

## SETTLING

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"I saw a girl that was very talented, that had the type of character that I look for in an individual," Rouillard said. "She has a good attitude. She is a hard worker and is very much a team player. She fit well into what we were looking for."

With the journey to Oregon came the hardships that most freshmen have to endure. The cruel thing about golf is that personal struggle will end up finding a way to express itself on the course.

"I couldn't get fully acclimated (to being at Oregon), because I was trying to be here and be at home, and it really affected me emotionally and my golf," Andrews said. "I knew I was making mistakes, and I didn't know how to fix it. It was very disappointing."

The fun of golf for Andrews was disappearing. She lost the desire to practice, becoming overly critical of every shot, letting her emotions rule, and in turn, she felt like she was

excluding herself from her teammates.

"Last year I really felt like I could not become attached to the team because the way I was playing and me emotionally," Andrews said.

The relationship with her family suffered as well. Having always been a close-knit group, she found herself getting into fights with the biggest influence on her game — her father, Robert.

"It was hard because I wasn't playing well, I didn't want to practice and we seemed to be fighting a lot," Andrews said. "It was hard because I knew (my family was) supporting me, but I always felt like I let them down when I went out and played. But they were always there for me, even though they were upset."

As a result, Andrews struggled through her freshman season. She competed in eight tournaments with her highest finish, a tie for 29th, coming at last year's Duck Invitational.

"Last year, if she were to get upset about a shot, you could tell," team-

mate Michelle Timpani said. "You could tell if Erin was playing bad by her posture, the look on her face and

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**Shannon Rouillard**  
Oregon head coach

by her actions."

"Every time I was on the course, I felt like it was life or death," Andrews said.

### A different perspective

Andrews came back for her sophomore season with an entirely different attitude and outlook on her game.

She enjoyed golfing during the

summer, where she made it to the second stage of qualifying for the U.S. Women's Open, and she also played in the United States Amateur. Being able to patch things up at home, Andrews found the confident and talented game that she had been known for previous to her freshman year. She took home the individual title in the first tournament of the year, the Lady Vandal Invitational in Moscow, Idaho, which helped the Ducks to their first team title since 2000.

"I think it was really all mental," Andrews said. "I seem to have a totally different attitude and approach to my game, and so my game fell into place."

Rouillard agrees.

"Erin has really let the clubs do the talking for her," Rouillard said. "She has dropped her scoring average almost five shots from her freshman to her sophomore year. And it's not like she dropped it from a 90 to a 85. She has taken her 79 average and dropped it to a 74, which is tougher to do because as your scores

get lower, it becomes difficult to shave shots off."

Andrews' clubs certainly have done the talking this year, and they are continuing to talk in a dominant way. She has finished in the top 21 in each of the four tournaments she has played this year, and with one more individual title, her ranking could possibly vault into the top 25, which would make her a strong All-American candidate.

"I think she has it together more," teammate Therese Wenslow said. "It took her a while to figure the whole freshman thing out. She has learned to take care of herself as golfer."

Andrews will look to capture that title today as the Ducks open their spring season on their home course at the Duck Invitational on the grounds of the Eugene Country Club.

"The game has become more fun, more enjoyable for me," Andrews said.

As it should be.

**Brian Smith is a freelance reporter for the Emerald.**

## SETBACKS

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position. Swinnen and Spencer moved to 10-1 on the season.

At the No. 2 position, junior Manuel Kost and sophomore Thomas Bieri won their eighth doubles match together by defeating Aleksey Zharinov and Brian Lipinski, 8-5. The Ducks' Chris King and Markus Schiller lost at the No. 3 spot, 8-6.

The men's ability to take the first dual match point has been indicative of their play later in their singles contests. Russell said his players need to realize that starting off a match well is important for them as

a team and for their psyche.

"Every match we have lost, we've lost the doubles point," Russell said. "They've got to see that maybe they don't bounce back well after losing the doubles point."

The Ducks came back to tie up the match at 1-1 when Bieri frustrated Ticer in a straight set victory, 6-2, 6-3, at the No. 3 position. Bieri improved his singles record to 6-4.

