

sports

Ducks find confidence and a win over OSU

By MIKE MARINO
Of the Emerald

Turnabout, after all, is fair play. Rich Brooks and his Ducks would agree. After being snubbed by high-riding teams all season long, Oregon found a little confidence of its own against Oregon State Saturday, salvaging some pride in a 28-16 win.

Through the season the Ducks had by no means been conservative, but against the Beavers they had a little cockiness, too, and played with some authority.

"Damn good authority," beamed Brooks, the Oregon coach. "We felt like we could get anything we wanted today."

It was Brooks, that original riverboat gambler, who fashioned the trick plays that decided the outcome long before the final gun. To wit:

- A 65-yard pass from freshman halfback Gary Beck to wide receiver Ken Page to set up the first touchdown.

- Two runs by Beck off of fake punts, one good for 27 yards.

- A fake field goal where holder Tom Cafferty ran to set up the Ducks second score.

"He's a kind of a 'let it all hang out coach,'" said Oregon Offensive Coordinator John Becker of Brooks. "He's less conservative than any of us."

"Boy, if he was running the offensive, it'd be real wide-open."

As it was, Becker did that job just fine, thanks to a rejuvenated running game led by Beck and senior fullback Kim Nutting. With quarterback Jack Henderson less mobile due to a tender knee, the offense ran sweeps around both ends — and with blocks from Nutting, the other fullbacks and the offensive line, Beck dashed for 131 yards.

And when the hapless Beaver defense overplayed, the line opened up the middle and Nutting rambled for 94 yards and two touchdowns in his last game.

But it was Beck, with his option pass and breakneck running, that typified Oregon on this day. "The way the offensive line blocked, Brady Brooks (the coach's 7 year-old son) could have run for 200 yards today," laughed Beck.

"They just blew them out completely — great big holes," he added, his arms outstretched. "Some things we were working on all year finally came through."

Like running the ball with authority. Oregon ground out an unheard of 298 yards rushing, evidenced in their last drive of the game that — although cut short by a turnover — ate up seven minutes on the fourth quarter clock

