

The travesty of the year: Ducks are denied bowl

The saddest part of the 1989 Oregon football season was not an 18-17 loss to Stanford. It was not blowing a 33-14 lead at Brigham Young to lose 45-41.

The saddest part of the season for the Ducks is realizing even though they can play with just about anybody in the country, they probably will not be invited to play in a bowl game.

After holding off Oregon State for a 30-21 win on Saturday, Oregon finished its most successful season since 1964 with a 7-4 record. A 7-4 record should be good enough to warrant an invitation to play during the holiday season. But a 7-4 record for the Ducks is like a 5-6 record for the Penn States, Ohio States and Syracuses of the country.

You see, there are some things those bowl selection people look for when choosing a team to play in a bowl. Does the team play in a major media market? No, Oregon does not. Is this a team that people on the East Coast would turn on their television sets to watch for three hours? No, because the Ducks have no exposure on the East Coast.

You might wonder what type of exposure Oregon would need to be attractive to the bowl people. They have a quarterback in Bill Musgrave who threw for more touchdowns and more yards this season than such NFL stars as Dan Fouts and Chris Miller.

What about the rest? Well, the Ducks have a defense that is one of the best in the country and have some exciting players in David Cusano, Peter Brantley and Chris Oldham.

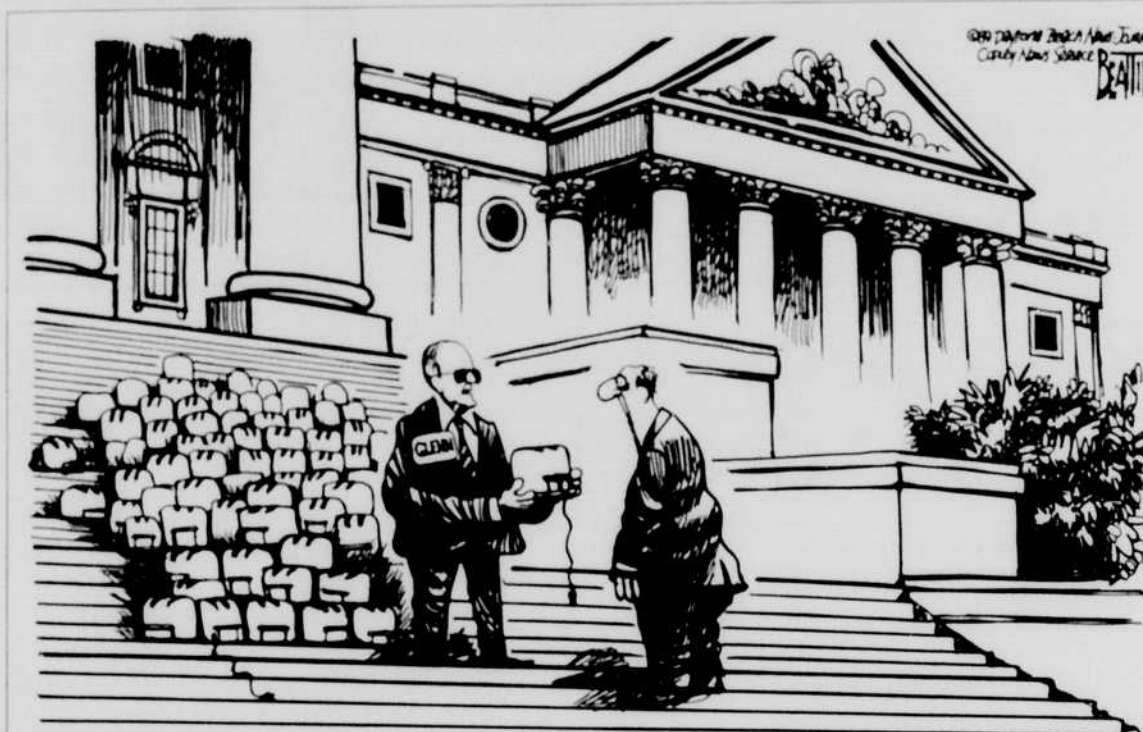
So instead of taking one of the better teams in the country to the Freedom Bowl, John Hancock Bowl or Copper Bowl, the bowl know-it-alls will select a few other teams with worse records and worse teams than Oregon's. Such possibilities include:

- Arizona State: This is a hard one for Duck fans to stomach. The Sun Devils are 6-3-1, a very deceiving record. If Arizona State loses to Arizona they probably won't go to a bowl. But if they do go, it will be a travesty. This is a team that tied Oregon State and lost 27-7 to the Ducks when they let Derek Loville run over them like Sherman marching through the South.

- Syracuse: This is a team who at 6-3 would be very lucky to end up 7-4 or 6-4-1, but will likely end up 6-5. Still, they're a more attractive team than the Ducks, according to the experts.

- Indiana, Minnesota and Iowa: At the moment all three of these Big Ten schools are under consideration. None of these teams can finish better than 6-5, and Iowa lost 44-6 to the Ducks.

Yes, the Ducks deserve a bowl bid before any of these teams. But better yet, let's abolish the current system and come up with a playoff system like the NCAA uses for basketball.



"You'll be happy to know I'm not taking any more campaign contributions from Lincoln Savings and Loan.... Here, have a toaster."

