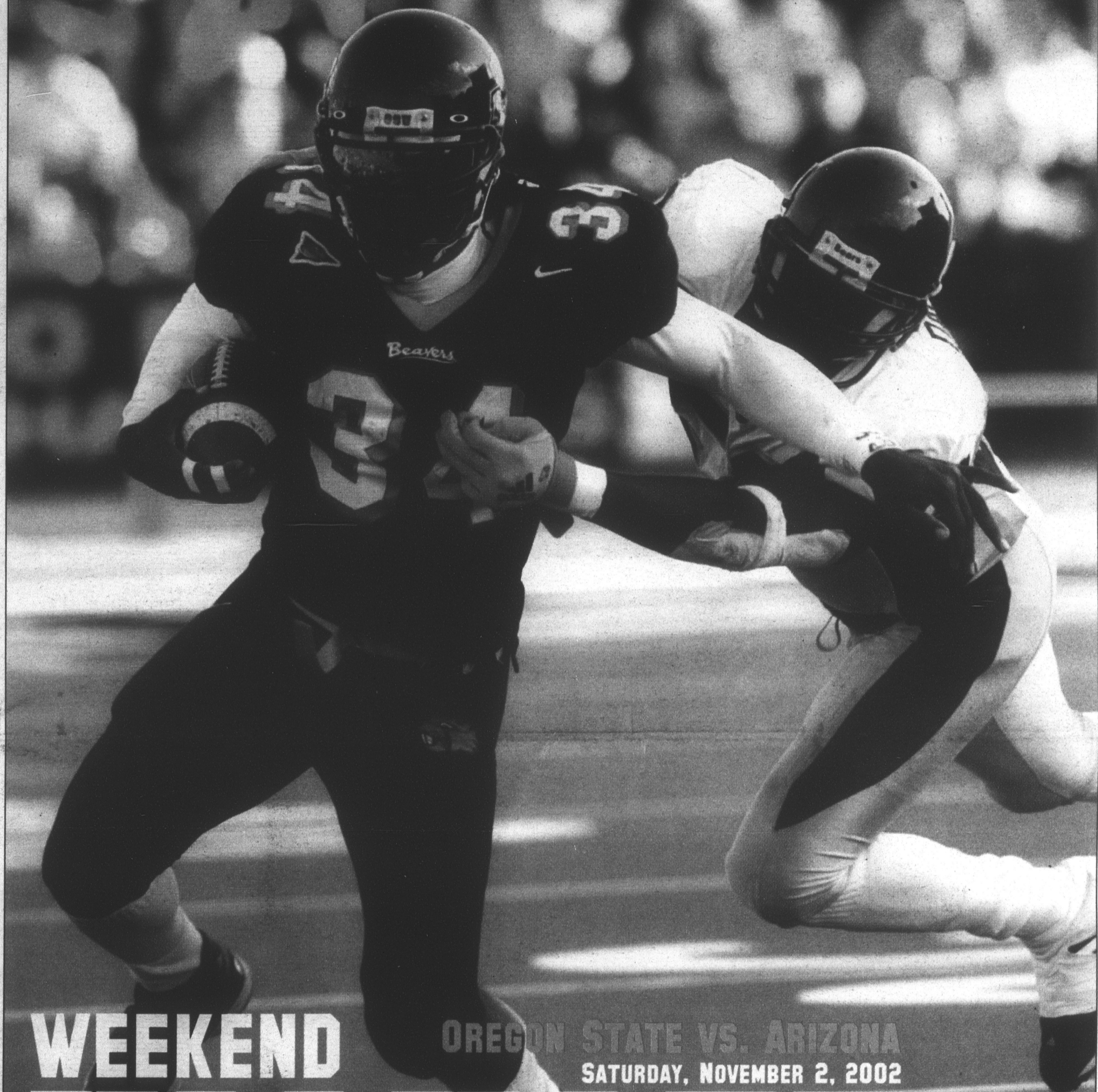


# 1,000-yard rusher Steven Jackson



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#### PAC-10 COVERAGE

From around the conference, we have the latest information on who's hot and who's not

PAGES 2, 3, 6



#### GEORGIA VS. FLORIDA

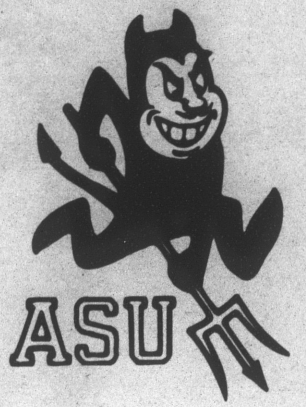
Georgia takes on Florida in Jacksonville

PAGE 7





# AROUND THE PAC-10



## WSU still unbeaten in Pac standings

► Pac-10 unbeaten clash Saturday in Pullman

By JOHN K. WILEY  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

SPOKANE, Wash. — Washington State coach Mike Price thinks he has seen this Arizona State team before.

Last year's Cougars team, picked in pre-season to finish at the bottom of the Pacific-10 Conference, came from nowhere to compete for the conference title.

Much like the Sun Devils this season. "They are similar to us. They kind of came from nowhere," Price said Tuesday in a telephone news conference from Pullman. "Gosh, who would have thought we both would be undefeated at this time in conference play?"

Both teams are undefeated in four conference contests as the eighth-ranked Cougars (7-1) welcome the No. 16 Sun Devils (7-2) Saturday in a game that could determine the league's Rose Bowl participant.

Arizona State still has to play Southern California, and a WSU win would knock one of those teams out of Rose Bowl consideration, Price said. An Arizona State victory would give the Sun Devils the Rose Bowl tiebreaker.

"It's important to both teams," Price said.

The similarities don't end there. Both the Sun Devils and Cougars are led by top quarterbacks capable of bringing their teams back from behind and both have tough defenses that continue to improve each week.

The Sun Devils feature defensive end Terrell Suggs, who leads the nation and conference in sacks with 17.5. Suggs, a junior, was this week's Pac-10 Conference defensive player of the week for his role in ASU's 27-16 win against Washington.

The week before, the conference offensive player of the week was quarterback Andrew Walter, who has turned around Arizona State's offensive fortunes, Price said.

"Their defense is good and they get

after it," Price said. "They made a quarterback change and boom, now that popped them and gave them some momentum and kind of changed the direction of their offense."

Although Jason Gesser and the WSU offense struggled during last week's 21-13 win at Arizona, Price said he liked what he saw from the defense.

"If we play defense here like we did at Arizona, we've got a great chance to win. Our defense played great," Price said. "We'll get our offense coming back. We'd better be ready, because (the Sun Devils) are real, real good."

The Arizona State game is one of three in a row that the Cougars are scheduled to play at home in Martin Stadium. After ASU, Oregon and Washington visit Pullman.

"There's a huge advantage to play at home every week," Price said. "They come up to Washington State, it's a tough place to play. We're sold out. There was a 3 1/2 hour wait for 500 tickets yesterday. This town is just jumping."

