award for doing it is a huge honor."

When Nyland came to Oregon in 1998, she found herself near the bottom of the lineup. She started the year playing in the No. 4 spot but eventually competed at No. 2. She finished 15-19 that year in singles.

"I was the worst player on the team, but I wanted to learn," said Nyland, a Davis, Calif., native who has a 60-68 career singles record. "I did learn a lot, mostly how to be receptive to coaches and how to take criticism."

Head coach Jack Griffin said Nyland's attitude and work ethic make his job easier.

"She has high expectations for her coaches, herself and her teammates," Griffin said. "She pushes us all to do better, which makes us a better team."

Nyland's teammates said they appreciate the sometimes-brutal honesty she brings to the team.

"She's very opinionated, and she'll tell you how it is," sophomore Courtney Nagle said. "It's one thing to hear it from a coach, but hearing it from a player, it really reaches you in a different way. It means more coming from a peer."

Nyland's most significant performance this year came at home against Washington. The Ducks, riding a two-year winless streak in the Pacific-10 Conference at the time, and the Huskies were tied 3-3 with Nyland's match left unfinished. Down 5-4 in the third set, she battled back to win 7-6 and give Oregon the emotional win.

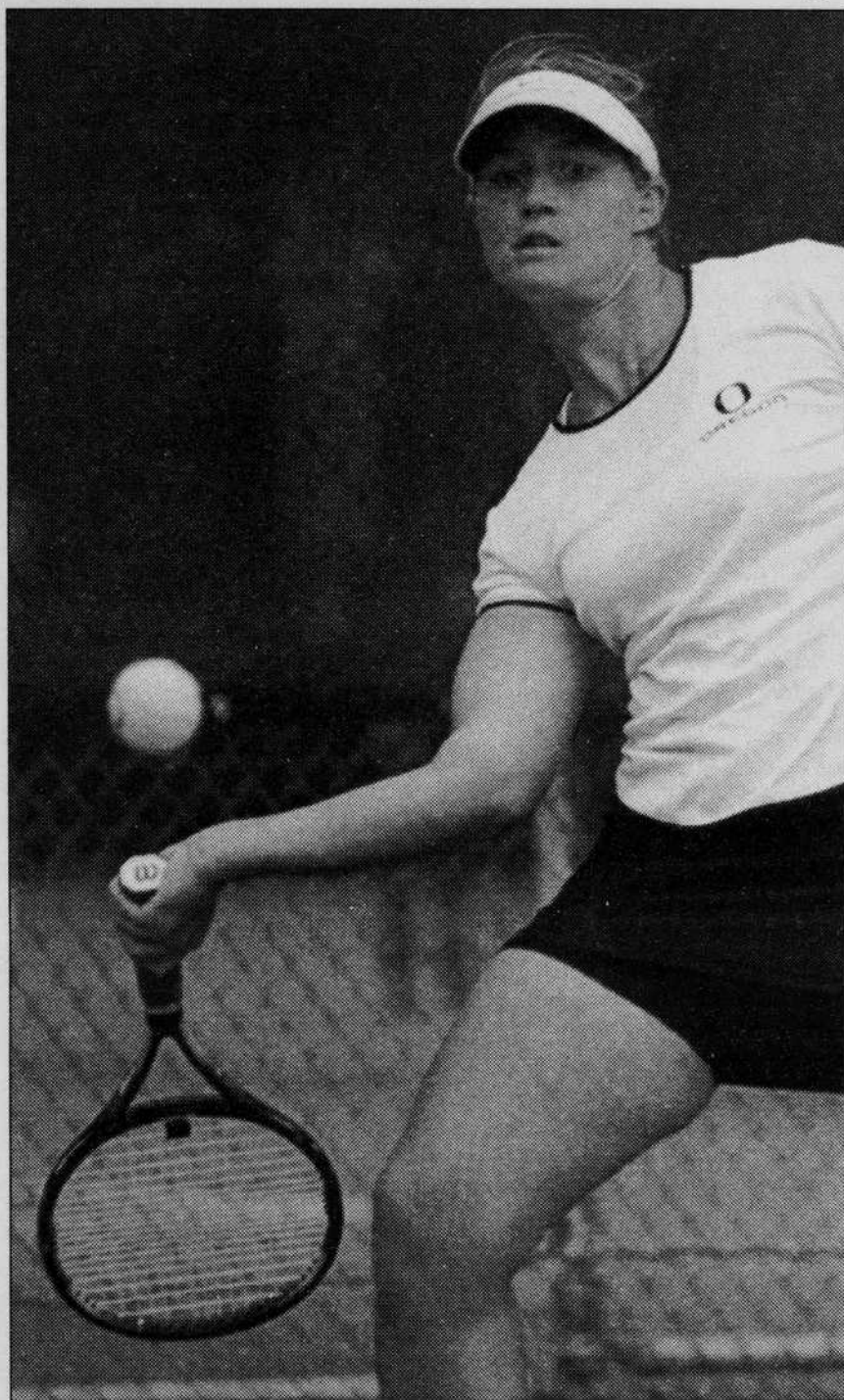
"That match against Washington signified Janice as a player," Griffin said. "She is a strong leader."

