

Ducks finish 12th in Hawaii tournament

Freshman Therese Wenslow ties for 16th overall at the Rainbow Wahine Fall Classic

Jon Roetman
Freelance Sports Reporter

Oregon freshman Therese Wenslow continued her impressive rookie campaign Wednesday, as she finished in a tie for 16th place at the Rainbow Wahine Fall Classic.

Wenslow fired a final round, 3-over-par 75, helping the Oregon women's golf team to a 12th place finish on the

Kapolei Golf Course. Wenslow's 75, along with rounds of 72 and 76 on Tuesday, put her at 223, eight strokes off the lead. Sophomore Johnna Nealy also finished in the top 40 with a 14-over 230.

"There were a lot of positives that can be taken from this tournament," Oregon head coach Shannon Rouillard said. "Johnna and Therese both had a solid tournament and are becoming players who we can count on."

The Ducks finished with a 67-over 931, 61 strokes behind tournament

winner California, ranked 11th nationally. No. 21 UCLA was in second with an 888, followed by Stanford at 893 and defending champion New Mexico at 898. San Francisco capped the top five with a 901. No. 25 New Mexico State finished seventh at 909. Tournament host Hawaii ended the day in 17th with a 963. The Ducks failed to break 300 in each of the three rounds.

Stanford senior Kim Rowton won individual honors, and was the only golfer to finish under par, carding a 1-

under 215. California senior Ria Quiazon and Texas A&M sophomore Nicole Melton tied for second with 1-over 217's. New Mexico's Kailin Downs and California's Sophia Sheridan round out the top five. Oregon senior Annie Davis, who joined the team last winter after two seasons on Oregon's track and field team, finished a career best 51st with a 235.

"Annie's game has come a long way," Rouillard said. "She's been with us less than a year and it's been especially satisfying to watch her blossom."

Junior Lacy Erickson, making her fall debut as a member of the top five after a long bout with mononucleosis, finished in 71st with a 243, including rounds of 78, 82 and 83. Sophomore Jess Carlyon ended the day in 89th with a 259.

The Ducks' last tournament of the fall will be the UNLV Founder's Day Club, Nov. 11 through 13 in Henderson, Nev. Teams will play 18 holes a day over the three-day tournament.

Jon Roetman is a freelance writer for the Emerald.

Bynum's back and less selfish than last season's big debacle

Maxx Wolfson

Arizona Daily Wildcat (U. Arizona)

TUCSON, Ariz. (U-WIRE) — Two weeks ago, Will Bynum was encircled by a horde of media members. He was answering questions left and right about how Arizona is going to respond to being ranked No. 1 in the preseason, about the four new freshmen and so on.

Then one reporter dropped the bomb, saying "Will, I'm surprised to see you back this year."

The rest of the media members stopped and anxiously awaited the answer to the question.

Bynum blushed and said, "I'm just happy to be around these guys. I'm definitely not going anywhere for a long time."

There it is, done, settled. Bynum is not going anywhere this season,

or anytime soon, in fact; even though many never thought he would be back for his second season in the desert.

The lightning-fast guard is a year removed from a season in which he was forced to ride the bench for 25 minutes a game because of an overload at the guard position and selfish play when he had the basketball.

"I know I probably looked bad at times," said Bynum about his play last year.

Many thought that the team's shortest player would transfer after he flew straight home to Chicago, his hometown, halfway through the UA basketball team's trip to Australia last May.

But now Bynum, arguably the team's most athletic player, is back in Tucson and is willing to do any-

thing possible to improve the team.

"I would be happy playing 10 minutes a game," said Bynum, who averaged 14.9 minutes, 6.4 points and 1.4 assists in 2001-02. "Whatever I can do to help out this basketball team. I love playing with these guys."

But what has been even more surprising about the high-flyer is his new style of play on the basketball court, which head coach Lute Olson learned about from senior guard Jason Gardner and others in the offseason.

One of Olson's favorite sayings is: "It's often said that a college basketball player grows more between his freshman and sophomore year than in any other year."

So far, Olson seems to be right on.

Lou leaves Seattle like many others

Bill Conlin

Knight Ridder Newspapers (KRT)

PHILADELPHIA — Lou, meet Alex. Oh, yeah, silly me. You've already met.

