

# He's a game-breaker

By Steve Turcotte  
Of the Emerald

Only so often does a player with game-breaking potential wind up on the Oregon football roster.

This season, though, the Ducks do have a player of that caliber in the form of Lew Barnes. On Saturday against Houston at Autzen Stadium, Barnes displayed some of his big-play abilities in leading the Ducks to a 15-14 victory.

Barnes' versatility for the Ducks this season will be a big plus. Against the Cougars, he did a little bit of everything — catching passes, returning punts and blocking.

"Lew Barnes has proven he can make things happen if we can get the ball in his hands," Oregon coach Rich Brooks said.

After Houston took a 7-0 lead over Oregon midway through the second quarter, Barnes and his Duck offensive teammates went to work. Taking over at his own 26-yard line, quarterback Mike Jorgensen directed the Ducks on a 74-yard scoring drive.

Along the way, he completed three of three passes, including the big strike — a 53-yarder to Barnes for a touchdown.

"It was a real good pass," said Barnes, who caught four passes on the day for 124 yards. "Right when I made my cut the ball was there."

"I felt one guy hit me when I went into the end zone. I knew I would have to make a good cut after I caught it if I wanted to get into the end zone."

But that was just the first of three big plays by Barnes on the afternoon.

The next came late in the third quarter with the Ducks trailing 14-6.

With 2:12 remaining in the quarter, Barnes gobbled up a Houston punt at his own 20 yard line, went from one sideline to the other and made a 50-yard return to the Houston 30.

"Really, I started to let it go and not even bother with the return," said Barnes. "But when I first got it, I saw they were running too deep on the left hand side."

"Everybody got good blocks and that really got me going. There was just one guy to beat and I didn't get by him, otherwise I could have gone into the end zone."

Barnes' return set up the Ducks' second score of the day — a 27-yard field goal by Paul Schwabe.

"Lew Barnes on the punt return made an incredible play," Brooks said. "It's just too bad we couldn't get a touchdown out of it."

Barnes' third and final big play of the game set the Ducks up for the winning score in the fourth quarter.

On a third and nine play from the Houston 43 yard line, Jorgensen hit him on what looked to be a routine 18 yard pass. However, what looked to be routine turned out to be improbable.

Barnes fumbled the ball at the 25, sending a mad scramble of bodies towards the ball. Oregon's Kevin McCall tried to pick it up, but couldn't. His momentum sent the ball forward until Oregon tight end Doug Herman fell on it at the two-yard line.

"The pass on the play was right on the dot, but it just got knocked out of my arms," said Barnes.

Ever since his arrival from San Diego Mesa Junior College last spring, Brooks has been counting on Barnes' ability to make the big play and keep Oregon in football games. A look at his statistics shows the junior has not let Brooks down.

Barnes is near the top in the Pac-10 in punt returns and receiving average. He has returned eight punts for a 13-yard average with a long of 50 yards. In addition, he has caught 10 passes — second best on the team — for 213 yards and a 21.3 average and a touchdown.

"It really feels good to be able to contribute to help the team to win," Barnes said. "It's good to know I put in my part."

If the Houston game is any indication of Barnes' talents on the football field, the JC transfer may play a role in more than one Duck victory this season.

