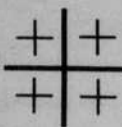


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SPORTS BRIEF

Eleven head to Arkansas

The Oregon track and field team will send 11 athletes to Fayetteville, Ark., for the 2004 NCAA Indoor Championships on Friday and Saturday.

The Ducks will send seven men and four women south as it was announced by the NCAA on Monday.

Leading the field is freshman Tommy Skipper, ranked first in the nation in the pole vault. He is the only Oregon freshman that will head to the event.

Sophomores Matt Scherer (400-meters) and Eric Mitchum (60 hurdles) and senior Ryan Andrus (5,000-meters) will compete as individuals in track events. The Oregon men's 4x400 relay team — comprised of Scherer, Travis Anderson, Brandon Holliday

and Roderick Dotts — will enter as the seventh-place team.

Junior Leonidas Watson will compete in both the long jump and triple jump.

Seniors Eri Macdonald (800) and Abby Andrus (pentathlon) and juniors Magdalena Sandoval (5,000) and Hannah Moore (pole vault) will represent the Oregon women.

— Hank Hager

CLUB

continued from page 5
were beating teams."

Oregon's serving was also one of the main reasons the Ducks started off a number of the matches with a strong lead. For the first time, it gave

Oregon a chance to experience what it is like to build a lead and hold onto it throughout the entire match.

"I think it gives us a major confidence boost when we can come out and get leads," Sinner said. "In some games, we were ahead by 15 points."

Not only did Oregon succeed in organizing a competitive tournament

and fund-raiser, but the Ducks also saw the team improve over the course of only one day.

"We showed the teams in our conference that we are now playing at a higher level than ever before," Sinner said.

Kirsten McEwen is a freelance reporter for the Emerald.

GOLF

continued from page 5

anchored the second-round charge as she shot a season-low 72 in the second round. Combined with her opening round 77, Wenslow sits alone in third, two shots behind the leaders. Sophomore Michelle Timpani, playing as an individual, shot two consistent rounds of 74 and 76 to finish one shot behind teammate Wenslow.

Junior Johnna Nealy finished in seventh with a 154, while Erin Andrews finished right behind Nealy with a 155, good for eighth. Freshman Kimberly McCready improved on an opening round 83 by carding a 74 in the second round, putting her in the top 15 with a 12th place finish. Junior Jess Carlyon is tied for 13th with a 158.

The Ducks are four shots clear of second-place Washington State, which finished with a two-round total of 617.

Portland State is a distant third at 634, while Cal State Northridge and Long Beach State round out the top five.

Individually, two-time defending medalist and All-American Kim Welch from Washington State sits atop the leaderboard with 73-74-147, tied with Cal State Northridge's Elizabeth Allen at 3-over par.

The final round will tee off at 8 a.m. today.

Brian Smith is a freelance reporter for the Emerald.

HAGER

continued from page 5

that is still relatively in its infancy. Do we really know what the effects of this surgery are? Is it possible to know 20 years down the road what could happen to those that have this procedure done?

Until we get to that juncture, we really can't responsibly fathom a scenario.

In the same regard, we all need to keep an open mind about the combination of baseball and steroids. Can anyone prove that steroids have necessarily

allowed players to improve their performance on the field? Until I see those results, I'm going to enjoy watching 400-foot home runs and glancing toward the record books with open eyes.

Now, in no way, shape or form am I advocating the usage of illegal steroids, especially with athletes that act as role models, or are supposed to. But what I'm questioning, and I know there are plenty of people out there that have the same sentiment, is whether we are getting a little ahead of ourselves.

After all, society as a whole really doesn't know what kind of an effect

steroids have on the playing field. We know that steroids can be dangerous to those who use them, but in that regard, they are their bodies. If these athletes — those that do take them, and remember, no one has been proven guilty — want to do what they do, so be it.

They can be fined, suspended, whatever. That's their choice. But let's just not make a mountain out of a mole hill with what we see on the field.

Contact the sports editor at hankhager@dailyemerald.com. His opinions do not necessarily represent those of the Emerald.

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