

Wednesday, April 28, 2004

Gilliam still has plenty to learn

The Oregon cornerback admits he isn't far enough along right now to help the Ducks in the secondary

By Hank Hager
Sports Editor

Ryan Gilliam doesn't think he could help out the Oregon secondary.

Not at this stage of his collegiate career, anyway.

"In my opinion, I'm nowhere where I need to be right now," the redshirt freshman said Tuesday. "I'm not in a position to help this team at corner right now. If anything, the only place I can help this team right now is at return and I've been inconsistent there as well."

DUCK FOOTBALL

That's a significant statement from the Tallahassee, Fla. native, considering he is generally included in discussions centered on the top players in Oregon's 2003 recruiting class.

Gilliam is "a much ballyhooed recruit (who) obviously has a world of potential," Oregon head coach Mike Bellotti said. "I think he's learning and is still at that point of being hamstrung by a lack of total confidence in the system at this point."

Coming into spring workouts, Gilliam was listed as Oregon's No. 2 left cornerback, behind only Rodney Woods. However, that means "nothing," according to Gilliam.

"I've had my highs and lows (this spring)," he said. "In my opinion, I've been extremely inconsistent. I'm hoping to finish out strong ... I've been at the top of my game and at the bottom of my game."

Gilliam's top game has included a punt returned for a touchdown before Oregon's

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Getting a life lesson

Junior George Yioulos serves as both the coach and coordinator for the Club Sailing team



Courtesy Elliot Asbury

George Yioulos and the Club sailing team gear up for the Spring Championships this weekend at Cascade Locks.

By Kirsten McEwen
Freelance Reporter

Two years ago, Oregon's Club sailing team was struggling. Their boats were in poor shape, the team was scattered and George Yioulos' dream of building a first-class sailing team was facing failure.

This past Saturday, at the sailing Club's Spring Open House, no one could have guessed Yioulos and the sailing program had just begun its campaign to re-energize the team. The team was upbeat, organized and skilled. They were astounded that more than 50 people had traveled to Fern Ridge Reservoir to see what they were all about.

Today, the sailing program is clearly going somewhere and the finger can be pointed at Yioulos. His dream is finally in action.

"George is the martyr of our team," sophomore Jennifer Dorner said. "He is the sole reason we even have one."

Yioulos, a Novato, Calif. native, became interested in the "most underrated college sport in America" when he was 14 years old. At Marin Catholic High School, Yioulos sailed competitively for two years, and

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Ducks 7th after two days in Arizona

The Ducks' hope for a NCAA Regional bid is still alive going into the final round of the Pac-10's

By Brian Smith
Freelance Reporter

The Oregon men's golf team found themselves going in the wrong direction Tuesday.

Despite getting a pair of 71's from sophomore Justin St. Clair and freshman Matt Ma, the Ducks dropped a spot, finishing seventh after the third round of the Pacific-10 Championships in Marana, Ariz.

MEN'S GOLF

"We finished 13-over

today, we didn't do what we wanted on the course," Oregon head coach Steve Nosler said. "We had a couple of 71's, but unfortunately we had to take some high numbers."

Players seemed to be adjusting to the lengthy par-72, 7,435-yard Gallery at the Dove Mountain course. The third round had 20 players shoot even par or better, but only a couple of Ducks experienced the course's good graces.

More importantly, the Duck's 13-over 273 did nothing to bolster Oregon's slim chances at a NCAA West Regional bid.

"The number we had was disappointing," Nosler said. "We are just giving away too many strokes. It's a difficult course, but we are making it harder than it actually is. It's more target golf than

we are used to. At home, if you miss the fairway you can just hit it out of the trees. Here you might have to go back to the tee."

The hope for a top-five finish entering the third round is still a reality, however. The Ducks trail No. 18 California by just five strokes, and fifth-place Southern California by 12.

St. Clair anchored the Oregon squad by continuing his impressive play of late, firing a 1-under 71 to tie with fellow teammate Matt Ma for the low round of the tournament for the Ducks. St. Clair recorded three birdies and two bogeys and moved into 13th at 2-over 218.

"I think I played pretty consistently today," St. Clair said. "I left a few putts out there, but I

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Harris steps up with shutout start against Arizona



Amy Harris, last season's standout pitcher for the Ducks, picked up last year's momentum with Sunday's performance against Arizona

By Mindi Rice
Senior Sports Reporter

Collegiate softball is a game of pitching. While the rest of the sport obviously comes into play, if a team has a dominant pitcher — like Arizona's 32-1 Alicia Hollowell — she can run an entire season.

In 2003, Amy Harris, the freshman pitcher who was a standout at North Eugene High School, ran Oregon's show from the circle. She started 35 of Oregon's 56 games during the season and pitched 188 total innings. Oregon's No. 2 pitcher, Anissa Meashintubby, threw just 99 innings in 2003.

After an injury to her pitching hand kept Harris out of fall practices and delayed her return in

DUCK SOFTBALL

Sophomore Amy Harris has pitched sparingly this season after being the No. 1 pitcher in Oregon's 2003 campaign her freshman year.

Danielle Hickey Photo Editor

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