## Arizona State gets prepared

► Coach wants complete effort from both offensive and defensive units

By MEL REISNER  
AP SPORTS WRITER

TEMPE, Ariz. — Arizona State coach Dirk Koetter has seen half of an overwhelming game from his 16th-ranked team.

This weekend, he wants a replay from the defense and the best his offense can muster. He figures it will take a united effort to beat No. 8 Washington State for sole possession of the Pac-10 lead.

"I still think we have yet to play our best game as a team," Koetter said Monday. "Our offense and defense have been alternating on dominating the game while the other side of the ball rides the coattails. I'm anxious to see us play a complete game on both sides of the ball."

The alternation was obvious the last two games — offense dominated when Arizona State (7-2, 4-0) outgunned Oregon 45-42 on Oct. 19, and the defense took its turn with eight sacks of Washington's Cody Pickett in a 27-16 win over the Huskies on Saturday.

Defensive end Terrell Suggs had 4 1/2 sacks, tying the year-old NCAA season record (17 1/2) and moving within 1 1/2 of Al Harris' school-best 19 set in 1978, before the NCAA began keeping sack records. Suggs had two other tackles for loss, 12 tackles in all and put on the pressure that caused Pickett to throw an interception deep in his own territory.

"I have never seen a college player dominate a single game like the way Terrell Suggs domi-

nated that game," Koetter said.

The coach awarded game balls to Suggs and Jimmy Verdon, the other defensive end, along with safety Riccardo Stewart and cornerback Brett Hudson.

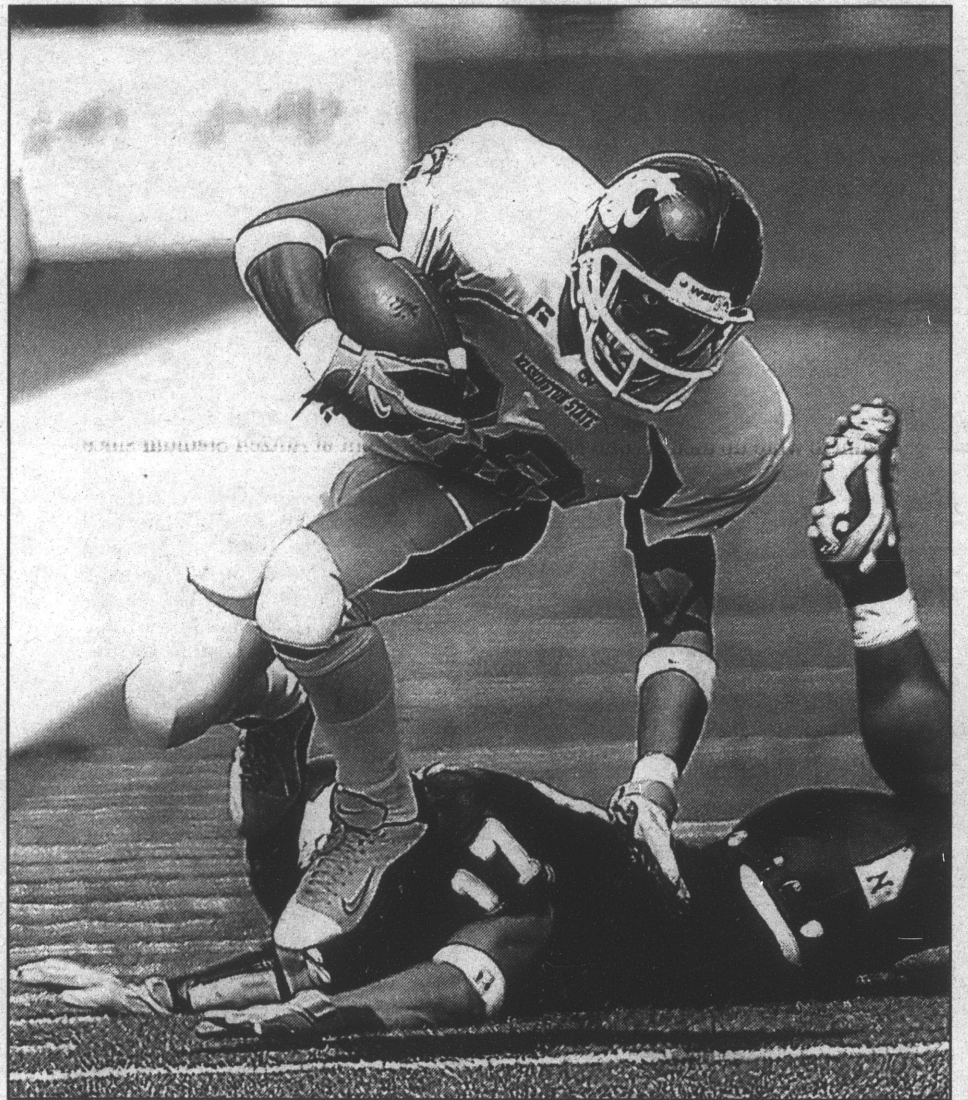
Washington outgunned the Sun Devils 252-229, and Koetter wasn't pleased with the offense despite Andrew Walter's 67 percent completion rate for 184 yards and two touchdowns.

Tailbacks Hakim Hill (35 yards), Mike Williams (23) and Cornell Canidate (21) combined for 79 yards.

"We aren't as bad as people think we are," Koetter said about the trio. "Sometimes our backs won't hit the holes right, or our line will miss blocks. It's not as far away as it might seem from where it should be. I am not happy with where our running game is, but let's not lose sight: The object of the game is to win, not to have a good running game."

Koetter said the artificial turf at Washington State should be no problem, since his team thrived on the same turf at Oregon. He was more concerned with the Cougars' defense, which is second in the Pac-10 with 32 sacks. Arizona State leads with 40 in more games than the Cougars (7-1, 4-0).

"All their guys have good pass-rush moves," Koetter said. "That we (offensive line) go against Terrell and Jimmy Verdon every day in practice helps a lot. We have to put a tight end or an extra back to get in there and block. That is going to be one of the biggest challenges for us this week, because we need to keep Andrew on his feet and give him time. That's going to be the trick for us."



WASHINGTON STATE SPORTS INFORMATION

The Washington State Cougars have a bevy of solid receivers for star quarterback Jason Gesser to throw to.