Leadership and teamwork are aspects of tennis that Nyland, who is majoring in biology and computer science, said she will take into the professional world. With another year of school left, she is searching for a summer internship.

"The NCAA doesn't allow us to work, so I'm behind in job experience," said Nyland, who would like to work as a software designer or bio-technologist. "But I will take many important things from tennis into my career, like teamwork, communication and being goal-oriented."

On Saturday, Nyland will take these qualities into the

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Jonathan House Emerald

Senior Janice Nyland, an honorable mention all Pac-10 selection, is one of eight finalists for the national Cissie Leary Award for Sportsmanship.

## Logsdon will wait to decide on Pac-10

■ Eric Logsdon, the shoeless wonder, qualified for the Pac-10 Championships in two events, but will only compete in one

By Peter Hockaday  
Oregon Daily Emerald

So, when Eric Logsdon ran part of the Cardinal Invite 5,000-meter race with only one shoe Friday, it turns out he was almost used to it.

Losing a shoe has happened twice before to Logsdon, who ran the fastest Oregon freshman 5,000 time in 22 years despite his equipment shortage. It happened to him in a cross country

meet in Minnesota this past year, where he ran the last 4 1/2 miles with one shoe. It happened once in high school.

So when he was running in a pack on Friday, and one of his opponents clipped his heel, Logsdon's

reaction was to keep running.

And how fast he ran. His time was the fastest outdoor mark for a Duck this season, and remarkably came in Logsdon's first-ever 5,000. Still, the time came as a surprise to everyone but Logsdon himself.

"We've been training for the 5K for a while," Logsdon said. "So it was nice to get out there and run it."

Now Logsdon has a dilemma: to run the 1,500 or the 5,000? He qualified for the Pacific-10 Championships in both

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Jonathan House Emerald

Portland State first baseman Alayna Peterson, left, lunges for Oregon's Jenn Poore during Game 2 of the April 24 doubleheader at Howe Field.

## UO softball trying to find right mix

■ With three games left, Oregon alters its lineup to find most productive offense

By Chris Cabot  
Oregon Daily Emerald

There is little debate that the Oregon softball team is struggling against the rest of the teams in the top softball conference in the country — their record of 1-17 tells the story of a long Pacific-10 Conference season. So first-year head coach Brent Rincon has been trying to shake things up.

"The lineup has changed dramatically over time," Rincon said. "We as coaches try to find the right combination of kids that are hot and can be productive."

Throughout most of the season, Rincon and his two assistant coaches kept the top four spots somewhat steady with Alyssa Laux, Lynsey Haij, Andrea Vidlund and Jenn Poore. In the past few games, Rincon's lineup changes have included moving Vidlund, who leads the team with eight home runs, down to the No. 7 spot and Poore down to No. 8. Freshman Mari Lyn Petrick and junior Janell Bergstrom — who was 2-for-3 with a run scored in a 2-1 loss to No. 1 UCLA on Friday — have been hitting well lately, so in the last game against Washington on Sunday, they hit in the third and fourth

slots, respectively. Oregon failed to score a run.

Lakeesha Eversley, who was hitting near the top of the order at the start of the season, now fights for playing time with Amber Hutchison.

"We haven't had the kind of productivity from some of the players that has allowed us to have a set lineup," Rincon said. "We'd still, with three games remaining, like to settle on a set lineup, but we play who coaches think are hot and who can be productive."

### Going down fighting

Although Oregon's conference record is 1-17, many of the contests have been close. Kristi Hall, who was honored with fellow senior Connie McMurren prior to the Ducks' final home game Sunday, said the Ducks will be heading down to California for their last three games with an intense determination.

"There's a lot of teams that doubt our record, and that is fair to say considering our record," Hall said. "But we have some of the best hitters, best defensive players and best pitchers in the country, and we are going to go out whether our record is 40-2 or 2-40 and play just as hard as if it was a championship game."

### Around the Pac

For the second week in a row, UCLA catcher Stacey

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