



Photo by Jeff Paslay
Oregon cornerback Alex Molden baffled Arizona State's receivers with six deflected passes and an interception.

O'Neil shows maturity in victory

By Dave Charbonneau
Emerald Sports Editor

He didn't throw for 300 yards.

He didn't complete 30 passes.

But on Saturday, Oregon quarterback Danny O'Neil had, quite possibly, the best game of his short career with the Ducks.

O'Neil showed poise,

smarts and maturity in leading Oregon to its third straight victory with a 30-20 victory over Arizona State.

As Oregon's running backs have been the talk of the town for the past three weeks, O'Neil has quietly established himself as the quarterback the Ducks hoped he would become.

O'Neil's stats were not anything to scream about on Sat-

urday — 14 of 26 for 209 yards and one touchdown — but his patience in the pocket and ability to find the open man was the difference in the game.

"Danny played a fine, fine football game," Oregon head coach Rich Brooks said. "He made good decisions and did some good things on the

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Fumbles can't stop Oregon's third win

By Steve Mims
Emerald Sports Reporter

Just when it looked like the Oregon football team might fumble another game away, it regrouped at halftime and went on to complete the sweep of its three-game homestand with a 30-20 victory over Arizona State.

The Ducks lost three fumbles in the first half, which led to 14 Arizona State points, but used a field goal at the end of the half to regain the lead and cruise to their first Pacific-10 Conference victory in more than a year.

"It's been a long time," Oregon head coach Rich Brooks said of the Ducks' first conference win since they beat Washington State on Sept. 7 of last year. "I'm damn upset it has been that long. We are a good football team, and it was important for us to prove that."

Oregon got off to a shaky start when Ronnie Harris fumbled on the opening drive, but Harris came back quickly to make up for his error.

After a strong defensive stand by the Ducks, Harris burned the Arizona State defense on a crossing pattern for 48 yards and the first score of the game.

The Sun Devils played an eight-man front line that left no defender deep. Once Harris beat his man, it was clear sailing into the end zone.

"It feels good to be able to make the big plays," said Harris, who also returned a punt 87 yards for a touchdown last week against UNLV. "I hope I can continue to make big plays and help the team."

The Ducks' defense was tough early, holding the Sun Devils to only 22 yards and one first down in the first quarter. The Ducks dominated the first quarter, piling up 142 yards while keeping the ball for more

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