

Ducks face Sun Devils, shoot for finest record since 1964

By JODY MURRAY
Of the Emerald

There's one Oregon fan who will be watching Arizona State football coach Darryl Rogers with a knowing but wary eye Saturday night when the Sun Devils host the Ducks.



Emerald photo

Vince Goldsmith

His name is John Caine, Oregon's athletic director. Seven years ago, as athletic director for San Jose State, Caine hired Rogers as the Spartans' coach. Rogers responded with a three-year 23-8-4 record before leaving to coach at Michigan State.

Soccer squad plays crucial weekend game

A crucial match awaits the women's soccer team this weekend as the Ducks host Western Washington State College Saturday at Autzen Stadium.

Oregon is second in the Northwest Collegiate Soccer Conference with an 8-1-3 mark. But if the Ducks win their last two contests, they can tie first-place University of Washington and claim the league title since they beat the Huskies earlier in the season.

Western Washington is the only team to have defeated the Ducks this season. Oregon is 12-1-3 overall.

Game time is 10 a.m. and admission is free.

"I'm scared to be on the other sidelines from that man," Caine says. "He's an excellent coach."

Rogers is 2-0 against the Ducks. Last year, he led Michigan State to a 41-17 win. At San Jose State in 1975, the Spartans won 5-0.

The other coach in Saturday's game, Oregon's Rich Brooks, was talking about Arizona State as soon as the Civil War was over.

"I don't want to downplay the significance of this victory," he said of last Saturday's 40-21 win over OSU. "But our final game at Arizona State is very, very important. We're treating that game as our own Fiesta Bowl."

The Ducks have nowhere to go after the Sun Devil contest because of the sanctions placed on them by the Pacific-10 Conference. But with a 6-2-2 record coming into Phoenix, an Oregon victory will give the Ducks their best finish since coach Len Casanova's 1964 team, which was 7-2-1 behind the rushing of Mel Renfro.

The ground game at Oregon nowadays is handled by tailback Reggie Brown and quarterback Reggie Ogburn. Brown has 660 yards, while Ogburn has contributed 443.

Ogburn, a senior, should move up in the Oregon record books in his final game. His 3,003 career total offensive yards are only 96 yards shy of fifth-place Dave Grosz, who quarterbacked Oregon from 1958 to 1960. A 34-yard passing performance will place him eighth in career passing, in front of All-American Norm Van Brocklin.

Ogburn is one of 11 seniors playing their last game for the Ducks Saturday. One of those men is defensive tackle Vince Goldsmith, who said after the Oregon State game that he found it hard to believe it's almost over.

"It'll probably hit me next week," he said. "Then I'll probably realize that my collegiate career is finished."



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