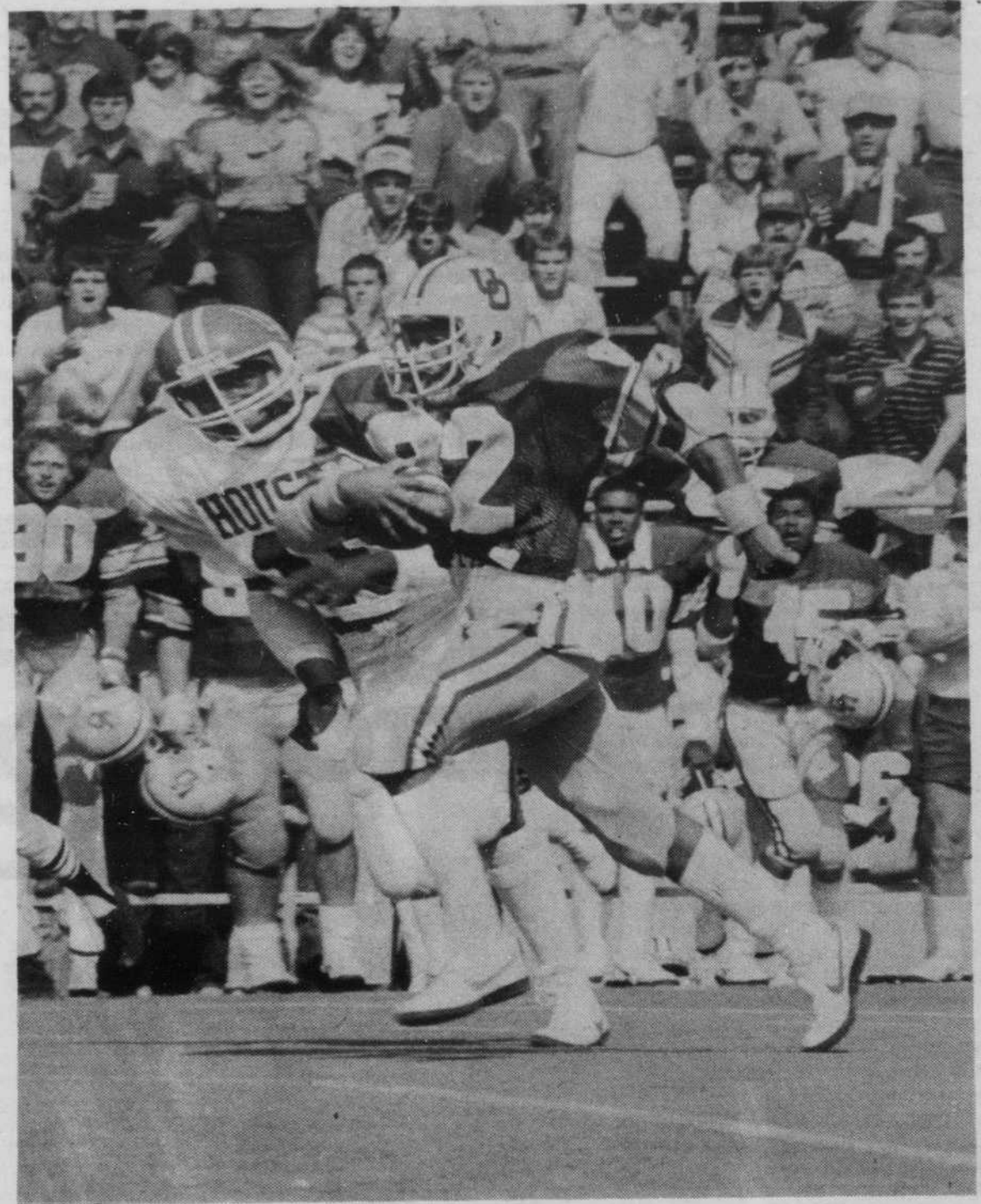


Photo by Dave Kao

Lew Barnes is off to the races after catching pass from Mike Jorgensen. He cruised 53 yards for Oregon's first TD against Houston.



Photo by John Widder

Jim Hill strains for the finish line at the Garrie Franklin Memorial Classic.

## Hill shines in opener

By Rich Skeen  
Of the Emerald

Jim Hill, Oregon's track and cross country All-American, opened Oregon's men's cross country season with an impressive win at the Garrie Franklin Memorial Classic at Lane Community College Saturday.

Hill, who won this same race last year, broke away at the halfway point to win the 10,000-meter race in a time of 29:45.3. Mike Blackmore was the next Duck to finish, placing fifth with a time of 30:45.

Despite the victory, Hill was not happy with his race.

"We've only been working a week and a half," said Hill, "I've got a long way to go."

Other high placing Ducks included Dan Nelson, who finished sixth, Harold Kuphaldt, who placed seventh, Dub Myers, who claimed 16th, and Matt McGuirk, who ended up 19th. All four runners ran unattached in the non-scoring meet.

Duck coach Bill Dellinger didn't

feel the results of the meet helped him indicate how good the Ducks will be this year.

"It's kind of hard to tell what we have from this," said Dellinger. The Duck coach noted that four top Oregon runners — Brad Simpson, Vance Blow, Chris Hamilton and John Zishka — did not compete in Saturday's meet.

Dellinger has indicated all through preseason that he will use the first three meets of the season to find his most competitive team.

"We'll see if any of our sophomores can break into the lineup in our first three meets when they run unattached," Dellinger said. "If they can't, we'll red-shirt them."

Had the meet been scored, the runners representing the Ducks would have been beaten by Oregon State. But at this point of the season, Dellinger is not concerned about team scores.

The Ducks' next meet is the Oregon Invitational Oct. 8 at Tokatee Golf Club.

## Easterly quits business post; no substitute set

Mike Easterly, business manager of the Oregon athletic department, announced last week that he has resigned from his post effective at the end of this month.

"I just thought that things could be managed more efficiently without me in the future," said Easterly, who will remain here in a consultative capacity through the end of the year. He was appointed athletics business manager in 1981.

Athletic Director Rick Bay said the department will first decide how to fill Easterly's position, then consider whether to hire a successor.

"I'm not sure if we'll hire someone else or find someone within the department to act in a dual capacity," Bay said.

Before coming to Oregon, Easterly spent nine years gaining business management experience at Columbia University in New York.



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