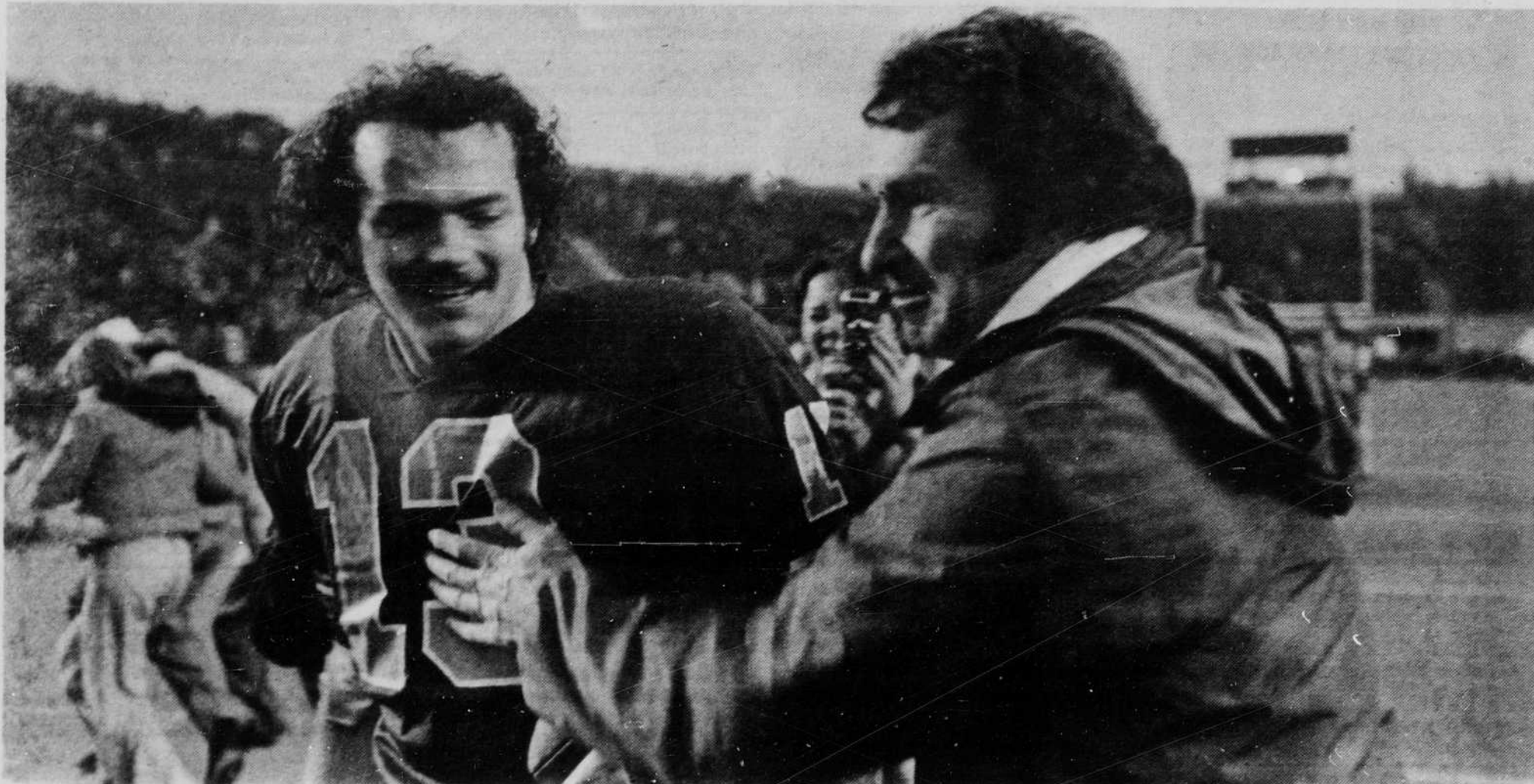


Photo by Steve Schneider

After a frustrating season of losses, quarterback Jack Henderson and Coach Rich Brooks walked off Saturday as winners.

when the game was still in the balance.

"We just tried to keep in on the ground and eat up the clock," Becker said, "and things worked. The whole damn offense played good."

While they sealed it in the fourth quarter, the Ducks blew the game open in the second and fittingly it was with a cavalcade of seniors that they rang up their 28 points before halftime.

Nutting, who scored on a one-yard plunge behind right guard Bill Hoffman in the first quarter, duplicated the feat in the second for a 14-0 lead.

OSU countered with a field goal by Kieron Walford, but a 31 yard kickoff return by Ed Radcliff and runs by Paul Bachtold and Beck set up a four yard score by senior Dennis Bullock.

The aerial game wasn't forgotten, either, as Henderson found-Cafferty at the goal line between two Beaver defenders for 28-3.

The Beavers countered with a touchdown by James Fields just before halftime and were back in the game with a Rich Kahoonei score at 12:28 of the fourth quarter.

But the Ducks settled matters then and there as Nutting shed tacklers left and right for a total of 45 yards on the final, decisive drive.

"We had to have some ball control then," Nutting said. "We knew

they were afraid of the sweep and of Jack, so we went up the middle. This time we didn't go through the motions, though, we did it."

With a little cooperation. "I told the team that what we could do for the seniors was to make it so they could say they hadn't ever lost to OSU," said Brooks. The Ducks swept OSU three straight for the first time in 42 years.

"And I told the seniors that they could help us get a start on the future. This was the beginning of a lot of success in the future."

Coming from Rich Brooks, that's no gamble.

OREGON STATE	0	10	0	6-16
OREGON	7	21	0	0-28

Ore - Nutting 1 run (Geiger kick)
Ore - Nutting 1 run (Geiger kick)
OSU - Walford 34 FG
Ore - Bullock 4 run (Geiger kick)
Ore - Caggerty 12 pass from Henderson
OSU - Fields 1 run (Walford kick)
a - 34,068

	TEAM	
	OSU	ORE
First Downs	23	20
Rushes-Yds.	53-226	56-298
Passing Yds.	147	168
Passes	13-27-0	12-19-2
Total Yds.	373	466
Fumbles-lost	4-2	2-1
Punts-Avg.	3-35.3	2-31.0
Penalties-Yds.	7-60	6-54

INDIVIDUAL

Rushing — Oregon State, Grossart 18-98; Fields 24-81; Kellar, 3-18. Oregon, Beck 19-131; Nutting 21-94; Williams 6-30. Passing - Oregon State, Grossart 13-26-0 147; James 0-0-0 0. Oregon, Henderson 18-18-2 103; Beck 1-1-0 65. Receiving - Oregon State, Coury 7-94; Kellar 2-16. Oregon, Page 6-104; Cafferty 3-46.



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