In fact, Lou Piniella was manager of the almost-great Seattle Mariners when Alex Rodriguez sold his soul to Tom Hicks and a serial baseball disaster, the Texas Rangers.

Piniella was accustomed to superstars running for the free-agent money, or being traded because the Mariners refused to play the big-money game. He lost Randy Johnson, the game's best lefthander, and Ken Griffey, who was still baseball's best all-around player before contracting a chronic ache in his ham.

The Mariners became a beta test for how a team committed to sanity not only could survive but thrive. Fortified by Japanese superstars Kaz Sasaki and Ichiro Suzuki — an expensive but brilliant acquisition — moderately-priced free agent Bret Boone, top prospects from the Griffey deal and veterans John Olerud and Edgar Martinez, the Mariners won 116 games last year. They set the damp Pacific Northwest aflame and sold every seat in Safeco Field. Ichiro was rookie of the year and MVP, an improbable Piniella quinnella.

But the honeymoon turned out to be a weekend in Tacoma. Martinez went down with injuries and Boone didn't come close to his incredible 2001 numbers. Piniella begged for trade-deadline help and simmered when nothing was done to bail out his scuffling offense.

When Lou's club limped home third behind the A's and Angels, it was obvious the next big-name Mariner free agent would be named Piniella.

Like A-Rod, Sweet Lou has chosen the worst possible baseball situation. Rodriguez chose the heat, humidity and historic ineptness of the Rangers organization in exchange for the comfort of a startling, industry-altering \$252 million contract. The shortstop with Hank Aaron-plus power and Cal Ripken-plus fielding ability has been the best player in the universe not named Bonds during his two seasons in Texas and has two last-place finishes to show for it.

Free agent Piniella chose baseball's worst franchise — by a light year — as his next stop. The money is dazzling for a manager — \$13 million plus incentives for four years, No. 2 in big-league history behind Joe Torre's \$5 million-a-year deal with the Yankees.

The good news is Lou gets to sleep in his own bed. The bad news is he'll commute to St. Petersburg's Tropicana Field. The only thing more grotesque than the tilting Teflon temple of tee-hee is the team that plays there, the Devil Rays.

"For 40 years now, I've been packing for spring training. I don't need to pack anymore. I'm home," Lou said at his news conference Monday. Hey,

all it cost Rays general manager Hedy, uh, Chuck LaMar for the negotiating rights to Piniella was center-fielder Randy Winn, the Rays' only 2002 All-Star. That in itself represents a huge win — no pun — for a serial bungler who makes Mets clown prince Steve Phillips look like Giants guru Brian Sabean.

Lou's new boss is the same guy who spent \$14.5 million for amateur pitchers Matt White and Bobby Seay and decided shortstop Kevin Stocker would be a better anchor for the expansion franchise than outfielder Bobby Abreu.

Piniella is hardly the only manager to leave green pastures for what Vietnam war veterans called "the bleep," which sums up the Shea Stadium scene.

Art Howe turned his back on the best pitching staff in baseball and two of the game's top position players for the helm of a leaking tramp steamer Phillips put together in Shea Stadium at luxury-liner prices.

Howe is a helluva manager. You can see what owner Fred Wilpon, who defied logic by firing Bobby Valentine and retaining Phillips, saw in a blue-collar-type guy coming off back-to-back 100-victory seasons. But Howe, who was the Mets' second choice after Piniella, had some serious talent in Oakland. Like Piniella in Seattle, he lost a trio of high-profile stars in Jason Giambi, Johnny Damon and Jason Iringhausen, but never skipped a beat.

Now, he's stuck with Mo Vaughn, his vast body and vaster contract. His outfield is a defensive joke and doesn't hit many home runs. His shortstop is a non-hitting, mustard-engorged hot-dog, and his free-agent third baseman, Gar Alonzo, could wind up with the Phillies.

Maybe Art can get into the head of prematurely old second baseman Roberto Alomar while managing an MLB all-star team in the annual Japan exhibition tour. One season, Alomar was a mortal-lock, first-ballot Hall of Fame selection. The next, it was hard to tell him from Marlon Anderson. As for Mets pitching, a staggering number of stiff who faltered for Valentine are on the free-agent list — including Pedro Astacio (Mets option), Jeff D'Amico, Mark Guthrie, Steve Reed and Steve Trachsel.

