

# Season finale looms for Oregon

## Sports brief

### Oregon women's golf concludes its regular season schedule as it heads to the Ping/ASU Invitational

**Scott Archer**  
Freelance Sports Reporter

In what amounts to the final regular season competition for the Oregon women's golf team, the Ducks will have one more look at familiar foes beginning today.

The real test of the season occurs from April 24 through 26 at the Pacific-10 Conference Championships.

In the meantime, Oregon heads south to participate in the 16-team

Ping/Arizona State Invitational. Participants will complete 18 holes each day of the three-day regular season concluding the tournament at the par-72, 6,183-yard Karsten Golf Course in Tempe, Ariz.

The Ducks will feature five players, headlined by team-leading freshman Therese Wenslow, who currently holds a 76.9 season stroke average. Also heading south will be sophomore Johnna Nealy, with Oregon's second leading average at 77.8, followed by freshmen Michelle Timpani with an 80.4 stroke average. Junior Lacy Erickson follows closely with an 80.6 average, and sophomore Jaime Seefried is at 83.2.

"We're coming off a difficult tournament, but we're more familiar with the course at Arizona State and I fully expect us to play better," head coach Shannon Rouillard said. "Three of the five we have competing have experience on the Karsten course, and I really expect that we will play up to our capabilities this weekend."

Oregon is coming off a surprising down week after finishing 17th overall in last week's UCLA/Pioneer Electronics Classic in Santa Clarita, Calif. One week prior, Oregon collectively shot its best round of the season in the final round of the Oregon Duck Invitational.

The Ducks will get one final look at its conference competitors as No. 5 USC, No. 6 Arizona, No. 9 California, No. 16 UCLA, No. 17 Washington, Arizona State, Oregon State and Stanford are all expected to compete in Tempe. Three of the four top-10 teams in the tournament hail from the Pac-10.

After the conclusion of the tournament, Oregon takes three weeks off before heading to the Pac-10 Conference Championships, set to be held April 24-26 at Trysting Tree Golf Course in Corvallis.

Scott Archer is a freelance writer for the Emerald.

### Oregon football gears up for 2003 season

The Oregon football team begins its preparation for the 2003 season Saturday at its first spring practice of the year.

The Ducks are the last Pacific-10 Conference team to begin.

NCAA rules stipulate that teams may practice a maximum of 15 times during the spring. The Ducks will have their annual spring game on May 3 at Autzen Stadium. The game is slated to begin at 12:30 p.m.

The Ducks return 14 starters (eight offense, six defense) from last season's team that finished 7-6 overall and 3-5 in Pac-10 play.

Among those returnees is quarterback Jason Fife, who is expected to battle Kellen Clemens for the starting position. Samie Parker, who led the Ducks with 49 receptions, including eight for touchdowns, also returns for his senior season.

The defensive line duo of Igor Olshansky and Haloti Ngata, who combined for 16 sacks last season, return.

The Ducks will look to replace running back Onterio Smith and tight end George Wrihster, who both entered the draft after their junior seasons.

— Hank Hager

## Track

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The final event, the 1,500, saw Lorenzo needing to run miracle time for a courageous comeback victory. He needed to beat Smith by 11 seconds and his all-time best of 4:21.84 was just less than a second faster than Smith's.

Lorenzo was paced through the entire event as fellow teammate Andy Young blocked the wind and carried him through at 4:32.58, only eight seconds ahead of Smith.

"All of the credit in the 1,500

goes to Andy," Lorenzo said. "I came in thinking that a time of 4:35 would be great, so to go 4:32 is all I can ask for. He kept me going and gave me a shot to win."

As for Young, the sophomore finished 11th overall in his 10-event debut with 6,948 points, which easily met the Pacific-10 Conference qualifying mark of 6,800.

Young won the final event after pacing Lorenzo in 4:30.16 and leading start to finish. The Newberg, Ore., native also posted personal bests in the 110 hurdles at 14.39, 15-9 in the pole

vault and 170-10 in the javelin.

"Santiago and Andy had outstanding efforts; you couldn't have asked for better openers," Oregon assistant coach and decathlon mentor Bill Lawson said.

In other action, the all newcomer — junior Adam Bailey, and freshmen Ryan Flaherty, Tomas Finol, and Jan Olszowsky — group finished seventh for the Oregon men in the 4x800 relay at 7:36.83. Oregon also saw freshmen Matt Scherer and Eric Mitchum finish fourth and second in their respective heats with both

notching Pac-10 qualifying marks.