At the second position, Kost battled a cold that had plagued him all week. His opponent, 59th-ranked Chris Wettengel, took advantage to hand Kost his second straight singles loss, 6-1, 7-5.

"He attacked and saw (the edge)," Kost said. "He made me run from

corner to corner. I didn't know what else to do."

Oregon evened up the score at 2-2 behind Swinnen's triumph over Aleksey Zharinov, 6-1, 7-6 (7-4), at the No. 1 position. Swinnen's consistency has been a bright spot for the men the whole year in compiling a 20-2 overall record.

With three matches left to play, the Ducks could not conjure two more victories for the win. Senior Chris King was upended at the sixth position in three sets to freshman Brian Lipinski, 2-6, 6-2, 6-2, to give Minnesota a 3-2 lead.

The Golden Gophers sealed the victory when Andres Osorio beat Oregon sophomore Markus Schiller, 6-3,

7-6 (7-3). Schiller complained to officials in the second set when Osorio's heavy grunting broke his own concentration during play. However, Schiller said afterwards that Osorio's style did not bother him.

"I wasn't really affected by that," Schiller said. "But he was very tough and made a lot of balls. He came up with some good shots and important points."

The men will have next weekend off and hope to use that time to work on their individual games, Russell said.

"As a team, they've got to do whatever they can to get more fired up and more focused," he said.

### California blues

The Oregon women lost their fifth

straight dual match after being upended by UCLA, 6-1, on Saturday.

The lone win came from junior Daria Panova, who overcame UCLA's 13th-ranked Jackie Carleton in straight sets, 6-2, 7-6 (7-4).

Despite winning just three dual match points in their last five matches, the women remain confident about their play, Oregon head coach Nils Schyllander said.

"We competed really well ... in every match (against UCLA)," Schyllander said. "Some of the scores don't reflect that but we have a real positive feeling coming out of this."

**Alex Tam is a freelance reporter for the Emerald.**

## LOSS

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Oregon (14-15) remained within striking distance until the 9-minute mark of the second half when Chelsea Wagner's three-pointer from the right corner cut the California lead to 59-49. The Golden Bears (12-16) closed the game on a 23-8 run, which saw the Ducks go more than eight minutes without a field goal.

Oregon received limited production from its leading scorer and

rebounder Andrea Bills, who spent most of the game on the bench in foul trouble. The junior center played six minutes in the first half after picking up two early fouls. Bills finished with four points and one rebound in 15 minutes.

Bills was the focal point of the Ducks' offense in the regular season finale against California, scoring a career-high 22 points and grabbing 10 rebounds in a 77-62 Oregon win. Friday, however, her aggressiveness was limited by foul trouble and an ankle injury she had been nursing

all week.

Oregon head coach Bev Smith said Bills played as hard as she could based on the circumstances.

"I would like to compliment (Bills) too," Smith said. "This young lady didn't practice all week. I thought she gave us what she could with what she had. She's a real warrior."

California came out fired up from the opening tip and never let up. The Golden Bears routinely out-hustled the Ducks to loose balls and outrebounded Oregon, 40-29. After the game, California players said

there was plenty of emotion built up from last Saturday's loss to Oregon.

"I think last Saturday had a lot to do with (us being fired up)," Williams said. "We know we should have and could have won that game."

Oregon, on the other hand, came out flat. The Ducks fell behind early and couldn't shoot themselves back into the game. Oregon shot 2 of 13 from three-point range and had more turnovers (16) than assists (10).

Eleanor Haring was a bright sport for Oregon, tying a career-high with 18 points. The freshman forward

also grabbed a team-high seven rebounds and dished out a career-best four assists.

"The loss is pretty disappointing," Haring said. "They just got an early lead and we had to play catch-up all night."

All-Pac-10 guard Nihan Anaz recorded her first career double-double for California, scoring 14 points and dishing out 10 assists. Renee Wright finished with 16 points and Williams added 15.

**Contact the sports reporter at jonroetman@dailymerald.com.**

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