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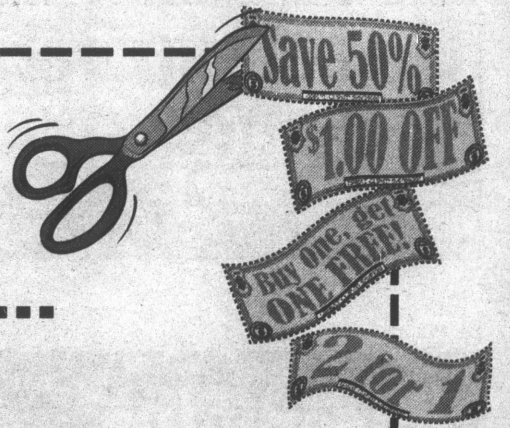
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# AROUND THE PAC-10



## Ducks looking to break losing streak

► Onterio's hurting; new high-tech 'character'

By ANNE M. PETERSON  
AP SPORTS WRITER

EUGENE — Oregon's star tailback Onterio Smith was nursing a knee injury this week, but he vowed it wouldn't get in the way of the rest of his season.

Smith sat out practices Monday and Tuesday with swelling in his left knee. He said the injury occurred sometime during the first half of Oregon's 44-33 loss to Southern California last Saturday.

Smith was held to 79 yards rushing by the Trojans, stopping his streak of seven-straight games with at least 100 yards.

"I'm just giving it a little rest right now. At the time, I was out there, full of adrenaline, and didn't really feel it. It's just another one of those knick-knack injuries," he said.

Smith has been getting massages and working out in the pool. He said he was "about 75 percent" but should be ready for Saturday's home game against Stanford.

"I wouldn't say it's putting my season in jeopardy or anything like that. As soon as this gets better, I'll be ready to go," he said.

Smith is looking for a little bit of revenge against the Cardinal, who spoiled Oregon's perfect season last year. The Ducks were upset 49-42 by Stanford last season at Autzen Stadium to wrap up their second Pacific-10 Conference championship season at 11-1.

The Ducks had a 23-game winning streak at home before the Cardinal came in. To make things worse, Smith found Stanford's post-game celebration insulting.

"It's going to be easy for us to get back up and be ready for Stanford. We owe them something. They took a lot away from us last year. They came in here took a lot away from us and broke our streak," he said.

"Right here at Autzen, they were stomping on the "O" really disrespectfully."

### NEW MASCOT?:

With an eye toward the video-game set, Oregon unveiled a new character with a Power Rangers feel.

Don't worry: Donald Duck is still the school's official mascot. Oregon officials aren't even calling the duck bill-masked mystery man a mascot. He's just a character for now.

And he's not named. Oregon plans a contest to name the Lycra-clad

muscular green character, who made his debut last Saturday before the Ducks' game against Southern California.

The new guy was "hatched" from an egg in a pregame ceremony, then went on to cavort with Donald on the sidelines during Oregon's 44-33 loss to Southern California.

He'll be around for the Oregon home football and basketball games.

The creator of the stylized Duck is Scappoose resident Michael Curry, who designed some of the characters of Broadway's "The Lion King" and had a hand in the opening ceremonies for the 2002 Winter Olympics.

### SCOUTING OREGON:

Some of Oregon's fans at Saturday's 44-33 loss to Southern California couldn't believe it. And the players couldn't believe it either.

Two straight losses at home? Impossible!

But now that reality has set in, the No. 19 Ducks (6-2, 2-2) want to make sure that two doesn't turn into three this Saturday against Stanford (2-5, 1-3).

"Three straight losses isn't fathomable. But two losses wasn't a fathomable thought either," quarterback Jason Fife said. "We're now aware of the fact that we're human, we're going to make mistakes, but at the same time, we want to minimize those and come out on top."

Oregon had not lost two consecutive games since 1999, and hadn't lost two straight at Autzen Stadium since 1997.

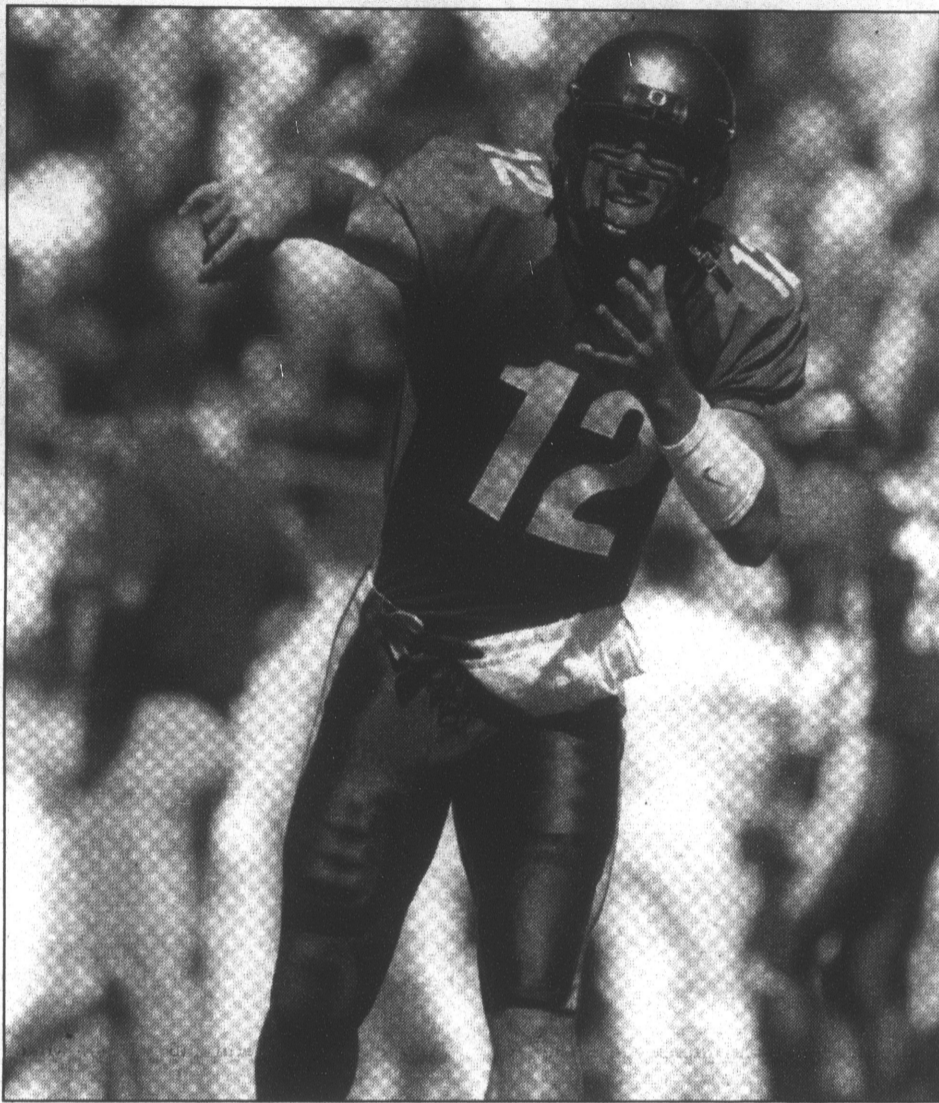
They were 6-0, ranked No. 6 in the nation and looking for a share of a third straight Pacific-10 Conference championship two weekends ago when they ran into the surprising Arizona State Sun Devils, who downed the Ducks 45-42. Then came the Trojans.

