



john harris

Think Ducks, think!

Concentration.

That's the difference between an outstanding 4-2 record and a lowly 0-6 mark for the Oregon football team this season.

"Concentration is what it comes down to. When you make a mistake it's because of a lack of concentration," says Bruce Beekley, the Duck's middle linebacker.

Beekley, who has recorded 119 tackles in the first six games this year and is ahead of the school record pace for most tackles in one season, typifies the 1978 Oregon football player. He's physically talented and burns with intense pride. This season the Oregon football player has performed well enough to keep the Ducks within range of victory in nearly every game. Yet, a lack of concentration, and the resulting

mistakes, have snuffed out Oregon's chances of a win week after week.

Against Texas Christian a half-back pass and a fake field goal attempt fooled the Ducks. An interception on a play that even Oregon coach Rich Brooks didn't know who called ignited a Wisconsin winning rally. A blown pass coverage assignment resulted in California scoring a winning touchdown in the final minute. A fumble on the 3 yard line, a costly interference call and a poor punt snap all pumped breath into a gasping Brigham Young team which edged the Ducks by one point last week.

"If someone would have had to beaten us physically we would have won, because that didn't happen," Beekley says. "We're

so close to all those teams now, that if we make one little mistake, it makes so much difference."

And that's what separates this year's Duck squad and the Oregon teams of recent history. In the past the Ducks' crucial mistakes just meant a wider winning margin for their opponents. This year they bring heart-stopping defeats.

Unfortunately, tomorrow's game is not against an opponent Oregon can whip even physically. The Washington Huskies are the defending Rose Bowl Champions, and although they are only 3-3 this season, they are still very much alive in the Pac-10 race and are very rugged and talented.

"It's just a matter of who can win the battle on every play," Beekley says of the Ducks' chances. "The guy across from you not only wants to win, but he wants to kick your ass too."

"You just want to play harder because you take it personally."

The Huskies' offense centers around tailback Joe Steele, who has rushed for 633 yards on a league-leading 148 carries. Quarterback Tom Porras has completed 52 percent of his passes for 778 yards. Only Oregon has committed more turnovers than Washington, though and these have been instrumental in the Huskies' losses to UCLA, Indiana and Alabama.

The Ducks offense, which will be quarterbacked by Tim Durando, faces the second leading defense in the Pac-10 in Washington. The Oregon offense, on the other hand is better than only Oregon State's.

Troubles plague Games says US Olympic coach

By MARK STEWART
Of the Emerald

Cost, politics and the number of participants are problems that will have to be dealt with if the Olympic Games are to survive, according to Leroy Walker, head track and field coach of the 1976 Olympic team.

Walker, in speaking to a recent session of the Oregon Association of Health, Physical Education and Recreation, said that national Olympic committees and international sports federations have come up with some alternatives to the problems surrounding the Games.

In addressing the problem of the rising cost of putting on the Olympics, Walker gave examples of recent Games.

"It is said that Munich spent \$650 to \$700 million, and Montreal avowed adamantly to have an austere Games and not to spend more than \$300 million," Walker said, "but they have spent \$1 billion and not all the bills are in yet."

"Los Angeles is saying now that it expects to put on the Games for \$184 million dollars and they could do it with many facilities already in place. The International Olympic Committee has said that

Marathon planned

An eight-month program designed to prepare both novice and experienced runners for completing a marathon begins Saturday morning at 9 at Hayward Field. The clinic is being sponsored by the University, Eugene Family YMCA and Adidas.

The clinic series will meet bi-weekly. There is a fee of \$15.

The program culminates with the Track Capital Marathon, which will be held in May.

UCLA and USC could be used. The only Games to turn a profit was the 1932 Olympics held in Los Angeles, and they could do it again.

"The US Olympic Committee will underwrite the Los Angeles Games to the tune of \$100 million—if LA can't make it no one can. LA will be pivotal to the future of the Olympics."

Walker said that a proposal to return the Games to previous sites has found some favor from the sports federations, but a proposal to move the Games back to ancient Greece on a permanent basis has not been discussed.

Walker said the number of participants in the Olympics is getting to be a burden. In 1896, the first year of the modern Games, there were 200 participants, in 1964 7,000 and estimates are running as high as 13,500 for the 1980 games in Moscow.

"This creates a severe problem when the city has to accommodate this many people in the face of health, education and welfare problems it may have," Walker said.

He noted that some officials have advocated raising the qualifying standards, but smaller countries have claimed that would be discriminatory. But Walker countered that Lasse Viren from Finland and Alberto Juantorena from Cuba each won two events in the last Olympics, and both of them are from relatively small countries.

Walker did seem to contradict himself when he said that the numbers should be pared, but advocated continuation of the American policy of sending three athletes for each event in track and field to allow for flexibility.

He said that politics will probably continue to surround the games in the near future.

"Because of the different cultures and backgrounds (of the members of the sport federations) it is difficult to agree on different issues," Walker said. He brought up the political situation of the Montreal Games, when several African nations boycotted the Games because New Zealand, whose national rugby team played several matches with a South African team, was allowed to participate.

"I nearly lost several friends over the position I took (allowing New Zealand to participate)," Walker said. "One told me that a boycott was the best way to attract attention to our position."

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