Umbrella ban should be better publicized

In all the excitement and happiness during the Ducks' victory over the Beavers Saturday at Autzen Stadium, many fans might not have noticed a quiet little announcement. If they had, their reaction probably wouldn't have been that pleasant.

Saturday's game was the last time umbrellas will be allowed in Autzen Stadium. This announcement was first made during the Long Beach State game, but received little media attention.

The University's athletic department has not exactly gone out of its way to publicize the umbrella ban. The whole issue has been handled very quietly.

Starting next year, no person can come into the stadium with an umbrella. A variety of reasons for banning umbrellas have been given, such as their potential physical danger and obstructing the view of others.

We've thought long and hard about this one. Both sides of the issue have good arguments. Nobody likes having water dumped down his back by the umbrella-wielding idiot behind him, but no one wants to sit in the rain to watch a football game. Getting drenched takes all the fun out of going to the stadium in the first place.

Eugene residents live with the fact of life

that during the autumn and winter months, they're going to get wet. It's all part of Oregon's unique environment. No one likes to get rained upon, but it defeats the purpose to go to a football game when you miss most of it because somebody with an umbrella is sitting in front of you.

As we said, we don't necessarily agree or disagree with the ban. We see both sides, but we are upset the decision was made without letting the fans have any input. After all, they're the ones who pay the money for tickets; they should be the ones who contribute to the decision-making process.

The ban was made in the middle of the football season, but the plan was not announced until *after* it already had been agreed upon. We find that a little hard to take.

Why couldn't the athletic department have consulted some of the fans? The decision was borne out of complaints by some fans but, to our knowledge, the athletic department made no move to get widespread fan opinion. They should have.

This is probably a dead issue, but the next time the athletic department has another decision to make of similar nature, they should consult the fans first.

Letters

Commendation

In response to Charles Feinstein's letter (*ODE*, Nov. 6) complaining about being cited for littering by the Eugene Police Department, let me state loud and clear that I applaud the EPD for citing Feinstein.

Feinstein whines that he should have had a warning, commenting in his three years at the University that this is the first time he has received a ticket.

Considering that most students are 18 or older when they enter the University, one may logically deduce Feinstein is 21 or older. Frankly, I don't think expecting an adult to be aware of — and to obey — littering laws is too much to ask.

Feinstein not only overtly disagrees with this, he goes on to bemoan the fact that four of his friends have also been ticketed this year — three for minors in possession of alcohol, and the fourth for urinating in public.

The relation of alcohol abuse to serious problems such as

drunk driving and assaults is well documented, especially in the University area; the legal drinking age of 21 is well publicized. Because of this, it should come as no surprise to anyone that the police are enforcing liquor laws. The utter offensiveness of urinating in public speaks for itself.

Again, I commend the EPD for taking action that needs to be taken. And for Feinstein, I have a suggestion: Why not try growing up and taking responsibility for your actions?

Mary Duhaime
Law

Picturesque

In a letter section full of parody and reproof toward *Emerald* articles, I submit this compliment.

Cam Sivesind's sports column "Saturday's games leave fans in awe" (*ODE*, Nov. 7), was very thoughtfully written. As I read the column and realized the procession of comments, I was completely

pleased.

Not only did he present the final scores, past scores, player names, conference rankings, rampant thoughts, quarter statistics, fork stabs, winning drives, hot flames, historic facts, sad fans, yards passing, Pete Rose, all-time records, Stealth bombers, games remaining, Oldham's radar, sagging spirits, struggling Arizona, Cinderella stories, potent Wildcats, harsh reality, weak UCLA, Conklin fumbles, lucky BYU, false impressions, vacationing Ducks, overall headaches, and Troy Taylor; he made me laugh.

In a time of heavy rain and depressing midterm reviews, I am thankful for articles such as this one. Both the form and fashion of his article were truly picturesque.

David Partridge
Architecture

Run-around

Teacher-trainees in the mildly handicapped learner en-

dorsement program should be aware of serious institutional problems.

Contrary to assertions made by this University's Special Education Department, research clearly shows that integrative and interactive teaching methods are more effective than behavioral manipulations with a wider variety of students.

Effective for some, behavioral techniques can represent mental, emotional and physiological abuse for students when they are required to perform, in unison, basic skills that meet only a fraction of their real world needs.

Teacher-trainees are dependent upon their rapport with practicum supervisors. Power plays and unspoken criteria rule the teacher certification process that is done in isolation, with few observers. When I pointed out the need for other teaching materials besides scripted commercial programs, I was rudely treated by my practicum supervisors. Although I had completed 80 per-

cent of the required coursework, I was told I would not receive my endorsement here.

There is no student-faculty committee of peers in the program to discuss issues with you. I was told to file a grievance, only to find these are decided upon by Associate Dean Judith Grosenick, who told me if my philosophy was different than behaviorist, I could go somewhere else.

I was not informed I could simply avoid a year of headache, busywork, stuffed feelings and expense by attaining an endorsement through the NTE exams available in the teacher certification office.

I ask: Do we want special education teachers who can be friendly with kids? Or do we want teachers who can behave like prison guards? Our answer might be a clue as to why young learners are still failing in resource rooms.

Charlie Larson
Instructional Systems
Technology