



Photo by Greg Clark

Oregon bumbles highlighted the fourth quarter — this time a fumble on the snap.

'No explanation' for 13th Oregon setback

By JOHN HENDERSON
Of the Emerald

"I just can't believe how many times the ball bounces against us," said Oregon football coach Don Read. "I just can't believe it."

Read had just watched all the improvement his Ducks had made this year burn to the ground at the hands of the California Bears and feet of their tailback Chuck Muncie. Cal took advantage of turnovers Saturday and humiliated Oregon 34-7 at Autzen Stadium.

While the Ducks stumbled to their fifth loss this year and thirteenth in succession, bruising fullback Muncie added salt to Oregon's wounds.

The 6-3 220-pound senior rambled for 207 yards and three touchdowns to help offset Cal's poor passing game.

"If he's not an All-American, there isn't one," said Cal coach Mike White, whose Bears are now 2-0 in conference and 3-2 overall.

Exploding through Oregon's line like a locomotive, Muncie scored on runs of five, one and six yards to break the game open after a respectable first-half performance by the Ducks.

"He's the best runner I've ever coached against. He's even better than Anthony Davis," said Read comparing Muncie to last year's Pacific-8 rushing champion. "He's faster and bigger but I think our kids hit the heck out of him."

Oregon safety Chuck Wills, who sat out the second half with bruised ribs, was especially impressed with Cal's offensive line.

"He had a lot of good holes," said Wills. "Most of the time the first one to hit him was a defensive back. But he's so quick that we couldn't run up fast because he'd just jock us."

While Muncie sat in the locker room, gloating over the first 200-yard game for a Cal runner in 21 years, he offered some praise for the Ducks.

"They've got a good team," said Muncie. "Every year Oregon always gives me a beating. I'd have to give most of the credit to my offensive line."

Like so many times before, the defense was pinned to the wall by four Oregon fumbles and three interceptions. After Oregon quarterback Jack Henderson's 16-yard touchdown pass to Wayne Johnson closed the gap to 10-7 in the second quarter, the Bears gobbled up Duck mistakes like cough drops.

Vern Smith returned a punt 45 yards to the Oregon 20 to set up Muncie's second touchdown and a 17-7 lead in the third quarter.

In the fourth quarter, it was all humiliation for Oregon — and glory for Cal.

On their own 28, Henderson Oregon Daily Emerald

overthrew a wide-open Johnson on fourth down to set up Muncie's third touchdown and Jo Jo

White fumbled the ensuing kick to set up another.

To make matters worse, after



Photo by Phil Waldstein

Mel Cook, [93] and Duck defense was tough.

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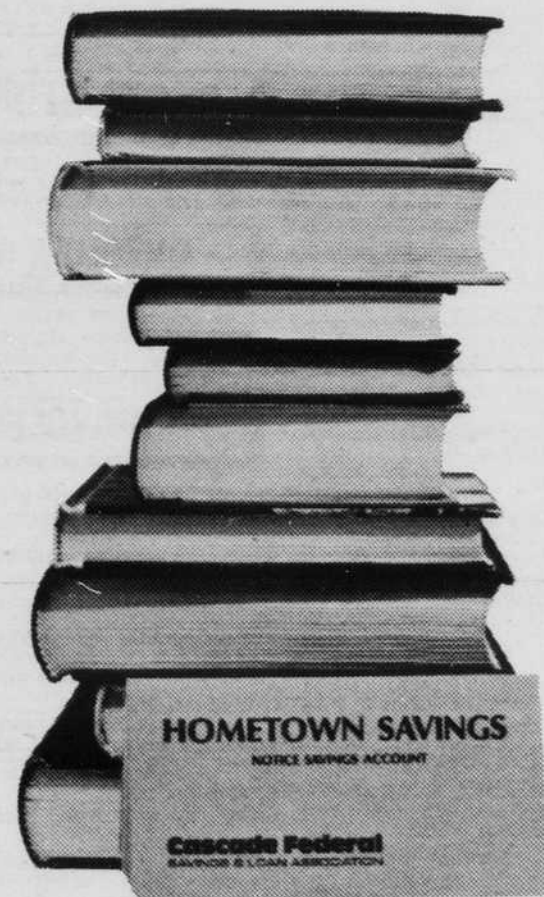
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