

■ In my opinion



STEPHEN MILLER
OFF THE CROSSBAR

Miller strikes bowling gold with notable 'turkey-10'

Three strikes in a row.
What's that called?

In baseball it's referred to as a strikeout, and in bowling it's called a turkey, unless it happens in the 10th frame. Then, coincidentally enough, it's called a strikeout.

Two different sports: One is played outdoors (excluding stadiums with domes or retractable roofs), the other is an indoor game (excluding its lawn variation).

Yet, both types of strikeouts are significant parts of the respective games. Both can be beneficial and can end those games on a high note (as long as you're not on the batter's team in the baseball version).

To prevent any confusion in this column, I am going to call the prestigious bowling strikeout a "turkey-10."

So without further adieu, I have a major announcement to make.

Ladies and gentleman, last weekend I became the proud new bowler of a turkey-10.

With that said, I have a major revelation to present.

A turkey-10 is not a guarantee to a dramatic and victorious finish.

When all was said and done at the conclusion of my game on lane 13, the turkey-10 did not help me one bit. I lost the game. I played like crap for the first eight frames and only converted three spares. So after I accomplished this major feat, only a small amount of my pride was restored.

Even before I stepped onto the lane for my 10th frame, I predicted that I would get a turkey-10, sort of like how Babe Ruth supposedly once pointed out a homerun before digging into the batter's box. And I was doing it in bowling's version of the bottom of the ninth inning.

I really felt that if I could string together a turkey-10, I could win the game. But my deficit was too large, and I didn't know how to keep score because I belong to a generation raised on cosmic bowling, fancy on-screen animations and automated scoring.

The mix of numbers, slashes and Xs makes no sense to me.

I figured that my trio of strikes would make my score explode like a seagull in an Alka-Seltzer factory.

See, in the 10th frame, a turkey is only worth 30 pins compared to the 60-plus points it could have been worth earlier in the game.

If I read the scoring rules correctly, a strike counts the 10 pins you knock down plus the amount of pins that fall in the next two frames you bowl. So kids, make sure you put a turkey together in the earlier frames, because even if you throw consecutive gutter balls after that, you're still assured 60 points.

Unfortunately for yours truly and others looking to make a comeback down the stretch, the 10th frame has no frames following it.

Isn't that a load of turkey-sh**?

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North Carolina outlasts Illinois

The Tar Heels captured the NCAA championship for the first time since 1993 with a 75-70 victory

BY EDDIE PELLIS
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ST. LOUIS — There was no way it was going to be easy. North Carolina did it, though, and now it's time to stop asking Roy Williams that doggone question.

The Tar Heels didn't allow a basket in the final, excruciating two-and-a-half minutes Monday night as they defeated Illinois, 75-70, a win that finally gave Williams, the 17-year coaching

veteran, the national championship that was missing from his otherwise stellar resumé.

Freshman Marvin Williams had a tip-in with 1:26 left, Raymond Felton made three free throws down the stretch and the Tar Heels (33-4) won their first title since 1993, back when Dean Smith was coaching and Roy Williams was at Kansas — in the middle of his Final Four futility.

Led by Sean May's 26 points,

Carolina took a 65-55 lead with 8:51 left and it looked like Roy Williams would cruise to the championship. But Illinois (37-2) never quits.

Forward Jack Ingram hit a pair of outside jumpers and Dee Brown scored six points in a 10-0 run that tied the game at 65 with 5 1/2 minutes left, setting up a frantic finish.

When it was over — after Felton had made his last two free throws and after May had cradled his 10th and final rebound — Roy Williams took off his glasses and started looking for people to hug.

A few moments later, he was

crying, much like he has done at the end of every season, though no ending has been as sweet as this one.

Luther Head led Illinois with 21 points. He had a wide-open look at a three-pointer that would have tied the game with 17 seconds left, but it bounced off the rim and coach Bruce Weber's magical ride with Illinois wound up one short of the real fairy-tale ending he hoped for.

His opponent, Roy Williams, left Kansas to take over the Tar Heels two years ago, after the program

UNC, page 10

■ Women's tennis

Ducks lose final home match to UCLA

Senior Daria Panova beat the No. 32-ranked singles player, but the team couldn't follow suit

BY ALEX TAM
DAILY EMERALD FREELANCE REPORTER

Daria Panova walked into the Student Tennis Center on Saturday for the final home match of her Oregon career and told herself that she was going to give it her all.

The most decorated player in the history of the Oregon tennis program didn't disappoint. She defeated UCLA's Daniella Bercek, the No. 32 singles player in the country, in straight sets, 6-1, 6-1.

However, as a team, No. 22-ranked Oregon (13-6 overall, 2-5 Pacific-10 Conference) could not continue the winning trend against No. 13 UCLA (12-4), suffering a 5-2 loss on Saturday's "Senior Day."

Panova, a three-time Pac-10 singles champion, has been the cornerstone for the Oregon program since she arrived in Eugene four years ago.

"I feel kind of weird; it's my last match," 22-year-old Panova said. "It's really crazy that I won it, and I'm really happy about it, but I still can't get used to the idea that I won't play here ever again."

