

MEN'S NCAA  
TOURNAMENTBeavs' tourney bid  
is 2nd in 31 years

If you're looking for recent history for Oregon State in the NCAA men's basketball tournament, well, it's not a long story.

The Beavers' 2021 appearance is just the school's second in 31 years. As a No. 12 seed, they are scheduled to play fifth-seeded Tennessee on Friday at 1:30 p.m. on TNT.

But Oregon State does have a decent tournament history. This is their 18th tournament appearance. OSU heads to Indianapolis looking to end a drought, as the Beavers have lost seven consecutive games. The past six were in the first-round.

The last time Oregon State won in the NCAAs was 1982, when the Beavers advanced to the West Regional final, losing to Georgetown 69-45.

During this losing streak, OSU lost in 1984, 1985, 1988, 1989, 1990 and 2016. The Beavers' best seed was 1990, when as No. 5 they lost to Ball State 54-53.

The last time OSU played in the NCAA Tournament, the seventh-seeded Beavers lost to Virginia Commonwealth 75-67 in 2016.

Oregon State's all-time tournament record is 12-20, including 3-7 in first-round games. OSU earned several first-round byes.

The Beavers best tournament performance came in 1963, when they reached the Final Four before losing to Cincinnati.

OSU's all-time single-game scorer is Gary Payton, who scored 31 points in the Beavers' overtime loss to Evansville in 1988.

—The Oregonian

NCAA CROSS-  
COUNTRYOSU women earn  
best ever finish

STILLWATER, Okla. — The 23rd-ranked Oregon State women's cross-country team recorded the best team finish in program history, 16th (375 points), at the 2021 NCAA Championships on Monday morning at the Oklahoma State University Cross Country Course.

Kaylee Mitchell and Batya Beard both earned All-American honors for placing in the top 40.

"We executed a terrific plan today," said head coach Louie Quintana. "This was a very tough course and we really rose to the occasion. Two All-Americans in Kaylee and Batya is amazing!"

No. 2 BYU (96) claimed the team title, followed by fifth-ranked NC State (161), and fourth-ranked Stanford (207).

It was another strong showing for Mitchell, posting the highest individual finish in program history as she came in 20th with a time of 20 minutes, 38.5 seconds.

Beard tabbed a 37th-place finish after finishing the 6 kilometers in 20:57.7.

After completing the race in 21:33.9, Audrey Lookner finished 111th in the field of 256.

Meagen Lowe (21:50.0) recorded a 148th finish, while just five spots back was Greta Van Calcar (21:53.7) in 153rd.

Alyssa Foote notched a time of 22:08.9, finishing in 178th. Grace Fetherstonhaugh (22:40.5) took 220th.

—Bulletin staff report

## Women's NCAA Tournament

## WIDE-OPEN

**No. 6 seed Oregon** will play South Dakota Monday;  
**No. 8 seed Oregon State** will play Florida State on Sunday



« Oregon State's Aleah Goodman (1) drives around Oregon's Maddie Scherr (23) in the second round of the Pac-12 tournament on March 4 in Las Vegas.

John Locher/AP

BY DOUG FEINBERG  
AP Basketball Writer

**U**Conn is in its normal spot with a No. 1 seed for the women's NCAA Tournament. Familiar territory for Stanford and South Carolina, too.

It's a brand new day for North Carolina State. And the Huskies, while used to their position in the bracket, are facing some uncertainty after coach Geno Auriemma tested positive for the coronavirus.

N.C. State is a No. 1 seed for the first time, joining Stanford, South Carolina and Connecticut on the top lines for the San Antonio-themed regions for the

women's tourney. The Cardinal earned the overall No. 1 when the field was revealed Monday night.

Hall of Fame coach Tara VanDerveer downplayed being the top choice.

"What I really tell our team is seeds do not matter," she said. "It's not like you get any extra points when you show up at the gym."

VanDerveer said being healthy and excited to play was most important. Teams basically will be locked down in hotels except to head to practice or games as part of the stringent COVID-19 safety protocols.

Auriemma's Texas arrival will be delayed. He will remain in isolation for

10 days and can rejoin the team on March 24. The other members of UConn's travel party have tested negative for COVID-19.

Auriemma will miss the Huskies' opening game against High Point — one of four first-timers in the NCAAs — and a potential second-round matchup against either Syracuse or South Dakota State.

"I'm an innocent bystander right now. I'm going to sit back and watch them do their thing," he said. "(Assistant coach Chris Dailey) is undefeated in tournament play. I don't think you can get a coach who has a better record in the tournament than she does."

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## SLED-DOG RACING

Seavey wins fifth Iditarod race,  
matches most wins by a musher

BY MARK THIESSEN

Associated Press

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — Ever since Dallas Seavey became the youngest musher to win the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race in 2012, he's been bombarded by questions on whether he would eventually get five race titles, the most ever by a musher.

"I think it was probably 10 minutes after I won that first race that somebody mentioned five," he told The Associated Press before this year's race. "At that point, I said I got to worry about No. 2 first. I may be homeschooled, but I know that much, two comes after one."

Now Seavey, a 34-year-old considered by many to have the potential to become the race's great champion, will have to start fending off questions about No. 6. Seavey on Monday collected his fifth Iditarod title, winning the pandemic-shortened race by more than three hours over second-place musher Aaron Burmeister.

He matched the record of five wins by Rick Swenson, known as the King of the Iditarod for picking up those titles from 1977-91.

"It's a big deal," Seavey said at



Dallas Seavey poses with his dogs after winning the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race near Willow, Alaska, early Monday.

the finish line after a race official checked to make sure his sled was complete with a sleeping bag, axe, dog booties and other mandatory gear. His 5 a.m. finish was televised statewide.

Seavey said he didn't allow himself to think about a fifth win on the trail because he didn't want to

jinx it.

"That's huge, man," he said. "I looked up to the Iditarod champions my whole life and I've dreamed about this my whole life. And now to actually go from that, to see it happen, to realize that, that's pretty cool."

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## PAC-12 | COMMENTARY

View from  
Las Vegas  
has changed

BY JOHN CANZANO

The Oregonian

**L**AS VEGAS — It was just a couple of years ago that Pac-12 Conference commissioner Larry Scott checked himself into the two-bedroom "Sky Villa" at ARIA Resort and Casino.

The 3,370-square foot suite came with the 24-hour butler service, a private elevator, and a marble jacuzzi soaking tub. Upon arrival, Scott and his wife were served a bottle of Veuve Clicquot champagne and chocolate-dipped strawberries. Nightly room rate: \$7,500.

This was 2019 and Scott's cash-strapped conference was slogging through a four-day men's basketball tournament, trying to crown a champion. The suite was a "comp," Scott soon claimed, pointing out that it came as part of the conference's sponsorship package with MGM Resorts to hold the tournament in Las Vegas.

"That didn't really matter," said one current Pac-12 AD. "The optics were beyond bad."



Scott

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