

# Ducks overcome injuries to get Freedom Bowl bid

By Ashley Conklin  
Emerald Sports Editor

For the first time in school history, Oregon will be going to back-to-back bowl games.

After the Ducks had to virtually beg and plead their way into the Independence Bowl last season, Oregon was the first choice of the Freedom Bowl Committee to play in the Dec. 29 game in Anaheim, Calif.

Here is a look back at Oregon's 8-3 season, which included a 4-3 Pacific-10 Conference record and an undefeated 7-0 mark at Autzen Stadium.

**OREGON 42 SAN DIEGO STATE 21:** Senior quarterback Bill Musgrave has a field day against the Aztec defense as he completes 31 of 46 passes for 443 yards and three touchdowns. Musgrave sets Autzen records for passing yardage and total offense (468 yards) in a game the Ducks never trailed in.

Senior wide receiver Tony Hargain is just as brilliant, catching 10 passes for 206 yards (another stadium record) and scores three touchdowns, one rushing, on the day.

**OREGON 55 IDAHO 23:** The promise of a great season by Hargain, who was leading the nation in receiving following the Aztec game, disappears in the first quarter when he leaps for a pass and breaks a kneecap in the process, ending his season.

In the second quarter, starting full-back Brandon Jumper is lost for the season when he injures a knee on a late-hit out-of-bounds.

Tailbacks Ngalu Kelemeni and Sean Burwell combine for 275 yards and five

touchdowns in the rout, but the loss of Hargain and Jumper leave no cause for celebration.

**OREGON 17 ARIZONA 22:** The Ducks fall behind 10-0 early on in the Pac-10 opener for both teams and only miss trailing 17-0 when a clipping penalty wipes out a punt return for a touchdown.

Oregon takes a 14-10 lead at halftime but Musgrave throws four second-half interceptions and Darryl Lewis picks off two, including one for a touchdown.

Still, the Ducks have a chance to pull the game out at the end, but can't score on three plays inside the one-yard line.

**OREGON 32 BRIGHAM YOUNG 16:** Oregon returns to Autzen to face the nation's fourth-ranked team with explosive quarterback Ty Detmer, a Heisman Trophy candidate, running the show.

In front of a split-national ABC-TV audience and an Autzen crowd of 45,022, the game never materializes into the 45-41 shoot out it was last year when the two teams met.

Instead, the Duck defense sacks Detmer five times and intercepts him another five times — including three by cornerback Daryle Smith — and holds BYU to minus 47 yards rushing, a stadium and school record.

Oregon jumps out to a 12-0 lead and after the Cougars pull within 12-10, Musgrave leads the Ducks on three straight touchdown drives, throwing scoring passes to Michael McClellan and Jeff Thomason, and running in for a score himself as the Ducks go up 32-10.

For Brooks, there is no question who the best quarterback on the field was.

"You saw supposedly the front run-



Photo by Mark Ylen

**Quarterback Bill Musgrave threw for 302 yards against Washington, but took a constant pounding from the Husky defense all day in a 38-17 loss.**

ner for the Heisman Trophy out there today in Detmer," Brooks said. "Maybe Musgrave ought to be the front runner."

**OREGON 52 UTAH 7:** The Ducks don't get caught looking ahead to the big Pac-10 showdown with Washington the following week as Oregon takes care of the Aggies swiftly and quickly.

Burwell rushes for 129 yards on 20 carries in mostly three quarters of action, and Thomason catches two more touchdown passes from Musgrave.

**OREGON 17 WASHINGTON 38:** After being dominated for most of the first half, the Ducks come alive late in the second quarter to pull within 14-10 at halftime.

Then the roof caves in for the Ducks.

Musgrave is sacked and fumbles, the Huskies recover, and three plays later Washington takes a 21-10 advantage.

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