

Sports brief

Golfers earn West Regional bid

The Oregon men's golf team found out Monday that it made the NCAA West Regionals as the No. 18 seed in the 27-team field. The Ducks need to finish in the top 10 at the tournament to advance to the NCAA Championships.

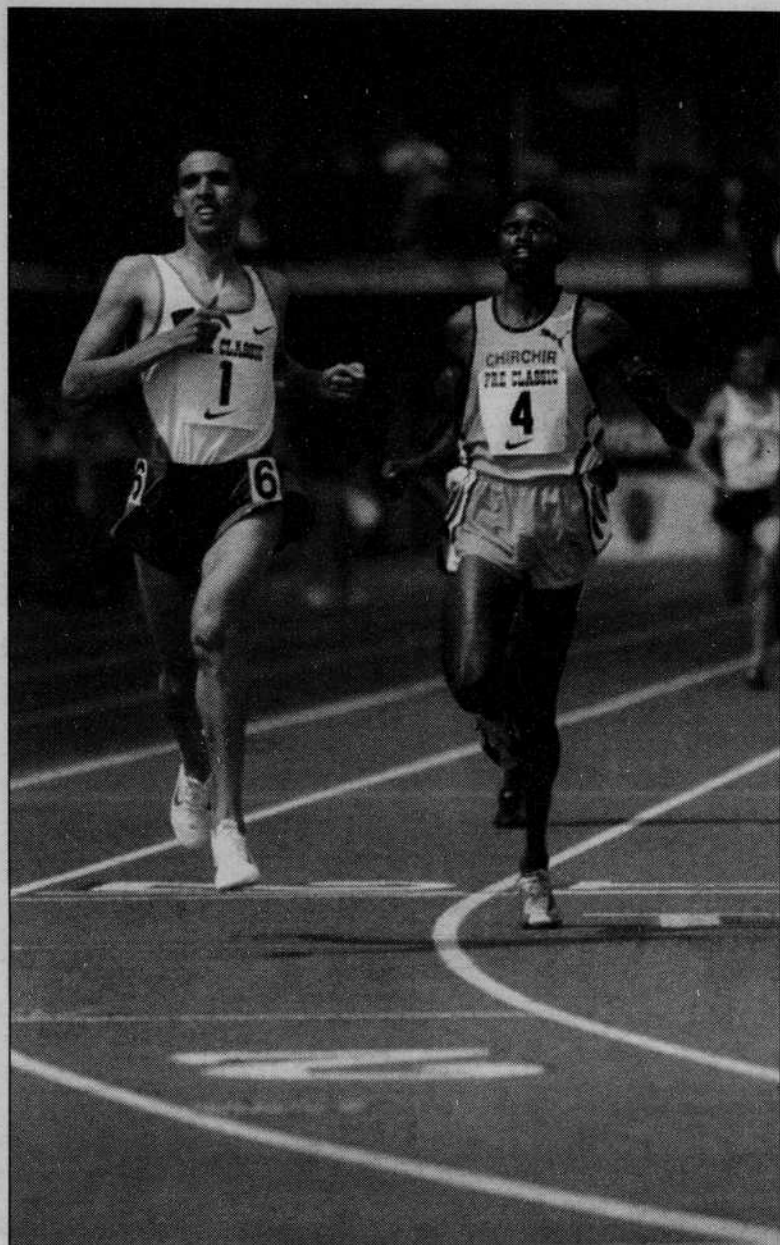
The regional tournament will be held at the home course of the Washington Huskies, Washington

National Golf Course in Auburn, Wash. The golfers will tee off on May 15 and the tournament runs through May 17.

The rest of Oregon's Pac-10 brethren will join the Ducks in Seattle. The field also includes several top-ranked teams such as UNLV, Georgia, New Mexico and Pepperdine.

Oregon will take five golfers to the regional tournament. Those five are, tentatively, John Ellis, Chris Carnahan, Mike Sica, Gregg LaVoie and Kyle Johnson.

—Peter Hockaday



Emerald

Hicham El Guerrouj (1) won't be back for the Pre this year but Cornelius Chirchir will.

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behind El Guerrouj at the 2002 mile and Lagat also finished third in 2001.

Webb might also compete in the Pre. The former prep standout spent last year at Michigan before turning professional this year. He will make his Pre decision next weekend.

The Prefontaine Classic is scheduled for May 24 at Hayward Field.

Twilight falls on PRs

Mother Nature wasn't at her best during Saturday's Oregon Twilight, but many of the Oregon men were.

While rain fell and temperatures dropped, the Ducks notched a handful of important qualifying marks and saw two record-chasing performances from two standout high schoolers.

But while the Ducks themselves didn't attack any major records, they did attack themselves with an onslaught of personal records. At least eight Oregon men posted personal or season bests at Saturday's meet, meaning the Ducks are peaking just before the Pacific-10 Conference Championships.

Sneak peek at the Pac Dec

Based solely on existing marks, Santiago Lorenzo should yawn his way to another decathlon title at the Pacific-10 Conference Championships. Before last weekend, Lorenzo was the only Pac-10 decathlete with an NCAA automatic point total in the multi-event decathlon. Shelton Davis of USC is the top returner from last year's Pac-10 Championship; he finished fourth.

Last year the Ducks used two strong performances in the decathlon to start the Pac-10 meet with a handful of points and eventually finish second.

This year they could start even faster. Lorenzo redshirted last year and is back to replace Billy Pappas, who won the Pac-10s last year. Jason Slye, who finished fifth last year, is also back. Those two will be joined by Andy Young, a sophomore who also redshirted last year and currently stands fifth in the conference.

The Pac-10 decathlon starts Saturday in Los Angeles and concludes Sunday.

Contact the sports editor at peterhockaday@dailyemerald.com.

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