

## SPORTS

Best bet  
NBA Playoffs:  
Indiana vs. Detroit  
5:30 p.m., ESPN

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## Junior sprinter hopes to settle minor setback

Sofie Abildtrup fights hamstring tightness; Kayla Mellott reunites with an old high school rival at the Pacific-10 Championships

By Alex Tam  
Sports Reporter

Sofie Abildtrup hopes to recover from tightness in her hamstring in time for the NCAA Regionals this weekend.

The minor injury had hampered her running ability in the days leading up to the Pacific-10 Conference Championships two weeks ago.

However, Abildtrup shook it off to place fifth in the finals of the 400-meters in her second-fastest career time of 53.22 seconds. In the event's qualifying round, the Denmark native finished with a new personal best at 52.92.

Abildtrup said she continues to get treatment for her hamstring and is confident she will be ready this weekend.

"I had some problems with it," Abildtrup said. "It got worse and worse, but I think it's on the way down and I'm ready. I definitely feel better than the week before Pac-10s."

In addition to achieving a new personal record, Abildtrup attained a new Danish record in the 400 meters. The first-year Duck also surpassed expectations; she was rated 12th among Pac-10 sprinters going into the event. UCLA's Monique Henderson ended up winning the event by more than a full second with a meet record of 50.90.

"I was really happy about (my performance)," Abildtrup said. "I was really excited to be in the final with all of those girls who ran some of the fastest times in the world this year. I think we did a good job in the 4x400 relay too."

Abildtrup later anchored the relay team to a season best time by more than four seconds at 3.42.23.

Despite helping score points for the Ducks, Abildtrup admitted Oregon's seventh-place finish was a little disappointing. She said the individual performances were the highlight of the meet; several Ducks achieved personal records.

"It's not where we wanted to be ideally," Abildtrup said. "But I think that we got a lot of good results and I think the coaches were really satisfied with that."

All year long, the coaches said they have been impressed with the work ethic Abildtrup has brought every practice. Head coach Martin Smith said she has been a model of consistency and is someone all of the athletes can look up to.

"Sofie's a really fine leader," Smith said. "She is a talented student and talented athlete. She's a very special person and I think

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## A SEASON OF POTENTIAL

The Ducks finish with eight top 10s and multiple wins for the first time since 1999-2000

By Brian Smith  
Freelance Reporter

It seemed almost fitting for a team that had spent most of the season in contention or in the lead.

A playoff.

The prize: A berth into the NCAA Championships.

### One hole to decide it all

For the Ducks, a season in which players exceeded expectations, played to potential and generated buzz around a program that has been mum since 2001, came down to a single hole.

The Ducks had been in this situation before — the sitting and waiting. At the Duck Invitational, Oregon missed out on a playoff with Washington State by a single stroke.

In time, however, they have grown as a team.

In the Colby Invitational in Carmel Valley, Calif., sophomore Michelle Timpani took home medalist honors only after surviving a six-hole, sudden-death playoff. She grew as an individual.

So when the Ducks finished their final round of the NCAA West Regionals at the Stanford Golf Course in Stanford, Calif., in early May, they knew they had a shot. They had been there before. Finishing with a tie for the eighth and final spot that received bids, the Ducks were forced to wait for teams behind them to finish.

