


Athletic Club
Student Special
3 Month Membership — \$100
With Free Initiation!

Featuring:

- * Complete Aerobic Program
- * Wolff Sunbeds
- * 11 Station Nautilus Line
- * Stairmasters
- * Life Cycles
- * Jacuzzi
- * Pool
- * Steam Rooms
- * Saunas
- * And More

Find It At EVAC



EMERALD VALLEY
 FITNESS

83293 Dale Kuni Rd
 Creswell, OR 97426
 895-2147
 485-6796 from Eugene

Kearns takes on leadership role

By Ashley Conklin
 Emerald Sports Reporter

Senior Mark Kearns has chosen to "lead by example" on defense this year, trying to erase the unfilled promise of last year's football team.

The leadership role was missing last season after he suffered a season-ending knee injury in the Arizona State game, the same game quarterback Bill Musgrave went down with a broken collarbone. At the time, the Ducks were 6-1, but hit the skids to finish 6-6.

Needless to say, it wasn't a happy time for Kearns.

"It was one of the worst experiences of my life," he said. "To have a team with so much potential finish like it did, with everything out of my control, it was hard to deal with it."

Kearns was determined though to come back this season and make up for lost time.

"I was dying to get back on the football field," he said. "I had one of my best springs and came back with renewed dedication to get back to winning and doing the things it takes to win."

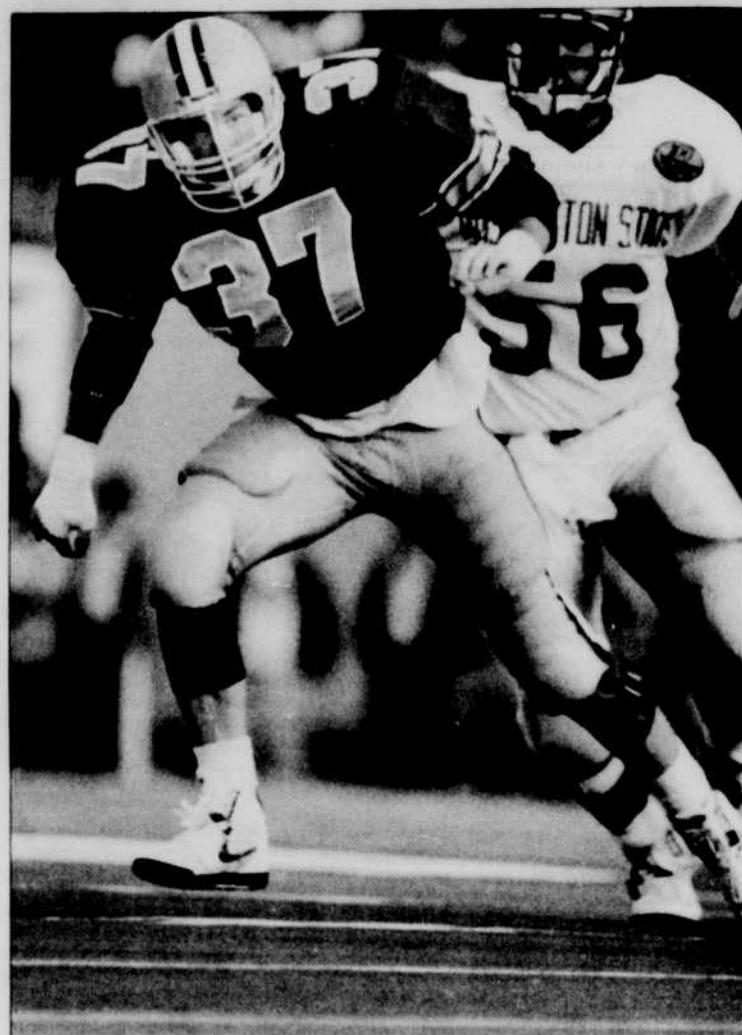
"We lost some key defensive people last year in Matt Brock and Scott Kozak," he added, "so I knew I had to step forward and be a top caliber leader."

Kearns, who calls all the signals on the field for the Ducks, is not the most vocal guy on the field, nor will he ever be. However, leaders don't have to be vocal, as Kearns has proven.

One thing Kearns can do is play, and he has proven that this year by leading Oregon with 67 tackles, 48 of them unassisted.

"You can tell guys like Joe Farwell will be great players, but have a long way to go like I did when I was a redshirt freshman," Kearns said. "It helps to have a fifth-year senior who has been through the Pac-10 process to tell you what you're doing."

"I'm not a big rah-rah guy and I don't see myself in that role," he said. "I still like to go out there and hit the hell out of people. I'll encourage people, but I think actions tend to



File photo

Linebacker Mark Kearns has become a leader on defense for the Ducks this season

speaking louder than words. I like to think if people see me doing something that they'll think 'if Kearns can step in and do it, so can I.'"

Inside linebackers coach Bill Tarrow feels Kearns' leadership has been invaluable.

"It's important to have a senior linebacker in there to have someone to emulate," he said, "especially when somebody does some good things."

Kearns, who starts at inside linebacker, also plays the middle linebacker in the Ducks Hawk defensive group, their 4-1 alignment used on passing downs. This was something that Kearns and Tarrow talked about last year with Kearns taking over for the graduated Kozak.

"That was a prime goal of

mine this season," Kearns said. "Last year I'd come in for two plays and then have to leave on third down. It was really frustrating. Scott Kozak was a great pass rusher, but I wanted to be in there too."

"That was one of the things we talked about in the off season," Tarrow said. "We set goals to improve on the pass rush so Mark wouldn't have to go out in the Hawk package."

Tarrow also feels having Kearns in the Hawk package gives needed continuity to the defense.

"It's important to have an inside linebacker in the Hawk because a lot of times teams run against us in it," he said. "It keeps some continuity to the


Turn to Kearns, Page 10

Sundance
Pioneers promoting
Organically Grown
food since 1971

- Organic Agriculture -
- Grows Safe Food
- Is Sustainable
- Conserves Topsoil, A Precious Natural Resource
- Doesn't Pollute Groundwater
- Tastes Better
- Is Often Local
- Is Small Scale

SUNDANCE NATURAL FOODS
 24TH & HILYARD, EUGENE OPEN 8AM - 11PM 343-9142

Don't miss DUCK ACTION




because your hair's
 in your eyes!

Our haircuts are only \$7.00! We cut any length of hair to any style. Come in today to

Kampus Barber Shop
 851 East 13th

Phone: 343-7654 Men & Women
WE HAVE 3 BARBERS TO SERVE YOU!
NO APPOINTMENTS NECESSARY

342-2912  2025 Franklin Blvd.
 • Eugene •

German
 AUTO SERVICE

Reliable Service For Your Foreign Auto

Specializing in
Volkswagon • Mercedes • BMW • Audi
 Datsun & Toyota welcome

EXPERT WORKMANSHIP & SAVINGS
 "Serving you for over 26 years"



Campus
 1225 Alder
 345-2434

Market Place West
 3131 W. 11th
 342-7827

SUB SHOP

Look For Our
 Coupons in
 Duck Bucks!