"If we had gone 3-1 and 3-1 and that's how we came to 6-2, people wouldn't feel so bad," coach Mike Bellotti said. "When you go 6-0 and 0-2, then it's all magnified."

Arizona State and Washington State remain undefeated in the Pacific-10 Conference. The Ducks visit Pullman, Wash., next Saturday.

### DUCK CALLS:

Stanford leads Oregon 43-21-1 in the series that dates back to 1900. Stanford has won four of the last five overall, and four of the last five in Eugene. With a touchdown catch against USC last week, Oregon wide receiver Keenan Howry has scored on every Pac-10 team.



OREGON SPORTS INFORMATION

Oregon quarterback Jason Fife has been efficient this season, but the Ducks have lost their last two games.

## Cardinal hoping for upset

Last year Stanford and Oregon met at Eugene and the Cardinal pulled off a comeback victory to knock off the No. 5 ranked Ducks 49-42 in an offensive shootout that featured 13 touchdowns. Stanford scored 21 unanswered points in the final nine minutes to erase a 42-28 deficit in what would prove to be Oregon's only loss in an 11-1 season. It also ended Oregon's longest-in-the-nation home winning streak at 23.

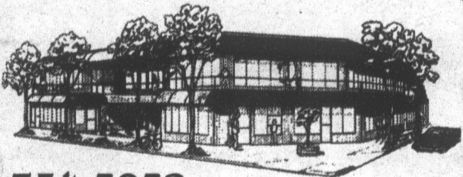
Stanford's comeback was fueled by a blocked punt, an onside kick and an interception which kept getting the ball back for the Cardinal offense. Running back Kerry Carter tied a Stanford record by rushing for four TDs with the

game-winner coming with 1:10 remaining in the game. For the Ducks, WR Keenan Howry had a monster game with nine receptions for 152 yards and two TDs, plus five punt returns for 186 yards, including a 69-yard return for a TD. Onterio Smith scored on a 96-yard kickoff return for the Ducks in a big day for special teams.

Saturday's game will mark the Cardinal final trip outside the Bay Area this season. Stanford leads the Pac-10 in rushing at 159.1 yards per game. Stanford led the Pac-10 last year as well. With Carter and Kenneth Tolon II both in the top 10 Pac-10 rushing list, the Cardinal are the only team to have two such backs.

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**Passing**

**Completions-Attempts:** 125-258  
**Yards:** 1845  
**Touchdowns:** 17  
**Interceptions:** 6  
Adam Rothenfuh: 7-11; 64 yards; 0 TD.

**Rushing**

**Attempts-Yards:** 167-1004  
**Touchdowns:** 8  
**Yards Per Game:** 125.5  
Dwight Wright: 58-290; 3 TD; 41.4 YPG.  
Josh Farrell: 13-32; 0 TD.

**Receiving**

**Receptions-Yards:** 39-605  
**Touchdowns:** 7  
**Average Per Catch:** 15.5  
Tim Euhus: 15-220; 1 TD; 14.7 YPC.  
Kenny Farley: 20-397; 2 TD; 19.9 YPC.

**Oregon State Schedule**

Aug. 29	Eastern Kentucky	W, 49-10	1-0, 0-0 Pac-10
Sept. 5	@Temple	W, 35-3	2-0, 0-0
Sept. 14	UNLV	W, 47-17	3-0, 0-0
Sept. 21	Fresno State	W, 59-19	4-0, 0-0
Sept. 28	@USC	L, 0-22	4-1, 0-1
Oct. 5	UCLA	L, 35-43	4-2, 0-2
Oct. 12	@Arizona State	L, 9-13	4-3, 0-3
Oct. 26	California	W, 24-13	5-3, 1-3
Nov. 2	Arizona	Corvallis	1:00 p.m.
Nov. 9	@Washington	Seattle	12:30 p.m.
Nov. 16	@Stanford	Palo Alto	2:00 p.m.
Nov. 23	Oregon	Corvallis	1:00 p.m.

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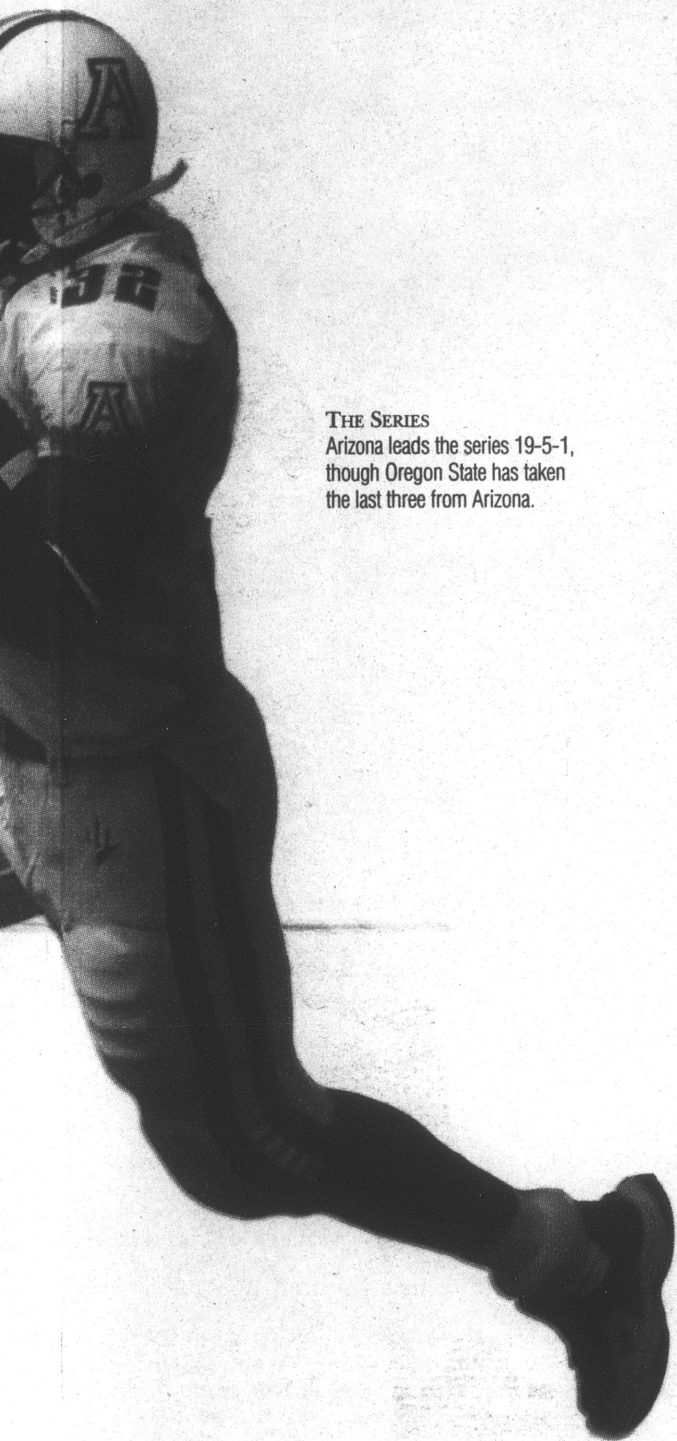
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Arizona leads the series 19-5-1, though Oregon State has taken the last three from Arizona.

