



Sports

Ducks relish win over Cal

By Dennis Fernandes
Of the Emerald

In a season of masquerades, the Oregon football team hopes it put on a real face Saturday at Memorial Stadium in Berkeley, Calif.

And although it was the day after Halloween, the University of California treated the Ducks to an impressive 27-9 Pacific-10 Conference victory.

The victory snaps a six-game losing streak and gives Oregon, 3-6 overall, its first league win.

Meanwhile, the Golden Bears drop to 1-7, and the hole appears to be dug for head coach Joe Kapp.

He reportedly met with California Athletic Director Dave Maggard for about a halfhour following the loss and apparently left that meeting with his job status intact, but still unclear

Oregon coach Rich Brooks can now take a break from the doghouse and give his battered troops a much-needed rest, as the Ducks are idle next week before playing Washington State University at home on Nov. 15.

This win came about by two very unlikely sources —— the offensive line and the defense.

The Ducks have struggled to establish the run all season long, but something sparked the offensive line to pave the way for Derek Loville's 91 yards and Latin Berry's 56 more.

"As the game wore on, the offensive line dominated and knocked their line off the ball. They were always in control," said Brooks during his weekly television show.

The game total of 237 yards rushing really took the pressure off quarterback Chris Miller, who completed 15 of 24 for 197 yards and accounted for all three Oregon touchdowns. Miller ran for two scores and connected with freshman Terry Obee on a 15-yard play for the

Miller's performance enabled him to become Oregon's career leading passer, giving him 6,127 yards compared to Dan Fouts' 5,995.

The Pac-10's statistically worst defense held the Bears and kept running back Marc Hicks to just 232 total yards for the day, substantially under the 443.6 per game average the Ducks had allowed going into the game.

Senior safety Ed Hulbert overcame a bad ankle and snagged three interceptions for Oregon.

"Coach Schuler (Defensive Coordinator Denny) and the staff did a tremendous job in preparing the defense for this game," Brooks said. For a while, it looked like the

For a while, it looked like the same old story for the Ducks as they dug themselves into an early hole on two quick interceptions and trailed 6-0 in the second quarter.

But Oregon got a break on

Hulbert's first interception, giving the Ducks the ball back on their 37. Miller connected with Obee on a rare deep pass play for 54 yards, setting up the quarterback's nine-yard scramble.

"That big play gave us momentum. The offense was struggling at that point, and we got a big play that gobbled up a lot of yards," Brooks said.

Matt MacLeod's 23-yard field goal gave the Ducks a 10-6 cushion with 41 seconds left in the half.

On Cal's possession, Hicks fumbled the ball on a pass play and linebacker Dan Devaney came up with the recovery at the Bears' 31, allowing for MacLeod's 44-yarder one play later.

It looked as if Cal were making a comeback in the third quarter, closing to 13-9 on Leland Rix's third field goal of the day and getting the ball right back on an onside kick.

But it was a long lost friend, the Oregon defense, which turned the rally back and gave the offense the ball back on its own six.

Miller then initiated an impressive 94-yard drive, ending it with Obee's first career touchdown reception to up Oregon's ante to 21-9.

Miller closed out the scoring in the fourth quarter with his second rushing touchdown of the day after an 81-yard, 17 play series.

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