

■ In my opinion



CLAYTON JONES
SEVENTH INNING STRETCH

Typing takes first victim in world of pro baseball

I've heard of a lot of ways that athletes injure themselves and try to prevent injuries, but Chicago Cubs pitcher Carlos Zambrano has found a new way.

E-mailing.

According to the Associated Press, the right hander has been instructed to cut back his computer time, because the club believes the four hours he spends a day typing e-mails to his brother could be contributing to his recent elbow problems.

I wish I was making this up.

How do you spend four hours of your day e-mailing?

Maybe he should invest in Instant Messenger or this new device called a telephone to communicate with his brother.

Maybe he is one of those finger-peck typists and has to search for each letter.

Maybe he should spend some of that professional athlete cash and get himself a high-speed Internet connection.

Maybe he can go old-school and write letters.

The thing I don't get is, what does someone say in a four hour e-mail session? How many times can he say how his day went and how he can't believe that his team is underachieving every year?

But really, who actually believes he is spending all this time e-mailing? This man is probably Googling himself or partaking in other wireless activities that we probably shouldn't talk about in a column.

Well thank goodness good old Dr. Dusty Baker was there to help diagnose the situation.

"It's not carpal tunnel, but if you don't watch it, who knows what it can lead to," the Cubs manager said. "We are trying to alleviate it."

Alleviate it?

How about trying to have your pitchers throw less than 136 pitches in a game like you had Zambrano do two weeks ago against Philadelphia. (Also, Baker can't have the Cubs' other young ace, Mark Prior, throwing 126 pitches a couple weeks after returning from elbow problems.)

Next thing you know, the Cubs will be teaching proper typing technique to their pitchers and will need to bring in an Internet coach to help pitchers navigate the Web faster and with a decreased chance of injury.

Maybe Comcast can hook them up with DSL and rake them over the coals with high prices.

That's the Cubs for you.

In other odd baseball news, Cincinnati Reds closer Danny Graves was let go by the team a day after making an obscene gesture at a fan after the fan yelled at him while he was in the dugout.

I would like to say that it's good to see a team stand up for the fans, but the man has been horrible this season. He had an ERA of 7.76 and has blown more games than the Reds could care to see.

Maybe the former All-Star knew his time was coming and just needed to vent.

Or maybe his troubles were due to excessive e-mailing.

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■ Duck tennis

Panova makes early exit at NCAAs

Daria Panova ends her career as a Duck without the coveted individual championship title

BY ALEX TAM
DAILY EMERALD FREELANCE REPORTER

Senior Daria Panova's quest for her first national title came to an end in the first round of the NCAA Individual Championships on Monday.

Panova fell to Kentucky sophomore Sarah Foster in straight sets, 6-1, 6-3. The loss ended one of the most storied tennis careers in Oregon history.

The 5-foot-7 native of Moscow, Russia, owns many of the Ducks' women's tennis records. During her four-year career, she accumulated a program-best 93 career victories and has the most victories in a single season (32). The 22-year-old is also a three-time Pacific-10 Conference singles champion and was named the Pac-10 Player of the Year following her sophomore season.