Photo courtesy Arizona Sports Information



**Passing**

Completions-Attempts:	166-283
Yards:	2328
Touchdowns:	11
Interceptions:	9



JASON JOHNSON

**Rushing**

Attempts-Yards:	85-299
Touchdowns:	1
Yards Per Game:	31.5

MIKE BELL

**Receiving**

Receptions-Yards:	67-940
Touchdowns:	7
Average Per Catch:	14.0

BOBBY WADE

Andrew Thurman: 38-559; 2 TD.  
Lance Relford: 14-182.

**California Schedule**

Aug. 31	Northern Arizona	W, 37-3	1-0, 0-0 Pac-10
Sept. 14	Utah	W, 23-17	2-0, 0-0
Sept. 21	@Wisconsin	L, 10-31	2-1, 0-0
Sept. 28	North Texas	W, 14-9	3-1, 0-0
Oct. 5	Oregon	L, 14-31	3-2, 0-1
Oct. 12	@Washington	L, 28-32	3-3, 0-2
Oct. 19	@Stanford	L, 6-16	3-4, 0-3
Oct. 26	Washington State	L, 13-21	3-5, 0-4
Nov. 2	@OSU	Corvallis	1 p.m.
Nov. 9	UCLA	Tucson	6:07 p.m.
Nov. 16	@California	Berkeley	12:30 p.m.
Nov. 23	Arizona State	Tucson	12:00 p.m.

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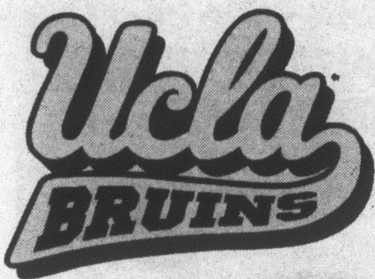
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## AROUND THE PAC-10



### Bruins draw on freshmen

► UCLA's Toledo has choice of quarterbacks this week

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES — There's not exactly a quarterback controversy brewing at UCLA, but coach Bob Toledo at least has a choice when he picks the starter to face Washington.

After losing No. 1 Cory Paus to a broken ankle and backup Drew Olson to a shoulder separation in a loss at California on Oct. 19, Toledo had only one real option in that game, and that didn't work well. Freshman John Sciarra completed just one of seven passes and threw an interception, lost a fumble and was sacked twice in that 17-12 defeat.

So last week, the UCLA coach called on Matt Moore, a true freshman who was going to redshirt this year.

Moore, who had never taken a snap in a college game, was solid if unspectacular in the game against Stanford, completing 7-of-19 for 142 yards and a touchdown. Most importantly, he committed no turnovers.

As the Bruins (5-3, 2-2 Pac-10) prepare to meet the Huskies on Saturday, Olson is healing up, and he and Moore will be battling this week for the starting job.

"We're going to look at Drew Olson, see how he's throwing," Toledo said Monday. "He could have played against Stanford if he had to. He was throwing the ball better the past few days and hopefully with some rest, he'll be throwing it even better."

"Matt Moore is taking this thing very well. He knew he had to play and win the football game on Saturday, and he did his job."

Toledo said it would be late in the week, even up to game time, before he announced the starter against the Huskies (4-4, 1-3).

"I'm sure they'll both play and will play in the future," he said. "They're both going to be

outstanding quarterbacks."

While Moore showed impressive poise in his first college game, so did all the Bruins. Stanford capitalized on a fumbled punt and a bad snap to go up 15-0 just 4 1/2 minutes into the game.

"What impressed me was the way we stayed with it. We really got in a tough position early," Toledo said. "That's what's impressive about this team, its resolve."

The Bruins' offense, led by freshman Tyler Ebell's 160 yards rushing, steadily chipped away at the deficit and he scored the go-ahead touchdown on an 18-yard run early in the fourth quarter.

"The main thing we did, and it was obvious watching our plan unfold, was that we didn't want to beat ourselves," said Toledo, who kept the offense simple for Moore. "We figured if we didn't beat ourselves, we could beat Stanford and that's exactly what happened."

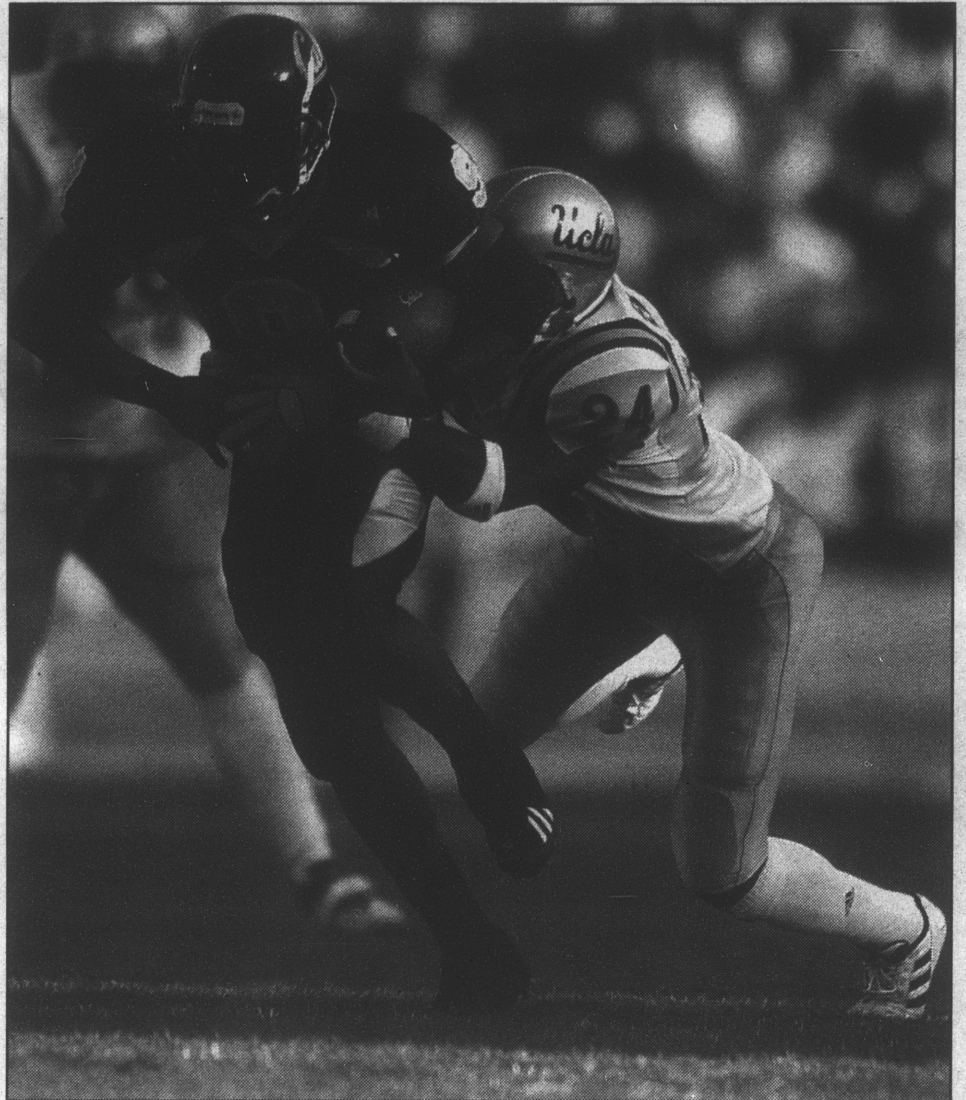
After the Bruins fell behind early, UCLA's defense limited the Cardinal to a field goal the rest of the way.

