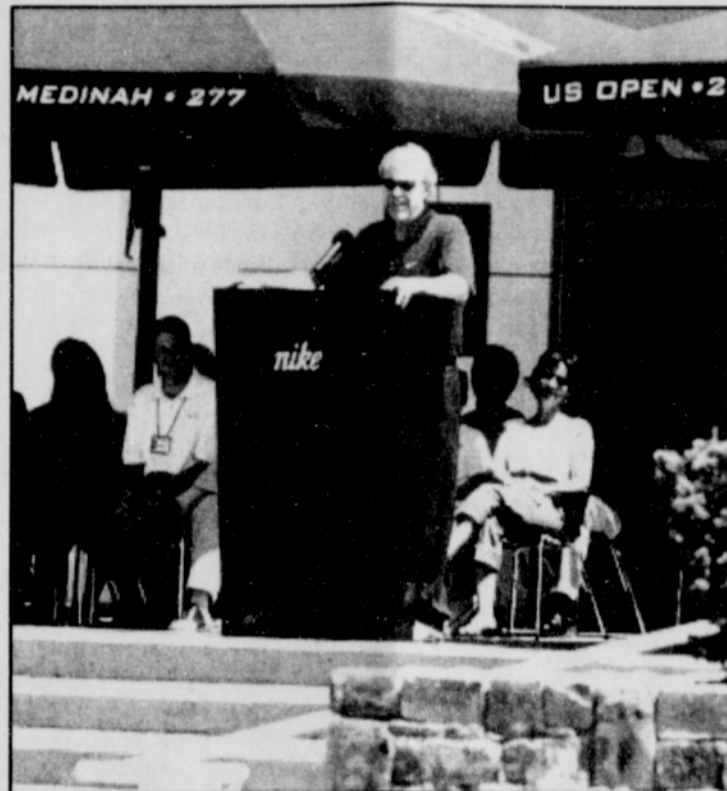
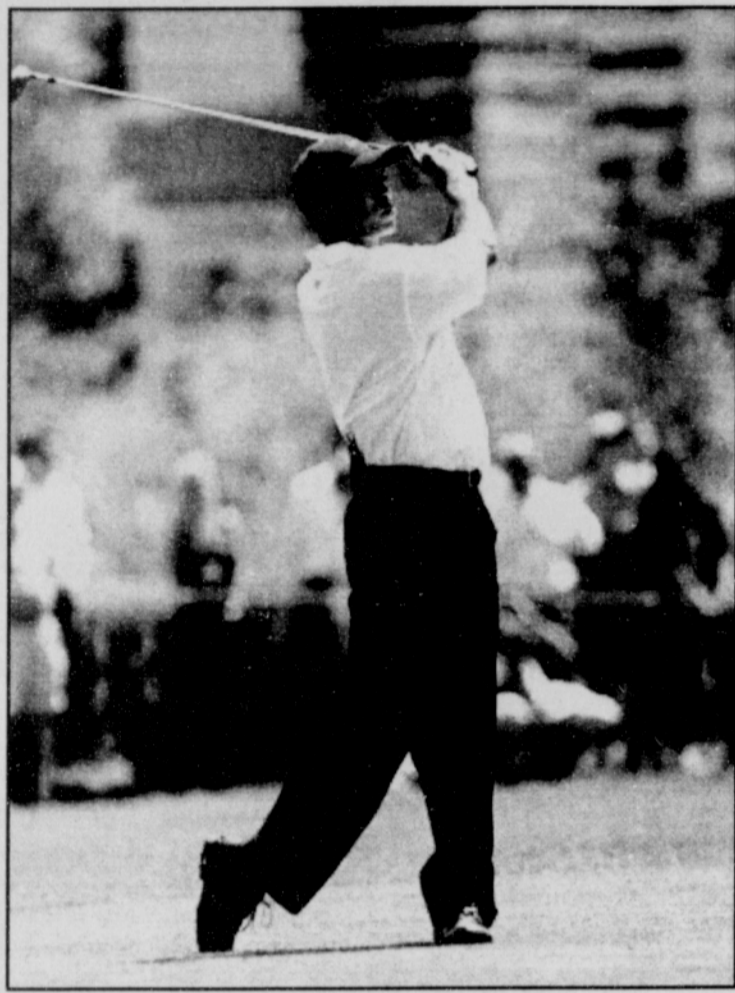


Portland **Metro/Sports** Observer

Nike Honors Woods at Headquarters



PHOTOS BY DAVE GIEZYNG/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER
Tiger Woods was at the Nike World Headquarters in Beaverton Friday displaying his world-class form to a large group of fans. Nike Chairman and CEO Phil Knight (right) introduced Woods and dedicated the new Tiger Woods Conference Center, a state-of-the-art facility. "We are honored to have him as a standard-bearer for the Nike brand," Knight said.