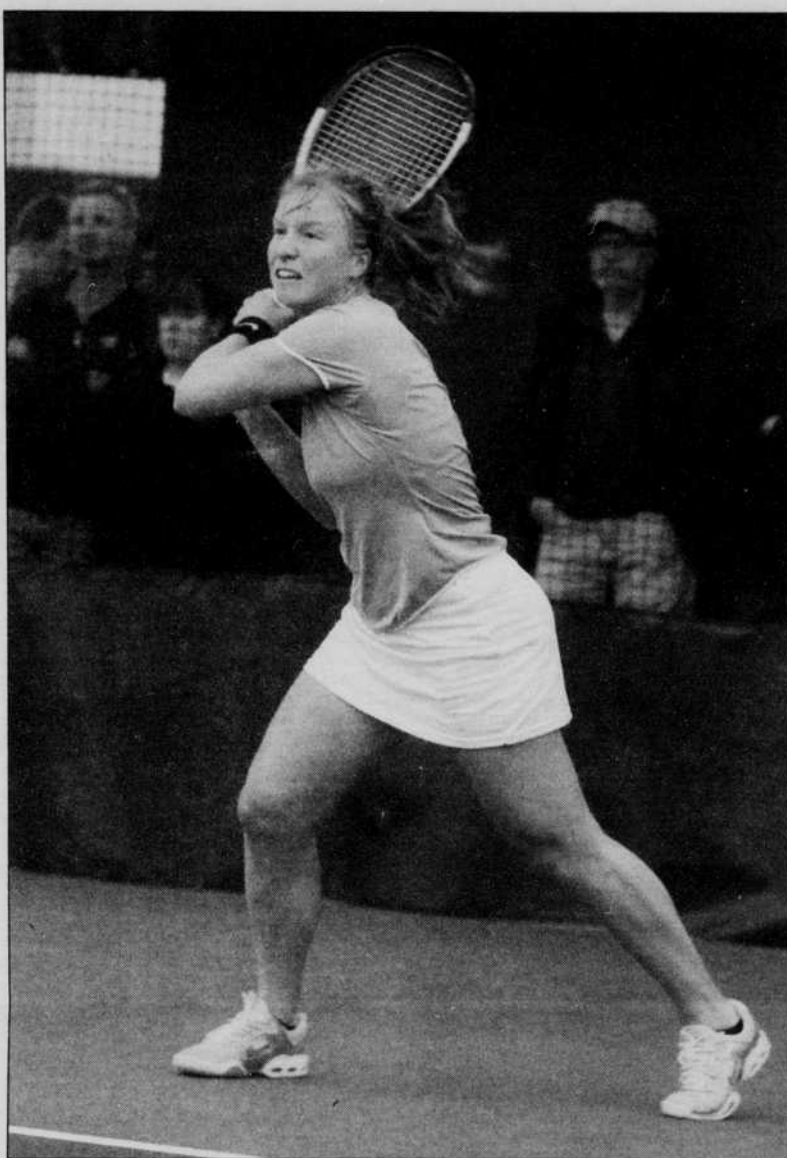
This season, Panova finished with a 19-14 singles record, leading the Ducks to a 17-8 overall record and an NCAA Tournament appearance. It was the team's second consecutive 17-win season. Oregon lost in the second round of the tournament to Stanford, 4-0.

In addition to Panova, the Ducks will lose seniors Davina Mendiburu and Ester Bak next season. The team's top returning starter is sophomore Dominika Dieskova, who finished this past season with a 22-14 overall record.

Swinnen advances to NCAA Individual Tournament

Oregon senior Sven Swinnen will attempt to win his first national title when he competes at the NCAA Individual Championships

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Oregon senior Daria Panova, seen here earlier this season, lost the NCAA Individual Championships in Monday's first round against Kentucky's Sarah Foster, 6-1, 6-3, in Athens, Ga.

NICOLE BARKER | PHOTOGRAPHER

■ Club rugby

Club caves against Alumni in 60-5 loss



ZANE RITT | PHOTOGRAPHER

An Oregon Alumni player streaks by a member of the Club team in Saturday's Ducks vs. Alumni game, a tradition started last year to keep ties between current and former players. The Alumni crushed the Club team, 60-5.

Oregon's team missed the help of seven starting seniors at their Ducks vs. Alumni fundraiser

BY STEFANIE LOH
DAILY EMERALD FREELANCE REPORTER

The annual Ducks vs. Alumni game ended on a high note for the women's Club rugby team as freshman Autumn Manelick ran the ball into the end zone. Manelick capped off a final valiant offensive effort that began halfway down the field, but the five points that resulted from the score came too little, too late for Oregon; the Ducks lost 60-5 on Saturday at Southbank Field.

"We actually did better than I thought," Ducks head coach Greg Farrell said. "We're missing seven of our starting seniors today, and they are our most experienced players, so we fielded a really young team, and I think they did well."

Stephanie Hyde, a sophomore on the team, echoed the sentiment.

"We were predominantly rookies today," she said. "We were a little rusty because our season ended seven weeks ago, but we drew on this year's experience, and it was a pretty good game."

Four of Oregon's regular starters were away at tryouts for the National Rugby team — a testament to the successful season the Club team had this year. The Ducks were undefeated and won the Pacific Northwest Championships.

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