

Crushing the Beavers came as no surprise

By DAN LINDAHL
Emerald Sports Editor

For a team that hasn't exactly made a habit out of winning football games, Oregon wasn't very surprised at what it did to Oregon State Saturday at Autzen Stadium.

"I knew we'd put it on 'em," proclaimed senior running back Dennis Bullock, who helped make the 28-16 win a reality with his four-yard scoring run. "This team just has too much pride."

Coming into the game with a 1-9 record, the Ducks didn't have a whole lot to be proud of. But the

way they tamed the Beavers on the dark and gloomy afternoon gave them plenty of reason to boast.

"The teams were pretty even coming into the game, so it was a test to see who could get up for the game more," explained linebacker Mel Cook. "The an-

swer is obvious."

The fired up Ducks ran over, around and through the Beavers, amassing a mind-boggling 298 yards rushing and 466 yards total offense. Running back Gary Beck rushed for 131 all by himself.

Oregon was using primarily traps to go up the middle, and the man who engineered the offensive output, quarterback Jack Henderson, knew where to place the credit.

"The offensive line controlled the line of scrimmage," said Henderson. "Bill Hoffman was the number-one man out there."

Oregon Coach Rich Brooks concurred with his quarterback.

"Our offensive line was awesome," said Brooks. "They really opened up some big holes."

It didn't come as any big surprise to Henderson that the Ducks were able to move with such ease, however.

"We always knew we were capable of it," said Henderson. "It was just a matter of doing it."

Oregon did it to the Beavers all day and left seniors like Cook, Henderson, Bullock, and Reggie Grant with a victory to savor.

"I just feel fantastic," smiled Grant. "I hope Oregon can continue to beat OSU every year they ever play."

It's beginning to seem like the Ducks might. Oregon has ripped OSU the last three years and in so doing, became the first group of players to accomplish that in 42 years.

"Forty-two years, it's unbelievable," said Cook. "There have been a lot of good teams in that time."

While this year's Ducks won't qualify as one of those good teams, against Oregon State they looked super.

The Ducks controlled the tempo on both offense and defense and had the Beavers in their hip pocket all afternoon.

"The coaches called their best game of the season," praised Bullock, who had earlier predicted an easy Oregon victory. "It was more or less the coach's game. We just executed."

Just executing has been a problem for Oregon this season, however. Against the Beavers, Oregon clearly played its best game of the season.

"The difference was playing Oregon State," said Bullock. "This being the last game for the seniors."

The big win over OSU left the graduating Ducks with a victory they won't forget, and some pride in themselves.

"It's been a long four years," sighed Henderson, who moved into the number two position on all-time Oregon passing behind Dan Fouts. "But it's also gone by too fast."

"This game means a helluva lot," smiled Bullock. "I don't know where my football road will end so it was good to win."

"This was the first game of next year, it gave the program momentum and plans for the future," said senior fullback Kim Nutting. "And another good thing is that we can all go out knowing in our minds that we are all winners. And that's important, too."

But Grant put it best.

"It's the only way to go out."

Men's CC faces Kenyans

By MIKE GRADY
of the Emerald

It's the age-old story of Oregon versus the foreign legion in today's NCAA championship cross country meet at Spokane, Wash.

Because of the strong progress the Ducks have shown in their recent victories in the Northern Division and Pacific-Eight meets though, a surprise could be in store for favored University of Texas-EI Paso. UTEP, the team Oregon finished runner-up to nationally last year, is currently rated as the number one team in the country again.

Oregon coach Bill Dellinger sees the Kenyan-laden teams of UTEP, East Tennessee and Providence as the ones who will give his Ducks the most trouble, but pointed to several reasons why his American-bred runners could upend the foreigners.

"First of all, our runners have made very good progress since

the beginning of the year," said Dellinger. "Alberto Salazar is much better than what he was last year. His progress in a year has really been great."

"Don Clary has really progressed too. And as for Bill McChesney stepping in the first year the way he has, I know he'd help us but never expected him to adjust as quickly as he has."

"Rudy Chapa hasn't been running as well as last year. He ran one second slower in this year's Pac-8 championships compared to last year's, but I expect he'll still be right in there. He missed some summer training and that is what hurt him early this year," he said.

Dellinger also pointed to the remaining runners on the squad — Matt Centrowitz, Bruce Nelson and Art Boileau, as being as talented a last three on any team in the country.

Perhaps the biggest surprise of the meet will be the absence of a team threat from host-school

Washington State University. The Cougars, picked as one of the strongest teams in the nation before the season, will return defending champion Henry Rono but will be hurt significantly by injuries to Kenyans Samson Kimombwa and Josh Kimeto which have forced them from the race.

"Being healthy is so doggone important," said Dellinger in reference to the WSU situation. "You can be the best guy in the world, but if you're sick on the day of the championship race, you lose."

And if the Ducks themselves stay healthy, what the race comes down to is the question of whether their improvement from a year ago is enough to de-throne defending champ UTEP. The Miners return three of the top 15 finishers of last year in Sammy Maritim (eighth), James Munyaia (10th) and Kip Sirma (15th), while Oregon can only begin to match those stats with Chapa's ninth place finish.

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Women take seventh

The Oregon women's cross country squad matched its national seventh place finish of a year ago in Saturday's Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (AIAW) cross country meet in Austin, Tex.

Oregon coach Tom Heinonen, who had hopes of seeing the Ducks break into the top five, stated that he felt disappointed at first, but then changed his attitude after having time to think about it.

"We had hoped for more," said Heinonen, "but so did about 10 other schools. Really, I'm pleased now considering how pressure packed the race was."

"You run a mile and there is nowhere to go. The pressure on you to get out and get a good position is so great but you can't do it. You're boxed in by runners all around you," he said.

Winning the title for the fourth consecutive year was Iowa State. While placing only one runner within the first 20 spots, Iowa State used superior team depth to total a winning 92 points compared to second place Penn State's 116. Oregon finished with 218.

Penn State's Kathy Mills was the individual winner, covering the 5,000 meter course in a time of 16:50.2. Mills led the entire race and at the finish line no one was within 30 seconds of her.

Oregon's top finisher was freshman Heather Tolford who came in 31st with a time of 18:30. Following Tolford for the Ducks were: 47, Debbie Richie, 18:49; 72, Ellen Schmidt, 19:07; 74, Kim Spir, 19:08; 88, Molly Morton, 19:16; 135, Katy Mountain, 19:47, and 161, Charlene Marino, 20:15.

Schmidt, who finished 33rd in the nation as a freshman last year and who was considered the Duck's strongest runner this fall, could fare no better than 72nd because of stomach pains.

"Ellen has had stomach problems the last three races," reported Heinonen. "She's run the best that she possibly could every time but just couldn't do it on that day."

With it's seventh place finish this year Oregon has now finished as one of the top seven teams of the country for three straight years under Heinonen. The future appears to be just as bright for the female harriers considering that Kim Spir is the only runner who will be lost to graduation.

"We were all disappointed right after the race," Heinonen said, "but now that I've had time to look at it, I know we did pretty well!"

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