The victory snapped the Bruins' two-game losing streak.

"That was a good win for us, good win for our program. We lost two tough games back to back, and that was like a nice injection that we needed," the coach said. "I'm so proud of our small group of seniors, they're the ones who keep this thing going. They lead by example."

Although Washington is only .500 this season, Toledo figures the Bruins have a tough game coming up in Seattle.

"They've got great fans, usually lead the league in attendance, and it will be their homecoming game," he said. "The elements always are a factor there, if not the rain, then the wind. But we've played well on the road and hope to continue."



Bruin safety Ben Emanuel makes a tackle against California. UCLA has one of the best secondaries in the Pac-10.

UCLA SPORTS INFORMATION

### Washington woes continue, Neuheisel still looking for answers

► Huskies still puzzled, looking for answers after first 4-4 since 1977

By TIM KORTE  
AP Sports Writer

SEATTLE — Another week, another puzzled expression on the face of Washington coach Rick Neuheisel.

The Huskies are 4-4 for the first time in 25 years.

Dating back to last season, their record over the last 12 games is 5-7, padded with three victories in a row earlier this fall over San Jose State, Wyoming and Idaho.

Nobody expected this.

"Finding ourselves in this situation is a surprise to me," Neuheisel said Monday. "I wish I could tell you I saw it coming and I know how we arrived here. But sometimes in the forest, you can't hear the trees falling."

"I'm very, very disappointed."

The reasons haven't changed for several weeks. The Huskies (4-4, 1-3 Pac-10) have a punchless running game and a well-meaning defense that holds for series after series but then allows big plays at important times.

Neuheisel identified some of the problem areas from last weekend's 27-16 loss at Arizona State: poor blocking, an ineffective kicking game and weakened performances as the game wore on.

As he's done previously, Neuheisel blamed himself and his assistants and said he would take responsibility for fixing the problems.

"I'm reluctant to point at players," Neuheisel said. "I prefer to point at myself. I think you get better results when you look to yourself for different ways to do things."

With UCLA (5-3, 2-2) visiting Saturday, the Huskies still don't know what's gone wrong.

"If we knew the answers, we wouldn't be

losing," receiver Paul Arnold said.

Several players said the frustration is growing, but the Huskies are doing their best to channel it constructively. Quarterback Cody Pickett said there have been plenty of players-only meetings in recent weeks.

"And I think we're going to have a lot more," he said. "Times are tough, but guys are coming together."

They'd better do it quickly. Limited by a 79.5 yards-per-game rushing average, which ranks 112th nationally among 117 Division I-A teams, the Huskies have thrown for 356.8 yards passing per game, ranking fourth in the country.

That one-dimensional approach, though, makes it easy for opponents to decide how to defend against the Huskies.

"We've gone more to drop-back throwing because of the numbers that Cody's having and the great start our receivers had,"

Neuheisel said. "But as we've gone further in the season and slowed down, the protection has gotten harder. We've got to retool ourselves."

Things aren't looking up. Pickett is coming off his poorest performance of the season, held to a season-low 210 yards passing against Arizona State, and Washington gained only 252 total yards.

Already this season, the Huskies saw their 17-game homefield winning streak snapped by California. Neuheisel is also aware that Washington has gone 25 years without a losing season.

"It's right there staring us in the face," he said. "If ever there was a call to arms, it's now. We have got to find a way to play with great passion."

And Neuheisel, as always, is still talking like an optimist.

"It makes it an even sweeter story when we get out," he said.

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# Gators look for big win in Jacksonville, Florida

► Georgia is hoping to get the win versus Grossman and the Gators

By KYLE DOVER  
BAROMETER SPORTS WRITER

This weekend, Chris Fowler and ESPN's College Gameday crew roll into Jacksonville, Florida, site of the World's Greatest Outdoor Cocktail Party.

No. 5 Georgia boasts an 8-0 overall record and a 5-0 record in the SEC and will be taking on No. 22 Florida who is 5-3 overall and 3-2 in the SEC.

Everyone in the country continues to criticize Florida football.

For the first time in over 200 weeks, the Gators dropped out of the AP Poll and head coach Ron Zook is taking most of the heat.

Pre-season Heisman candidate QB Rex Grossman is no longer a contender for the trophy and is playing on a bad leg.

Not to mention the Gators have dropped two games in 'The Swamp' by huge margins. But what most people overlook is the fact that the Gators lost WR's Reche Caldwell and Jabar Gaffney and OT Mike Pearson to the 2nd Round of the NFL Draft. Also playing on Sunday is DE Alex Brown who led the Gator defense last year.

Georgia will see an entire new offensive attack this year from the Gators. Running back Earnest Graham has totaled 637 yards on 142 carries and eight TD's, giving Florida a more balanced attack.

Receiver Taylor Jacobs is averaging 15.9 yards per catch and also has eight TD's and WR Carlos Perez has emerged as yet another great Florida receiver with 420 yards and three TD's. Florida has even run some option plays this season, which would never have been called under Spurrier.

As for Grossman, he is not having the season of last year. Throwing more interceptions than touchdowns so far, he has still totalled over 2,000 passing yards.

Against Auburn, those of you watching on ESPN saw the Gators drop a convincing lead to the Tigers and block a kick in order to force overtime. On fourth down, Grossman was about to be drilled by the Tiger defense and

managed to throw a 16-yard dart to Jacobs for the game winning TD.

Some critics claimed it was the best pass of his life. It just showed the nation that Grossman is a competitor and still has what it takes to win games.

Georgia comes across the Florida border line without receiver Damien Gary, who has been sidelined for the year after undergoing an emergency surgery on a bleeding muscle tear in his left leg.

