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## NFL draft tabs Baack, Ralph

Jeanette Stewart had good reason to set her fiancee's alarm clock for 4:30 a.m. Tuesday morning. Stewart and Steve Baack, the former Oregon defensive end, knew it was going to be a special day.

It was going to be special for former Duck Dan Ralph, too.

Baack had the early wake-up call so he could sit by the television and watch this year's National Football League draft on ESPN.

The two former Ducks were selected in the NFL's annual collegiate draft Tuesday with Baack being chosen by Detroit in the third round and Ralph going to Atlanta in the sixth round.

University of Nebraska wide receiver Irving Fryar grabbed all the headlines by being tabbed as the No. 1 pick by the New England Patriots while teammate Dean Steinkuhler was picked as the No. 1 selection by Houston.

With Baack and Ralph being selected in the draft, it kept alive a string of former Duck defensive linemen who have gone pro. Under coach Joe Schaffeld, no less than eight former Oregon defensive linemen have signed professional football contracts in the last decade.

Under Schaffeld's tenure, defensive end George Martin was the first Duck drafted. He was taken by the New York Giants in 1974, and was followed by Neil Elshire and Terry Dion in 1979, and Vince Goldsmith and Scott Setterlund in 1980. Mike Walter was taken by the Dallas Cowboys in last year's draft.

For Baack and Ralph, Tuesday was a day of waiting for a call from a team - any team.

Baack's telephone call came early. The Detroit Lions made Baack their third-round pick, the No. 74 selection overall in the draft.

"I had some kind of idea that I would go to Detroit," admitted Baack, the former all-stater from Grant Union High School in John Day. "Coach Schaffeld and my agent told me that Detroit had some interest."

Baack was surprised at his high selection, but said his stock rose in an NFL camp for possible draftees in New Orleans in the middle of January.

"It surprised me less to be picked by Detroit than to go in the third round," said Baack, who played in the Blue-Gray all-star game in December. "I had been projected to go anywhere from the fourth to seventh rounds so it was really surprising to go that early.'

In Detroit, Baack will join a Lion team that reached the playoffs last year.

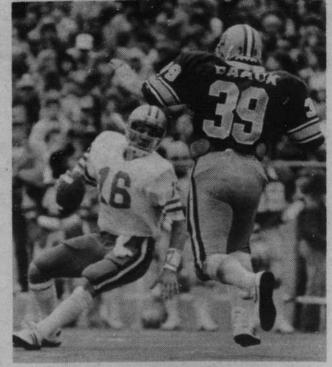
"I know they have a good team because they made the playoffs last year," said Baack. "I know they have a tough defense and that means for me that they have some good defensive lineman.'

Schaffeld, the Duck coach who tutored Baack for four years, talked to Detroit and knew they were interested.

"We feel pretty lucky about it," said Schaf-

## **Rain sidelines** softball match

The women's softball team was rained out of a scheduled game with



Steve Baack

feld. "He's a good kid and he's worked hard. He's not a flashy player, but he was very steady for us - I think Detroit saw that."

They also saw that he was a second-team Pac-10 pick at defensive end and had 72 tackles and six quarterback sacks for the Ducks last vear

Ralph, who was projected as a possible selection in the first four rounds, was happy just to be drafted.

'You can't be disappointed to be drafted by the NFL," said Ralph, who was second in tackles for the Ducks last season with 109.

Instead of receiving just the one phone call Tuesday, Ralph received a handful from teams like St. Louis and the Los Angeles Raiders.

'St. Louis called just to see if they had my phone number and the Raiders called because they wanted to see if I was still available," said Ralph. "I really thought I would be taken by the Raiders because they said they would take me in the fifth round. It was surprising when I heard the fifth round was complete and I wasn't picked.'

Atlanta, sensing a need on the defensive line, tabbed Ralph as its sixth-round pick.

"Atlanta has a young innovative coach with a pretty potent offense," said Ralph, who was a first-team Pac-10 defensive lineman last year

"What's nice about being picked by Atlanta is that there will be some familiar faces there. Three guys from Oklahoma who I got to be friends with in the Shrine game were picked by the Falcons.'

**By Steve Turcotte** 

## Oregon golfers remain mired in seventh place

The Oregon golf team re- 18 holes left today. mained in second place Tues-

Arizona led the race for the



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