



Photo by Bob Baker

Oregon middle linebacker Chris Cosgrove got the game ball — and this Arizona runner — for his defensive work Saturday against the Wildcats.

## Oregon gets its kicks, first win

By Steve Turcotte  
Of the Emerald

Oregon finally got its kicks Saturday afternoon. And the Ducks made them count.

The result was a 13-7 victory over Arizona which lifted the Ducks out of the Pac-10 cellar and booted the Wildcats from a post season bowl berth.

"It's been a long time coming," said junior flanker Osborne Thomas. "I have been waiting for this all year. We all have been waiting for this all year. It feels great."

Any number of Ducks deserved game balls for their efforts as Oregon improved to 1-8-1 on the season. Thomas made three catches as the Ducks drove for a second quarter touchdown. Quarterback Mike Jorgensen, battling injuries, threw for 144 yards and ran for 43 more. And placekicker Tim Wise booted two long field goals to provide the margin of victory.

But the game ball Saturday afternoon at Autzen Stadium went to senior middle linebacker Chris Cosgrove, who delivered nine tackles and contributed one of Oregon's five interceptions and as the Oregon defense stuffed the ferocious Wildcat attack.

It's been a long season for all the Ducks, but it has been especially long for kicker Wise, and going 0-for-6 for the season doesn't help. But the freshman who holds the California state record with a 59-yard boot, hasn't tried one shorter than 46 yards out, and it was just a matter of time before he started connecting.

Wise put the Ducks ahead of the Wildcat's 10-7 with three seconds left in the first half with a 52-yard boot. And at the 7:22 of the third quarter, another Wise three-pointer, this time of 48 yards, proved to be the final margin of victory.

"It really feels great," said Wise. "I finally made one."

"I wasn't discouraged by missing my first field goals. I knew I had it in me. I don't know what it was. I have been hooking them all year, so in practice I made some adjustments and I think it's beginning to pay off."

Another key to his successful kicking, Wise said, was the holding of Greg Moser. Moser, the

wide-receiver who was felled in the Washington game with a fractured foot, made his first appearance since the injury. But his role was strictly limited to a cameo shot as holder on kicks.

"It's really a vote of confidence to me when Moser is holding," said Wise. "I'm not taking anything away from Kevin Hicks who held for me when Moser was hurt, though. But I seem to be more confident when Greg is in there."

Another crucial aspect of the Duck kicking game was the punting game.

Punter Hicks was instrumental in keeping Arizona in poor field position most of the afternoon. He punted the ball 10 times for a 41 yard average, including one boot of a school-record 73 yards, which pinned Arizona on its one in the fourth quarter.

"Their punter deserved to be the MVP of the game," said Arizona coach Larry Smith. "He really got them out of some tough spots."

When Wise and Hicks weren't performing their heroics, the Duck defense was.

The Oregon defense limited the usually-potent Arizona defense to just 90 yards on the ground and 156 yards through the air. In addition, the wildcat quarterback, Tom Tunnicliffe, was held to just a 17-of-45 passing day including a staggering five interceptions.

"Every call (defensive coordinator Andy) coach Christoff made seemed to be the right one," said Cosgrove. "We played a hell of a game for four quarters."

The Ducks took a 7-0 lead in the second quarter when Jorgensen connected with Thomas on three consecutive pass plays to move the Ducks 76 yards and into the end zone. The TD came on a 36-yard strike.

Arizona tied the score with 45 seconds remaining in the first half when Tunnicliffe hit William Redman with a 17-yard scoring strike.

But Wise's field goal with five seconds left in the half gave the Ducks a 10-7 advantage.

"The defense played an excellent game," said Oregon coach Rich Brooks. "Limiting Arizona to seven points is great."

"We made several big plays in the game. We have made the big plays this year but not when it counted like we did today."

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