Women finish 15th in Arizona

The Ducks end the regular season and now eye the Pac-10 Championships

Golf

Scott Archer

Freelance Sports Reporter

In what was the Oregon women's golf team's final regular season competition before the Pacific-10 Conference Championships, Oregon did little to build momentum as it finished 15th in the 16-team Ping/ASU Invitational held this weekend at the par-72, 6,183-yard Karsten Golf Course.

Oregon was led by freshman Therese Wenslow's 227 three-day combined score, placing her tied at 39th overall. Freshman Michelle Timpani tied for 53rd overall as the Ducks barely edged out Northern Arizona.

No. 9 California won the team title with a one-stroke victory over No. 4 Texas. No. 16 UCLA was third with a team score of 878, followed by conference rivals No. 5 USC and No. 6 Arizona to round out the top five. The Ducks shot a combined 934, 58 strokes behind the Bears. Cal's Charlotte Mayorkas won the individual title with a combined 209.

Oregon now has two weeks off before it heads to Corvallis to compete in the Pac-10 Championships, April 24-26 at Trysting Tree Golf Course.

Oregon looks to secure regional bid

With postseason implications on the line, the Oregon men's golf team travels to the 57th annual Western Intercollegiate today and Tuesday to compete at the 6,445yard, par-70 Pasatiempo Country Club in Santa Cruz, Calif. Oregon will join 12 other teams from District 8, all of which are fighting for a bid to the upcoming NCAA West Regional.

"It's going to be really important to play well with so many teams from District 8 in the field," head coach Steve Nosler said. "We're actually in pretty good shape as far as a bid to regionals is concerned, but we could really lock it up with a good showing at Pasatiempo.'

The Ducks are peaking at the right time of the season, coming off their third-place finish at the Oregon Duck Invitational two weeks ago. Senior John Ellis finished the tournament in a firstplace tie, moving him up in the national rankings, where he currently occupies the No. 46 position. Ellis leads the Ducks with a 71.5 stroke average and tied with teammate and senior Chris Carnahan at Pasatiempo two years ago.

Scott Archer is a freelance writer for the Emerald.

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A widely published historian of twentieth-century American legal and political institutions, Kutler is the author of Abuse of Power: The New Nixon Tapes, the award-winning Encyclopedia of Twentieth Century America , and The Encyclopedia of the Vietnam War, among other works.

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Football

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Onterrio Smith and George Wrighster were understandably absent from practice Saturday. Both declared for the NFL Draft after their junior seasons in the month following the final loss of last season. Bellotti has not named a starter at either running back or tight end to replace the two.

However, there are candidates to fill the spots.

Bellotti did not successfully recruit any running backs during the offseason. However, he does have a group of runners that showed some promise late last season.

In Smith's absence during a lateseason injury, Terrence Whitehead and Ryan Shaw showed consistency, and in Whitehead's case, an ability to break open a big run. Joining them is Kenny Washington and Chris Vincent, a redshirt last season after transferring from Louisiana State.

Vincent has strong football bloodlines. His cousin, Troy Vincent, is an NFL cornerback

"I thought they all caught the ball really well," Bellotti said, adding that he won't be able to get a true read on

"Everybody that we had in there really did what they had to do today."

> Mike Bellotti head coach

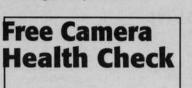
the group until they are in full pads. "Everybody that we had in there really did what they had to do today."

"I'm looking at this and trying to just make plays," Whitehead said. "Every time I touch the play, every rep I get, I've just got to make a play and make the best of it.'

Tim Day and junior college transfer Eddie Whitaker are both battling for the tight end position, with Bellotti signaling out Whitaker for his play during the first practice. Whitaker starred at Los Angeles Valley College last season.

Oregon gets to the field four times this week. The Ducks practice today and Tuesday before taking Wednesday off. They return to the field Thursday, then hold their first scrimmage of the spring on Saturday.

Contact the sports reporter at hankhager@dailyemerald.com.



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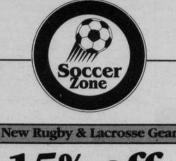
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