Howe will have an equal say in personnel decisions, according to Phillips. Which is like getting half a blank check from Rodney Dangerfield.

There is still an empty chair in this game of High Roller Free Agent Manager reserved for Dusty Baker.

It appears that when the music stops, the genius of McCovey Cove will take a seat in the Mariners' dugout. Batboys R Us is poised to move north.

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Feest

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In one more warm-up before Saturday's Pacific-10 Conference Championship, Feest led a "B" team to victory at the Oregon State-hosted Beaver Classic in Corvallis. Feest won the individual title in the 4,000-meter race.

"Nicole is one of the hardest working people and the most focused," said Jack Brady, Feest's track coach at Glenbard East High School in Lombard, Ill.

Feest prides herself on being independent, and says she has a definite competitive nature.

"She's eager and aggressive and wants to be really good," Heinonen said.

The 19-year-old participated in cross country and track throughout her four years of high school. She received a letter in the mail from Glenbard's cross country coach, Marty Donnelly, which said he had heard about her prior running results and that she should think about going out for Glenbard's cross country team.

Donnelly and Brady were Feest's two running coaches at Glenbard, and her first running coaches ever.

"They were very, very different. I took what I learned from both of them and I grasped a lot of concepts," Feest said.

Feest finished fourth in her senior year at the Illinois 2A cross country meet, and her team took fifth.

Feest said her best cross country memory was when her team made the state championships her sophomore year. The team had never gone to state in the school's history.

Nicole Feest file

Born: Nicole Feest on October 5, 1983, in Elmhurst, Ill.

High School: Took fourth in the 2001 Illinois 2A cross country meet as team took fifth. Also claimed conference, sectional and regional titles. Trained through a shin injury to take 19th in the state 3,200 her senior year. As a sophomore, took second in state with Glenbard East High School's 4x800 relay team.

Oregon: Led Oregon women to first at OSU Beaver Classic with individual title. Scored in first collegiate meet, taking fifth place in Roy Griak Invitational.



Brady recalled a specific event that showed Feest's determination.

Her senior year, Feest was hurt for the state meet and Brady thought she shouldn't run. She wasn't going to stop, though, and even ran in the fast heat of the race.

"She is probably the most talented female through here," Brady said.

Not only is Feest talented, but she also thinks things through.

"I took a big risk to come here because I knew, even though I'm walking on the team, that I was going to be good, I was going to be coached by an amazing coach and I was going to get a good education," Feest said. "A lot of female athletes, particularly, when they pick their school, they tend to pick the school that has the better offer or better deal. It's sad to know that they don't necessarily look at what you will become in the long run."

"It's tempting, when people are offering you money to go to their school, but what if you can't run anymore? What if you get hurt? You're stuck at this school you don't like."

When Feest looked at colleges, she made running a priority on her list, but also wanted a "well-rounded" school.

"I don't have time to be homesick; I have a lot going on," Feest said.

She has many goals for herself and her running future, "but some of them are on hold."

"I'd like to be an All-American. For now, I'm enjoying Tom's last year, and having the opportunity to be coached by him," Feest said.

She says the team has very diverse personalities, and everyone is supportive of each other. Feest is excited about the team and about traveling. When the Ducks travel to the Midwest for meets, her family comes out and supports her and the team.

Feest says college running is harder but more fun. She is determined to make a place for herself in the Oregon program.

"A lot of people think I'm dumb for coming down here," Feest said. "I have to prove people wrong."

Mindi Rice is a freelance writer for the Emerald.

Jude

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freshman? Scary...

Even more scary: Pacific-10 Conference quarterbacks. Jason Gesser, Carson Palmer, Cody

Pickett, Andrew Walter and Jason Johnson have combined for a record nine 400-yard passing games this season. Wow. In any other conference, Kyle Boller and Jason Fife would be good...

Scariest Halloween costume:

That damn Duck. Send complaints to the Athletic Department via www.goducks.com.

Contact the senior sports reporter at adamjude@dailyemerald.com. His opinions do not necessarily represent those of the Emerald.