

SPORTS

Oregon pounds Utah State 52-7, faces Washington next Saturday

By Ashley Conklin
Emerald Sports Editor

Oregon came out and took care of business Saturday, routing Utah State 52-7 in a non-conference encounter at Autzen Stadium.

Now that the 22nd-ranked Ducks have the Aggies out of the way, all attention can be turned north to Seattle and this Saturday's showdown with No. 17 Washington.

The biggest concern Coach Rich Brooks had with Utah State was a possible letdown after the big win over Brigham Young a week earlier, and concentrating too soon on the battle with the Huskies that could likely decide the Pacific-10 Conference's Rose Bowl berth.

But Oregon never did look flat or play lackadaisically against Utah State, putting the game out of reach early with a 35-0 halftime lead and emptying the bench in the second half.

And Brooks was pleased the Ducks concentrated solely on Utah State when they could have easily looked past the Aggies.

"I'm very pleased with the

play of our team," Brooks said. "Certainly we were not at fever pitch and we played well."

"This team has learned some things over the last couple of years, certainly the juniors and seniors on this team about our ability to get up for certain games and then not play well in games we should win," he said. "I think maybe the team has a little more maturity in that regard."

For the third straight week, the Duck defense turned in a dominating performance, limiting Utah State to only 21 rushing yards on 19 carries and allowing only 222 yards of total offense.

Meanwhile, the Oregon offense racked up 508 yards of total offense and tied a school record with 33 first downs. Tailback Sean Burwell rushed for 129 yards on 20 carries for his third 100-yard game, a freshman school record.

Quarterback Bill Musgrave played the entire first half and the first series of the second half, completing 15 of 23 passes for 187 yards and three touchdowns. Along the way, Musgrave broke Chris Miller's career total offense record.

Musgrave now has 6,878

yards of total offense and became the first Duck quarterback to throw for more than 7,000 yards in a career.

"I think it'll mean something when I'm done here," Musgrave said of setting another school record. "I think it's a good reflection of our offense because we've racked up a lot of yards in the last four years."

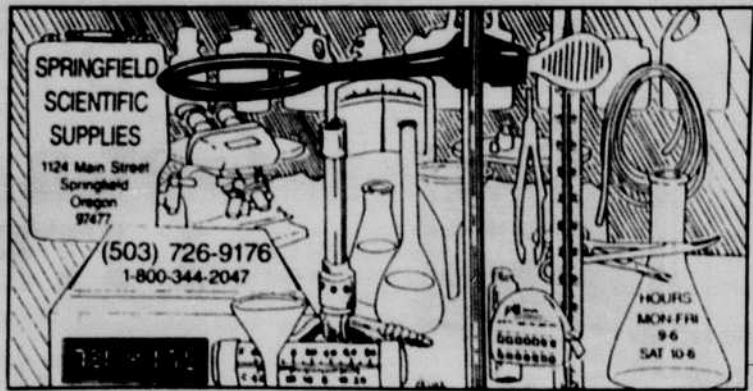
Two of Musgrave's touchdown passes went to tight end Jeff Thomason, who now has six touchdown receptions and is quietly moving toward the school record of 10 touchdown receptions in one season set by Bobby Moore (Ahmad Rashad).

Brooks made it clear after the game that he thinks Thomason is probably the best tight end in college football.

"I think he's as good as there is at his position," Brooks said. "They talk about (Chris) Smith last week from BYU. I think Jeff Thomason is the premiere tight end in the nation. He can catch, he can block, he can make big plays."

While it was the passing game getting the job done in the second quarter, it was the running game setting things up

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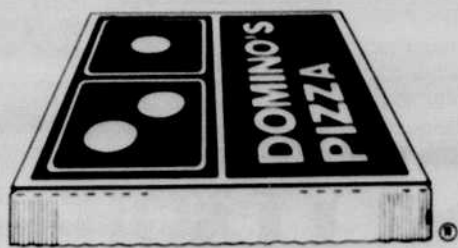
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7:30 p.m. Monday, October 8, 1990
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also:
Robert J. Zavrel, Jr., Stanford Telecom,
Thursday 29 November, 1990, 7:30 p.m. EMU Gumwood Room

J. Baird Callicott, Professor of Philosophy, Univ. of Wisconsin
Thursday 6 December, 1990, 7:30 p.m. EMU Gumwood Room

Michael McCloskey, Chairman, The Sierra Club
January 1991 ♦ Date, time and place to be announced

These lectures, free and open to the public, are part of the 1990-91 Autzen Lectures in the Humanities and the Professions series entitled "Ethics and Free Enterprise: The Social Responsibility of Business." The lectures will be followed by a reception.