Campaign for Major Leagues Heats Up

(AP) — A proposal aimed at bringing major league baseball to Oregon is rounding second base.

The Oregon House has passed a measure that would put \$150 million in lottery bonds toward a new Portland stadium, but only after a team commits to relocating.

The bill had strong resistance, passing by a 31-to-27 vote. It now goes to the Senate.

The measure is intended to lure a struggling franchise to Portland. Backers have identified the Oakland A's and Montreal Expos as teams that are in financial trouble and might be interested in relocating, even though there's no stadium site in place and no prospective owner.

Supporters say bringing a team to Oregon would create tremendous economic opportunities for the state. But opponents say the state is setting the wrong priority by focusing its energies on baseball.

They say the venture is risky, and that the money would be better used in areas like rural infrastructure and education.

Dawson Park Celebration Saturday

After months of hard work, the Eliot Neighborhood Association and Legacy Emanuel Hospital will host a celebration on Saturday, June 2 to unveil the revitalized Dawson Park, a place where the community can now come together for recreation without feeling uncomfortable with their surrounding.

"Compared to last fall, where we

had a homicide and several reports of drug activity, Dawson Park has made a dramatic improvement," said Commander Derrick Foxworth of the Northeast Police Precinct. "Legacy Emanuel Hospital, the Portland Police Bureau, Portland Parks and Recreation and the neighborhood have been proactive in trying to improve the area's livability."

The community will have the chance to view all the positive changes that have taken place in the park, located at North Stanton and Williams. These improvements range from the increased presence of police and security officers to greater overall park cleanliness and safety. The event also will be a kickoff for the summer events to be held in the park.

The celebration will feature entertainment for all ages with live blues from Sheila Wilcoxson, card games, Bingo and free refreshments. Children will be able to participate in a bicycle and wagon parade, get their faces painted, listen to story telling and view vehicles ranging from a police mobile unit to the Life Flight Helicopter.

Teams Can't Find a Way to Stop Lakers

LOS ANGELES (AP) — There's a tidal wave that just keeps building out West, and it's overwhelming anything in its path.

Next victim: The Eastern Conference champion.

The Los Angeles Lakers finished off the San Antonio Spurs, the team with the best regular-season in the NBA, 111-82 Sunday for their 19th

victory in a row. "Custer had no idea. That's my statement. Figure it out," Spurs coach Gregg Popovich said. "The roll they're on is ridiculous." Los Angeles' 11-0 playoff start matches the NBA record set by the 1989 Lakers. That team was swept by Detroit in the finals after Magic Johnson and Byron Scott were injured. This team looks like a good bet to not only win its second

title in a row, but be the first in NBA history to go through the playoffs undefeated.

The Spurs' David Robinson expects the Lakers to go 15-0.

"Man, if they play like that, there is no way any of the Eastern teams will beat them," Robinson said. "If they play anything like that, there's no chance for them to get beat." Los An-

geles will have at least six days off to await the outcome of the Milwaukee-Philadelphia series in the East. The Spurs, 58-24 in the regular season, barely put up a fight in a clincher that was even more decisive than the Lakers' 111-72 blowout in Game 3. That one, at least, was close until the middle of the third quarter. This one was history before halftime.

High Court Upholds Disability-Bias Law

STORY CONTINUES FROM FRONT PAGE

public accommodation, the justices said. The decision upholds a lower court ruling that ordered the PGA Tour to let Martin use a cart. The lower court said using a cart would not give him an unfair advantage over his competitors.

Martin has a circulatory disorder in his right leg called Klippel-Trenaunay-Weber Syndrome that makes it painful for him to walk long distances. He sued the PGA Tour in 1997, saying the ADA — enacted in 1990 — gave him a right to use a cart during tour events.

Martin was a teammate of Tiger Woods at Stanford University, and the two used to room together on road trips. Woods has said that Martin sometimes would be in so much pain that he couldn't get up to use the bathroom. Jack Nicklaus and Arnold Palmer have spoken against allowing any player to use a cart in elite competition to accommodate a disability.

They have said that using a cart would give Martin an advantage and take away a basic part of the game: the ability to walk an 18-hole course.

The San Francisco-based 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled for Martin in March 2000. But the next day a Chicago-based federal appeals court ruled against Indiana golfer Ford Olinger, who sued the U.S. Golf Association for the right to use a cart in U.S. Open qualifying. The appeals court said a cart would change the nature of competition.

Among those supporting the PGA Tour in friend-of-the-court briefs were the Ladies Professional Golf Association and the men's pro tennis organization, the ATP Tour.

The Justice Department backed Martin, as did disability-rights groups including the National Association of Protection and Advocacy Systems and the Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund.

The case is PGA Tour v. Martin, 00-24.

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