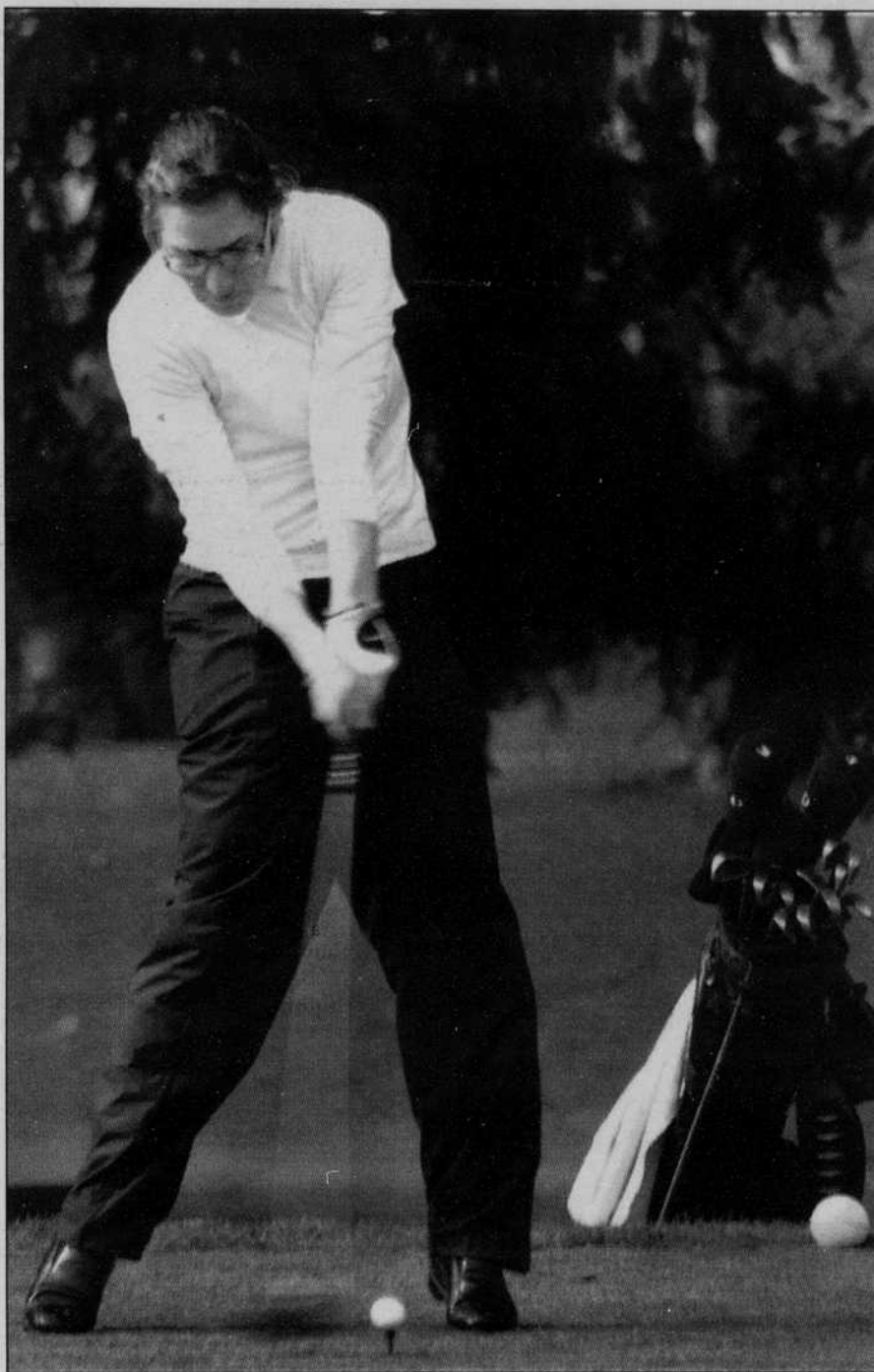
"We had to wait about three hours," Oregon head coach Shannon Rouillard said. "So we had lunch, relaxed, had a team chat to get us focused on what we needed to do."

Sophomore Therese Wenslow was in the first group of five to tee off in the sudden-death format.

"Since I was in the first group, I knew the scores," Wenslow said. "I knew that Texas was in the lead, and it was frustrating. It's hard to stand on the side, because you can't affect anything."

Frustration seemed to be the consensus, as four of the Ducks' birdie putts — including Wenslow's — lipped out on the only playoff hole, leaving them at even par, while Texas secured the bid

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Tim Bobosky Photographer

Junior Johnna Nealy, seen here earlier this season, helped the Ducks to their first NCAA Regional bid since 2001. She will lead Oregon as its lone senior next year.

## Moos dismisses move to Washington post

The athletic director expressed interest in Washington earlier, but does not believe it would suit him at this time

By Hank Hager  
Sports Editor

Even though he's a state of Washington kind of guy, Bill Moos isn't going to Seattle.

The Oregon athletic director announced Tuesday he is not a candidate for a similar position at Washington. He became the third person in recent weeks, and second this week, to turn down an opportunity for the position that has been left open since Barbara Hedges announced her retirement in January.

"I had told our fans and people in January when the Washington athletic director's position opened up that I wanted to take a look at it, primarily because of personal reasons," he said. "Washing-

ton is my home state, I have family and friends up there. It's the only job I've looked at since I've been at Oregon.

"I took a look at it and confirmed what I thought I would feel — that is that Oregon, for Bill Moos, is a far better situation."

Moos was considered one of the prime candidates for the position, since he is a native of Eastern Washington and served as an assistant athletics director at Washington State from 1982-88 and its associate director from 1988-90. He became Oregon's athletic director in 1995 after a stint with Montana.

Now, Moos is set to extend his contract with Oregon, which expires June 30, for another three or four years. He has discussed that option with Oregon president Dave Frohnmayer and vice president for administration Dan Williams since last fall.

"We had conversations about that, came to an agreement, and I told both of them that in the event I got deep into the



Tim Kupsick Photographer

Bill Moos will not take the athletics director position at Washington and will instead sign an extension to remain at Oregon.

Washington search, that I was not going to use that as leverage in any way," Moos said. "I don't believe in doing that. I've been taken care of very well. I love it here."

Moos acknowledged the problems Washington has been

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## Oregon duo embarks on NCAA play

No. 66 Manuel Kost earned a bid into the NCAA Men's Singles Tennis Championship

By Clayton Jones  
Freelance Reporter

Two-thirds of Oregon's "Swiss Army" hopes to slice through their first-round opponents in the NCAA Men's Singles Tennis Championship in Tulsa, Okla., today.

Sven Swinnen and Manuel Kost, both Switzerland natives, drew tough opening-round matches in the 120th men's NCAA Tournament. The 16th-ranked Swinnen will face No. 44 William Barker from Rice and No. 66 Kost will match up with Virginia's Doug Stewart, who is ranked in the nation's top 10.

### MEN'S TENNIS

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