This season, Panova has continued her success. She has compiled a 13-5 singles record in dual match play and is the program's leader for

most victories in a season (32) and career victories (90).

Oregon head coach Nils Schyllander said Panova has been a huge part of getting the program to its top-25 status.

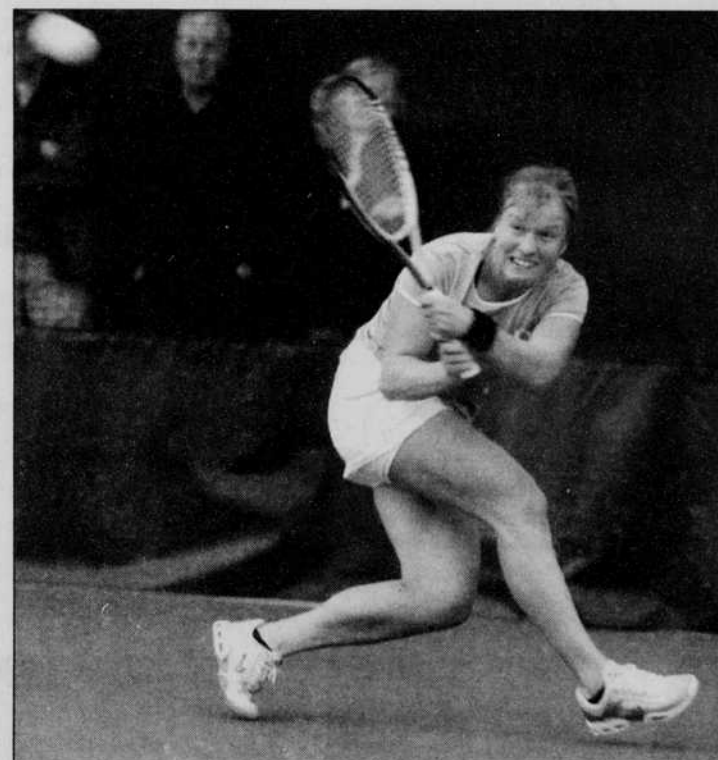
"We wouldn't be where we're at today without her," Schyllander said. "Obviously, all of her accomplishments has put us on the national map, and recruits (are) looking our way who have never looked our way before."

The Ducks also celebrated the careers of two other seniors, Davina Mendiburu and Ester Bak. Mendiburu has anchored the middle of the lineup since she arrived during the 2000-01 season, when she was voted the team's MVP. She sits third all-time in most career victories at Oregon with 68.

Duo Mendiburu and Bak ranks first all-time in career doubles victories with 34.

Schyllander said his seniors have been instrumental in taking the program to another level and representing the team well both on and off the court.

"All of them has meant a lot in a different way," the third-year head coach said. "Davina and Ester have been leaders on this team for many



NICOLE BARKER | PHOTOGRAPHER

Oregon senior Daria Panova won the last home match of her career at Oregon after defeating UCLA's Daniella Bercek, 6-1, 6-1, Saturday at the Student Tennis Center.

years now. The way they take care of themselves and take care of their academics have been a big part of what we have built."

The weekend didn't end the way the Ducks wanted. Oregon nearly pulled off another upset Friday, but

fell 5-2 to No. 4 USC, a national title contender.

Oregon started off strong, taking a 1-0 lead by winning the doubles point. The Ducks won the first set

TENNIS, page 10

■ Duck lacrosse

Oregon nets first victory on the road

Davidson was held scoreless in the opening 10 minutes of play as the Ducks won, 16-6

BY STEFANIE LOH
DAILY EMERALD FREELANCE REPORTER

The Oregon women's lacrosse team showed some fighting spirit Saturday when it finally clinched its first road victory in program history.

The Ducks looked to beat Davidson, 16-6, after suffering a 21-8 loss to North Carolina the night before.

On Friday night, the Tar Heels dominated Oregon throughout most of the game. However, the

Ducks went on a 5-2 scoring run in the last five minutes of the first half to enter the second period only five goals down.

"Despite the fact that we ended up losing to North Carolina, that game actually boosted our confidence," Oregon head coach Jen Larsen said. "Against North Carolina, the score was 6-11 at the half. We did great against the No. 4 ranked team, and that really fired us up."

Seeking redemption for Friday's loss, Oregon started the game against Davidson by banging in 12 unanswered goals before the shell-shocked Wildcats managed to respond.

"Once we got out in front, we never looked back. We just did a really great job of stopping the Wildcats' offense and taking control of the ball each time we had possession," Larsen said.

The win against Davidson (4-6) ended Oregon's three-game losing streak and improved its record to 3-9.

"One of the factors that made a major difference in this game was

that we managed to keep the ball out of our defensive end much more than we have in the past," said Larsen, who highlighted the Ducks' sometimes leaky defense as a target area that needed improvement in the past. "We simply didn't give the other team as many chances to score."

In fact, Oregon held the Wildcats scoreless for the first 10 minutes of the game — not even allowing Davidson a single shot on goal.

The Ducks made just one adjustment to their starting lineup for the Davidson game as freshman defender Carrie Bateman got the nod

LACROSSE, page 10