The status of WR Fred Gibson is uncertain due to a torn ligament in his thumb. However, running back Musa Smith will return to the backfield this weekend after recovering from a broken thumb.

Keep in mind that Georgia still has Terrence Edwards who is averaging 16.7 yards per catch and has nine TD's this season. Edwards has 651 total receiving yards making him second in the SEC only to Jacobs' 905 yards. Sophomore QB David Greene has 1,815 passing yards to go along with his 16 TD's this season for the Dawgs.

On paper, the game looks pretty even. Both teams are averaging right around 400 total yards of offense per game including over 265 yards of passing. Georgia is putting up around 34 points per game while the Gators are posting a lower 28 points per game.

Former Gator Jabar Gaffney had a few words of encouragement for the Gators and some billboard material for the Bulldogs.

"Georgia knows they can't win when they face Florida. That's in the back of (the Bulldog's) minds," he told the Miami Herald. "Everybody around here knows we will beat Georgia."

Also on Georgia's billboard this week will be what Gator lineman Shannon Snell had to say about the Bulldogs.

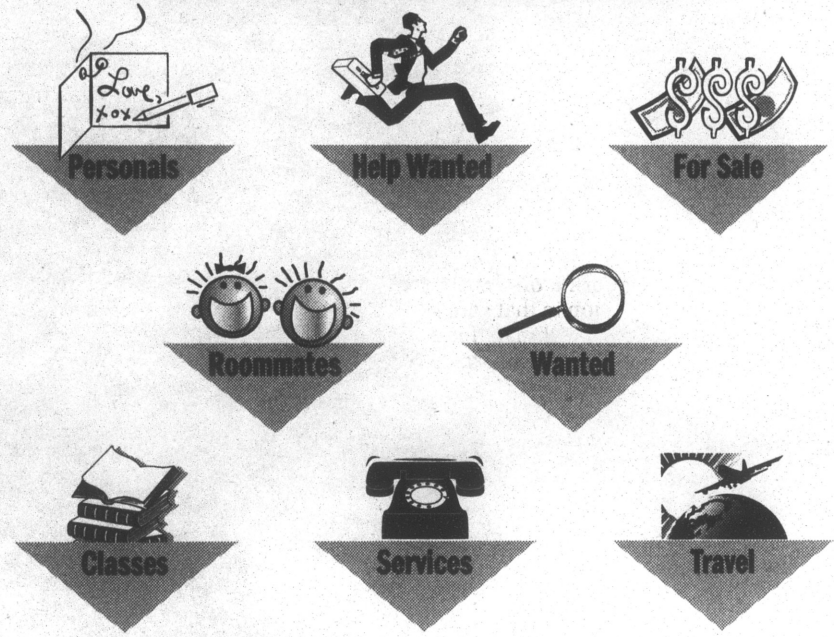
"They've got Auburn after us, they've got Ole Miss," Snell told the AP. "They can put that up as bulletin board material. I don't care. One of those teams is going to knock them off."

Georgia will be looking to clinch their first SEC East title since 1992, the year that the conference split into two divisions. The Gators have won 11 of the last 12 meetings in Jacksonville, making way for a great game.

Kyle Dover is a sports writer for The Daily Barometer. He can be reached at baro.sports@studentmedia.orst.edu.

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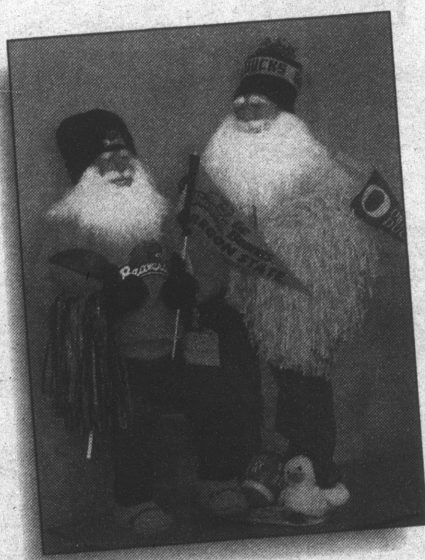
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## BCS Standings

	Poll		Comp		Schedule			Sub		QWin	Tot.
	AP	U-E	Avg.	Avg.	Str	Rank	L	Total			
1. Oklahoma	2	2	2.0	1.17	14	0.56	0	3.73	-0.4	3.33	
2. Miami	1	1	1.0	4.33	34	1.36	0	6.69	0.0	6.69	
3. Notre Dame	4	6	5.0	1.83	4	0.16	0	6.99	0.0	6.99	
4. Georgia	5	5	5.0	3.00	6	0.24	0	8.24	0.0	8.24	
5. Ohio State	6	4	5.0	3.83	24	0.96	0	9.79	-0.3	9.49	
6. Virginia Tech	3	3	3.0	6.00	47	1.88	0	10.88	0.0	10.88	
7. Texas	7	7	7.0	7.00	16	0.64	1	15.64	0.0	15.64	
8. Washington St.	8	9	8.5	9.17	26	1.04	1	19.71	0.0	19.71	
9. N.C. State	10	8	9.0	8.33	85	3.40	0	20.73	0.0	20.73	
10. Iowa	9	10	9.5	10.67	43	1.72	1	22.89	0.0	22.89	
11. Southern Cal	11	11	11.0	10.00	1	0.04	2	23.04	0.0	23.04	
12. Colorado	13	12	12.5	14.17	21	0.84	2	29.51	0.0	29.51	
13. Michigan	15	13	14.0	14.50	18	0.72	2	31.22	0.0	31.22	
14. LSU	17	15	16.0	17.58	30	1.20	2	36.78	0.0	36.78	
15. Kansas St.	14	14	14.0	19.83	32	1.28	2	37.11	0.0	37.11	

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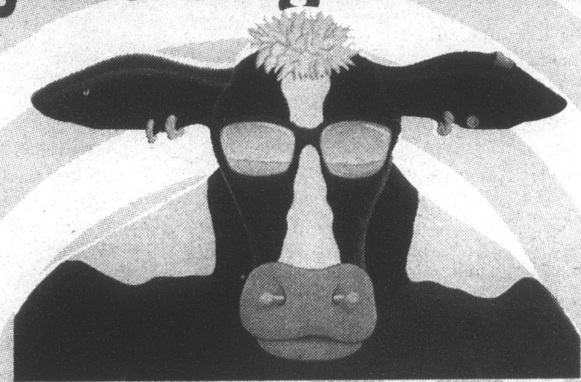
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# Arizona stumped in Pac-10 play

► The Wildcats, missing star running back Clarence Farmer, attempt to Wade through OSU

By ERIC POWELL  
BAROMETER SPORTS WRITER

Top to bottom the Pac-10 is hands down the most competitive conference in college football. Both Arizona (3-5, 0-4 Pac-10) and Oregon State (5-3, 1-3) learned that an impressive non-conference showing meant nothing coming into Pac-10 play.

