

Ducks down but not yet out HAIR TODAY

The Oregon football team's moral victories supposedly ended after the Colorado and Southern Cal games, but the Ducks 21-18 loss to California on Saturday might qualify for that category.

Oregon faltered in the fourth quarter, as they have for the past three weeks, but against the Golden Bears the Ducks didn't bear themselves as they had in losses to Texas Christian and Wisconsin.

After harrasing Cal's sensational sophomore quarterback Rich Campbell out of the game with a fierce pass rush, Oregon's defense became susceptible to the passing of second string quarterback Gary Graumann when the Bears began mixing a running attack with their throwing.

"We didn't get as good of a pass rush in the second half because their ground game picked up in the third quarter," explained Oregon coach Rich Brooks. "We couldn't tee off on the passer like we did earlier in the game."

As a result, Graumann exploited the Ducks' secondary for 194 yards on 10 completions, one of which was a 29-yard scoring strike to Holden Smith that put Cal

ahead for good with 1:25 left in the contest.

Despite the disappointing loss, there were some positive factors that emerged from Saturday's game. The Ducks rushed for over 200 yards for just the second time since Brooks took the Oregon coaching job 16 games ago. Against a Cal defense, rated as one of the best in the Pac-10, the Ducks compiled 204 yards. Sophomore full Vince Williams led the way, picking up 92 yards on 16 carries, raising his season total to 369 yards on 77 rushes. Senior tailback Ed Radcliff added 63 yards on 143 carries.

The Oregon offense also played its second straight game without a motion or procedure penalty, infractions which stymied the Ducks early in the season.

Oregon was guilty of a crucial mistake on their first possession — an error that may have cost them the game. On third down and goal-to-go at the Cal two-yard line, Reggie Young squirmed to the one, but the Ducks were penalized for having too many men on the field — in this case a wide receiver who was supposed to have been replaced

by an extra blocker but failed to leave the field. The ball was moved back to the Bears' 17 and on the next play quarterback Mike Kennedy fumbled and Cal recovered.

"It was not only another close loss, but it was also a conference loss, and if we had won it, we'd still be in the thick of things, but now I guess we're kind of out of it," Brooks said.

So, now the Ducks must regroup, as they have been doing for the past three weeks, and prepare themselves for Brigham Young, a 24-7 loser to Utah State Saturday.

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Women finish second to California runners

By MARK STEWART
Of the Emerald

BERKELEY — The Oregon women's cross country team found out it was second-best on the West Coast Saturday at the California Invitational meet.

"We went there to find out what it's like to run against good competition and to see where we stack up, and we did," said coach Tom Heinonen about Oregon's second-place finish behind California in the meet. "Now Cal gets the pressure of being the best team on the coast."

Oregon finished with 56 points, Cal with 43.

"Cal gave an indication of what we earlier thought, that they are ahead of everybody (condition-wise)," Heinonen said. "The good coaches saw they were conditioning too hard too soon. It was apparent they were extraordinarily fit."

California had four women finish ahead of Oregon's first runner, Robin Baker, who was eight. Cheri Williams was Oregon's only other finisher in the top ten, placing tenth.

When asked about Cal's first four runners, Heinonen said, "I can't believe they are any better than our first four. They gave no indication that they are that good." Oregon's first seven runners finished before Cal's fifth runner, and within 37 seconds of each other.

Heinonen said if the race had ended at the two-mile mark,

Oregon would have won the race because of fast starts by Ellen Schmidt, Williams and Baker. But each "paid the price" of their fast starts and faded during later stages of the race.

"I was pleased with how things went, in that we shut-out UCLA, Washington, Stanford and Oregon State," Heinonen said. "Things look good for the Northwest championships right now."

Third-ranked Colorado and highly-touted California Polytech-San Luis Obispo didn't prove to be as tough as Heinonen had first thought. "(Colorado's Mary) Decker and (Dana) Slater both ran hard, but (Colorado) has no depth past their third runner. It was nice to see how easy it was to beat Colorado and Cal Poly-SLO."

As for California, Heinonen said, "All we can do now is wait for another shot at them at nationals." But he injected a note of caution, saying, "I'm not sure that what Cal did was any indication of their strength."

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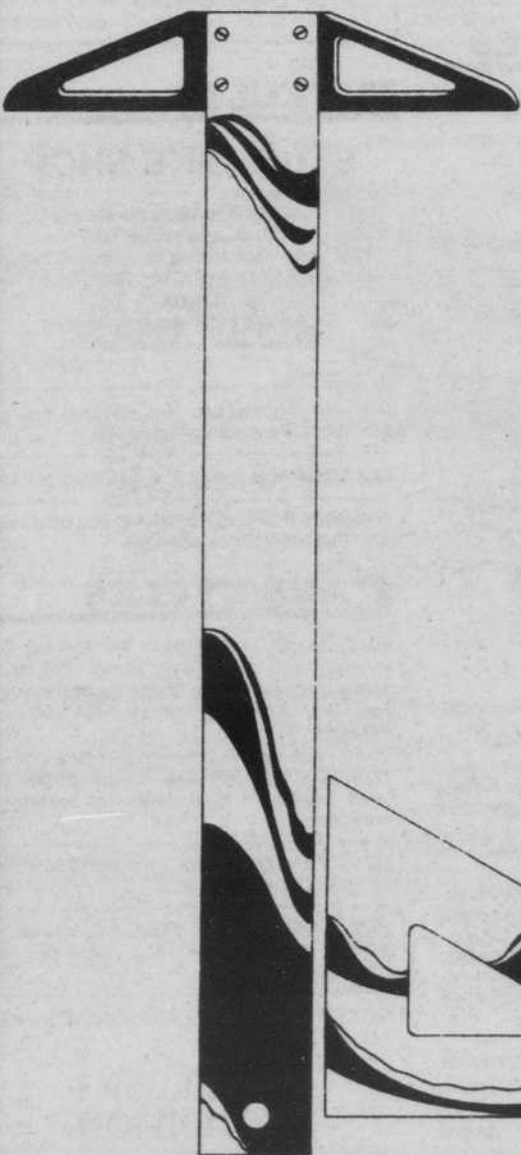
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