

IN BRIEF

Jordan Carey admits to drug problem

Former Oregon football player Jordan Carey admitted in a written statement provided to The Olympian that he was released from the team because traces of the active ingredient in pot were found during a drug test for the second time.

Drug tests are given to Division I athletes twice a year, and since he tested positive once, Carey was susceptible for random testing.

"I know that I have a substance

abuse problem and that I need to work this through to move forward in a positive and healthy way," Carey said. "Over the summer I worked on making different choices, but I was not successful."

Carey was dismissed from the team Monday for what head coach Mike Bellotti said was a repeated violation of team rules.

Softball to play two exhibition games

Oregon softball hosts Western Baptist, affiliated with the NAIA, in a nine-inning exhibition game today at 2 p.m. The Ducks finished last season No. 11 in the ESPN.com/USA

Softball Top 25 poll.

Head coach Kathy Arendsen will begin her third season at Oregon, where she has helped lead the Ducks to back-to-back postseason appearances.

Oregon will be returning 12 letter-winners, including All-Pac-10 pitcher and 2004 Athens Olympian Ani Nyhus (representing Canada) and honorable mention All-Pac-10 players Beth Boskovich and Ashley Richards.

The Ducks will be bringing in six new players to the team, including Alicia Cook, Lovenia Chaput, Kristi Jorgensen, Lauren Rascon, T.J. Eadus and Joanna Gail.

Oregon plays Western Oregon Sunday at 12:30 p.m. Both games will be played at Howe Field.

Hazing may have saved pitcher

Cleveland Indians rookie pitcher Kyle Denney might be thanking his lucky stars his teammates were pulled some rookie hazing on him and put him in a USC cheerleader outfit Wednesday night.

Denney was shot in the leg later that night when a bullet shot ripped through the team's bus on its way to Kansas City International Airport.

The team trainers extracted the bullet from Denney's right calf and said the tall, white cheerleading boots may have saved the pitcher from further injury.

Denney, originally from Oklahoma, said his teammates

made him wear the USC outfit because the Sooners are ranked behind the No. 1 Trojans.

"I've never been so glad to have a USC thing on," Denney said.

National soccer player on local radio

US National Women's soccer team member Abby Wambach will join host John Strong on KWVA 88.1 FM tonight at 6:30 p.m.

Wambach and the rest of the soccer team, fresh off their gold-medal performance in Athens, will be concluding the first segment of their national tour in Portland Sunday.

Wambach was named the 2003 U.S. Soccer Chevrolet Female Athlete of the Year and currently leads the team in goals. Her 18 goals account for 27.3 percent of the team's scoring this year.

— Clayton Jones

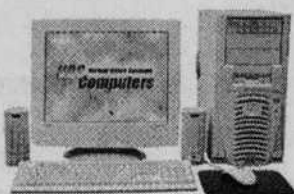
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Soccer: Gonzaga tough midfield could trouble Ducks

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Lainez has surrendered 17 goals in the first eight games, giving her a 2.35 goals against average. The Ducks were almost doubled up on in shots last weekend against Portland and Portland State (36-21 with Portland holding a 27-7 advantage).

Oregon (1-6-1) vs. Gonzaga (7-3)

Gonzaga rolls into Eugene on Sunday, off to its best start in program history. For the past two seasons the Bulldogs have recorded 18 wins, surpassing the total number of wins over the previous four seasons. The Bulldogs have won four out of their last five and look to continue that trend behind a 19-5 season advantage in goals against opponents.

"They have some very talented technical individuals," Steffan said. "Their strength is probably more in

the middle of the field instead of the ends, so they will be a little bit of a different challenge (than Wyoming)."

Offensively, the Bulldogs are paced by senior forward Annie Hawkins. Hawkins has five goals and two assists on the season and during the Bulldogs' four-game winning streak, Hawkins found the net four times, including a game winner.

Freshman striker Heather Horn has also been hot as of late. Horn has recorded a goal in three of the last four games and has also added two assists in that time.

Momentum will be crucial to the Ducks as they prepare to enter another tough conference schedule, starting next week against USC.

"We have lost five in a row," Oregon freshman forward Kami Kapaku said. "We're just looking to win."

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Tennis: Panova, Dieskova play in All-American tournament

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and then win some matches and win a couple of tournaments, and we'll do great." His teammate, Kost, is also one of the top ranked players in the nation this season. The 22-year-old Kost is ranked the No. 30 singles player in the nation. It is the highest ranking ever in his career.

"I want to have my best season ... I hope we have the best season as a team, too, because we have only one senior who left."

MANUEL KOST | Oregon tennis player

Kost, a native of Kuessnacht, Switzerland, reached his second consecutive NCAA Tournament last spring after tallying an 18-10 singles record.

In his final season as a Duck, Kost said he is dedicated to having his finest year ever in Eugene.

"I want to have my best season," said Kost, who earned an All-Pac-10 mention in 2004. "I hope we have the best season as a team, too, because we have only one senior (Chris King) who left."

Also slated to compete in the singles portion is junior Thomas Bieri, who had a 13-16 singles record last season.

In doubles, Swinnen and junior Arron Spencer are scheduled to

compete after posting a 17-9 record last season. The duo is ranked No. 9 in the country.

Women head to California

While the men head east, the Oregon women's team stays on the west coast and will travel to Pacific Palisades, Calif., for the 2004 Riviera/ITA Women's All-American Championships, beginning tomorrow and ending Oct. 10.

The tournament will feature 22 of the top 25 players in the preseason ITA singles rankings in the singles main draw.

One of the top eight seeds in the main draw is Oregon senior Daria Panova. The 22-year-old Panova, who is a two-time All-American and three-time Pac-10 Conference champion, is ranked No. 8 in the nation, according to the ITA.

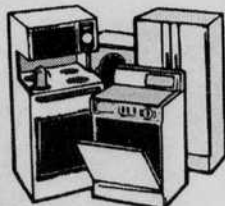
Last season, she tied her own school record of most season victories in singles from 2003 when she posted 32 wins. With one more victory, Panova will become the all-time career leader at Oregon, passing Krissy Barger, who had 72 victories from 1991-94.

The other Oregon entrant is sophomore Dominika Dieskova, who qualified for the NCAA Tournament as a freshman last season. Dieskova, who had a 20-17 record in 2004, is ranked No. 51 in the nation.

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