OSU started this season 4-0, but then dropped their first three conference games before defeating California last week at Reser Stadium.

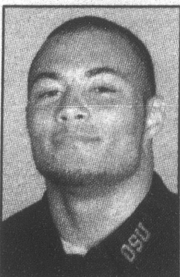
The Wildcats also began with a successful run, starting their season 3-1. But after four weeks in Pac-10 play the Wildcats are still searching for their first conference win.



Bray: Defensive Coordinator



Kilkeny: May return to O-Line



Seigler: Linebacker has been solid all year

Arizona's 3-5 record isn't as bad as it may seem. Four of the five Wildcat losses have come at the hands of opponents ranked in the top 25, including two in the top ten.

With former starting tailback Clarence Farmer out for the season with a knee injury, the Wildcats have had to rely heavily on their passing attack to compete in ball games. The junior led the Pac-10 in rushing a year ago with 1,229 yards and was on pace to have another exceptional year with his 360 yards through four games this season.

The running duties have fallen in the lap of redshirt freshman Mike Bell. As the go-

to guy Bell has done an admirable job averaging three yards per carry, although he has managed only one touchdown on the season.

Quarterback Jason Johnson has stepped up his play in Farmer's absence, but has yet to lead his team to victory in the four weeks without Farmer. With 2,328 yards passing this season and a 58.7 completion percentage, Johnson is hardly to blame for Arizona's sluggish start in the conference.



GRANT KAYE | BAROMETER STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Oregon State tailback Steven Jackson had a huge game against California, helped in part by downfield blocking by his receivers like James Newson. Newson was held to one catch on the day, but made similar blocks throughout the contest.

Serving as Johnson's favorite target is senior wide receiver Bobby Wade.

At 5-foot-11 and 185 pounds, Wade has been one of the most productive receivers in the nation during his career at Arizona. Wade leads the Pac-10 in receiving yards per game with 122 and in receptions with 8.3. On the season Wade has 940 yards receiving and is the team leader with seven touchdowns. The 3-year letter winner out of Phoenix is equally as dangerous as a kick and punt returner with long returns of 37 and 64 yards respectively.

Linebacker Lance Briggs is the heart and soul of the Arizona defense. Attempting to recreate the spirit of past Arizona defenses known as the 'Desert Swarm', Briggs has been all over the field in his seven starts for the Wildcats. Although missing the team's game against Oregon due to injury, Briggs still leads the Arizona defense with 67 total tackles, including 49 solo. Named as a preseason All-American from his inside linebacker position, the 6-2, 245 pound senior has certainly proved he was deserving of that honor.

Last week against No. 9 Washing-

ton State, Briggs had 14 tackles and one sack in his team's narrow loss to the Cougars.

Junior defensive end Joe Siofele and senior linebacker Ray Wells have worked along side Briggs to keep the Wildcats defense clicking. Siofele is second on the team with 48 tackles and two fumble recoveries. Wells is tops on the team with his four sacks and is tied for second with 33 solo tackles.

Over the years the Wildcats have enjoyed a great deal of success against the Beavers with a 19-5-1 overall record against OSU. But as is the case with most Oregon State

opponents, the historical numbers have been misleading.

The Beavs have won three in a row against Arizona, including last year's 38-3 Oregon State victory in Corvallis.

ASU is trying to avoid its second straight 0-5 start to Pac-10 play while OSU finally finds themselves in the win column in Pac-10 play after their dominant running performance against Cal.

Kickoff for the game will be at 1 p.m.

Eric Powell is a sports writer for The Daily Barometer. He can be reached at [baro.sports@studentmedia.orst.edu](mailto:baro.sports@studentmedia.orst.edu).

## Wildcats looking for ball carriers

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TUCSON, Ariz. — Arizona, still winless in the Pac-10, needs ball carriers. Make that just one who can keep defenses honest and get positive yardage.

The Wildcats (3-5, 0-4) have a four-game losing streak in part because they haven't been able to establish a running game. Arizona ranks 115th nationally, third from the bottom, and quarterback Jason Johnson feels like he's calling signals according to the other team's tempo.

"Without a solid run game, I think we are forced to pass on other people's terms," Johnson said Monday. "When you do that, guys pin their ears back and come at you."

Johnson was sacked seven times for 56 yards in the loss to Washington State last weekend — close to the 60 yards a game that Arizona averages running the ball. Only Rutgers and Louisiana-

Lafayette are worse in Division I-A with 57 and 55 yards, respectively.

By comparison, West Virginia leads the country with a 305-yard ground attack.

The problem began five weeks ago, when Clarence Farmer, the 2001 Pac-10 rushing champion, suffered a season-ending knee injury, and it's been compounded because the Wildcats have been hampered with a makeshift offensive line because of injuries up front. That development impaired what cohesiveness and chemistry there was — not the best learning environment for redshirt freshman Mike Bell and freshman Beau Carr, Farmer's replacements.

"The hardest thing for young backs is to know how plays really operate," coach John Mackovic said. "You can do everything in practice to show them. You can show them video tapes, but when they get in the game, the game operates from a little different speed

and the scout team guys never get off the blocks like the real guys do.

"In practice, you see something and the coaches say, 'Hit it right there, hit it right there,' and then all of a sudden in games the defensive end is right there, boom."

The Wildcats had a season-worst minus-17 yards rushing against Washington State.

The rushing totals from other Pac-10 games have been nearly as dismal — 22 yards against Stanford, 24 against Washington and 30 against Oregon, along with just 43 against Utah on the non-conference schedule.

The Wildcats also rank last in the conference in rushing defense and 68th in the nation, allowing 160 yards per game.

That's a scary statistic against Oregon State, which gained 301 yards on the ground against California over the weekend as Steven Jackson rushed for 239 yards.

## Oregon St Notebook

By ANNE M. PETERSON  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

Oregon State's win was just what they needed to lighten things up. After the Beavers' 24-13 victory over California last Saturday, quarterback Derek Anderson said the team was more excited, laughed more and was less intense.

Oregon State opened their season with four straight wins, but then fell into a funk with three straight losses — all against Pacific-10 Conference opponents (Southern California, UCLA and Arizona State).

After such a promising start, the losing skid admittedly left many Beavers down. They were supposed to be better, after all.

"Everybody's a little happier now that we've won a game," defensive end Bill Swancutt said. "It helped a lot to get the first win."

The Beavers (5-3, 1-3) are now looking to keep their bowl hopes alive when they host Arizona (3-5, 0-4) at Reser Stadium this Saturday.

The Wildcats are the only winless team in the Pac-10.

"They're a football team that's kind of like we were a week ago — a team that hasn't had a victory in the Pac-10, but has played pretty darn well and has some darn good football players," Oregon State coach Dennis Erickson said.

That said, Erickson wants to beat the Wildcats. Although they are out of the Pac-10 title picture, the Beavers can still theoretically land a bowl game invitation.