In women's action, senior Jordan Sauvage earned a personal best in the hammer at 191-4 and finished fourth among Thursday's 25 entrants.

In today's action, the third of the event, Mitchum will compete in the 110 hurdles for the men with sophomore Derek Strubel in the triple jump. On the women's side, Sauvage will compete in the discus with senior Heather Murtaugh in the 100.

Contact the sports reporter at jessethomas@dailymerald.com.

## Softball

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bottom, while Stanford and Cal are both 1-2 in the conference.

Oregon has already surpassed its stolen base total from the entire 2002 season. With 25 steals — and only three in Pac-10 play — the team easily made it past the total of 20.

All eight Pac-10 teams are still ranked in the ESPN.com/USA Softball Top 25. Oregon dropped one spot to No. 20, while Cal stayed steady at No. 6 and Stanford moved from No. 9 to No. 11.

In the NFCA/USA Today poll, Oregon State dropped out of the rankings to mark the first time since the Ducks entered the poll on Jan. 29 that all eight conference teams are not ranked.

The Ducks return to Oregon on Sunday to prepare for five home games next week. Portland State comes to town for a doubleheader — and Oregon's home opener — on Wednesday afternoon, while Washington and UCLA visit over the weekend.

Contact the sports reporter at mindirice@dailymerald.com.

## Tennis

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Chris Stewart in doubles.

After losing at home last weekend to No. 7 California and No. 6 Stanford, the Ducks are looking to get back to the form that previously earned them a 6-3 record at home and 8-7 overall.

The No. 33 women head to Malibu, Calif., on Saturday in a match against No. 67 Pepperdine.

The Ducks hope to end their three-match losing streak against a Pepperdine team with strong singles players at the top. No. 46 Na-

talie Braverman and No. 51 Charlotte Vernaz lead the Waves and will most likely battle the Ducks' Daria Panova, ranked 15th, and No. 40 Courtney Nagle. The Ducks have been riddled with injuries in their last three matches, but have remained focused.

"It's crunch time," head coach Nils Schyllander said. "We want to make a run at the NCAAs. That has been the goal all year."

Optimism remains high as the Ducks push to make the NCAA Tournament.

"We are starting to get healthier," Schyllander said. "It's tough.

We really need those that are healthy to step up."

Sunday, the Ducks visit No. 75 Loyola Marymount in the second road match of the weekend.

The Ducks will try to improve on their record of 10-11 as they are below the .500 mark for just the second time all season.

"We just need to get healthy," Schyllander said. "And we need to have a good week of preparation."

Plus, a change of venue and a little sun don't hurt either.

Ryan Heath is a freelance writer for the Emerald.

— Hank Hager

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### Horoscope by Linda C. Black

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY** (April 4). If you're so smart, why aren't you rich? You can be this year if you give it some thought. Work through an old barrier... don't try to avoid it any longer... and achieve abundance. 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 an 8. That check you've been waiting for could actually be in the mail, and not a moment too soon. Don't spend it all in one place. Plan ahead. **TAURUS** (April 20-May 20) Today is a 7. You don't have to overpower your opposition. Just outwait him or her. One who's been resistant is becoming easier to convince. **GEMINI** (May 21-June 21) Today is a 6. There's nothing to be gained by hurrying. Move slowly and avoid a big mistake. Think carefully before you speak, too. **CANCER** (June 22-July 22) Today is a 6. Let people know that you expect to be paid handsomely for all your trouble. You've put up with a lot lately. Insist on fair compensation. **LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) Today is an 8. An anchor you've been dragging is about to be set free. You'll have more energy soon. Meanwhile, don't get impetuous. Be patient. **VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Today is a 7. Your imagination is being unleashed. Ideas will soon be abundant. You don't have to act

on them all. Start with the ones that look fun. **LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Today is a 7. Dig into your hard-earned savings for a household repair or improvement. It's good to patch the roof before the rainy day. **SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Today is a 6. Your opinion is important and can help others reach a decision. You'll see something they've missed, so speak up even if you're not asked. **SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Today is a 7. If you concentrate and get a difficult job done, you'll be well rewarded. Give up an outgrown fantasy to achieve a realistic goal. **CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Today is a 7. Keep your money in your pocket and in the bank. You and your sweetheart feel better knowing it's there. Rather than splurging on a wild night on the town, have a wild night at home. **AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Today is a 6. A person who's been dragging his heels could finally get with the program. If you carefully work out what needs to be done, you'll find you have more support. **PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20) Today is a 7. The longer you study the issues, the better your chances of making a wise choice. Don't limit your input. Question everyone.

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