

## FOOTBALL

# Jaeger keeps stadium pretty

By Erick Studenicka  
Emerald Sports Reporter

Compared to Jim Jaeger, Rich Brooks doesn't really have much to do on an Oregon football game day.

While Brooks "only" has to coach the football team, Jaeger is responsible for the smooth operation of all of the "essentials" within Autzen Stadium, ranging from the conditions of the playing field to the conditions in the stadium bathrooms.

From his rooftop perch above the Autzen Stadium skyboxes, Jaeger directs his operations crew of 10 to various problems that arise during the game.

"From the roof, I have a clear view of everything that's going on in the stadium," Jaeger said. "If a situation arises, I can direct my crew to the problem by radio."

Jaeger said his crew can encounter a wide variety of problems during any given game.

"An operations crew person has to be a 'jack-of-all-trades' worker, able to work on plumbing, electrical problems, and whatever else may come up," Jaeger said. "Past problems have included things such as trouble with the electronic 25-second clock to stuffed up toilets."

"Sometimes we can't actually

fix things during the game, so then our job becomes trying to come up with an alternative plan," Jaeger said. "We have to be versatile and ready to make adjustments."

Jaeger said the difficulty of his job often corresponds to how well the football team is playing.

"Things usually go smoothly when we're winning," Jaeger said, "but when people start to get mad when we're losing, that's when the mirrors start to break."

Jaeger, who said he works about a 50-hour week before a home date, said his crew begins preparing for a home game on the Tuesday before the game. On game day, his crew arrives at 6 a.m. and does a variety of chores, including the watering of the artificial playing surface.

"Not many people realize we have to water the Omni-Turf," Jaeger said. "By watering the turf, we're able to give the surface a more realistic feel for the players."

Jaeger said his crew was especially busy for the Washington game three weeks ago.

"We put up over 2,000 extra seats for the game," Jaeger said. "Most of my work with the extra seats involved paperwork, trying to get the fire marshal

**'When people start to get mad when we're losing, that's when the mirrors start to break.'**

Jim Jaeger,  
Director of operations for  
the athletic department

and city officials' approval."

As director of operations for the athletic department, Jaeger's responsibilities also include McArthur Court, Hayward Field, the Casanova Center and the Bowerman Building. Jaeger, formerly a teacher and coach in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, began his association with the athletic department as a custodial supervisor. He subsequently became the operations manager for Mac Court and assumed his present post in 1988.

Ties to the athletic department run deep in the Jaeger family. Jim's wife, Carol, is the equipment manager at Mac Court. Jaeger laughed when considering if he ever had to "boss" around his wife.

"Oh, no. Luckily she has someone other than me for a boss," Jaeger said.

## Pac-10 heads into home stretch

Big games, big games, big games.

Every game this week in the Pacific-10 Conference features at least one team with postseason chances still alive.

The two biggest games are USC vs. Arizona and Stanford vs. Washington State.

Arizona is in second place after knocking off Washington last weekend. The Wildcats need to win their next two games to get to a "major" bowl. They have their work cut out for them, facing a USC team that is mad after losing to Stanford last weekend.

USC is at 4-2 in the conference and a win will help them keep in the top third of the Pac-10.

The game is in California, but Arizona con-

tinues to prove they can play with the big boys in the conference.

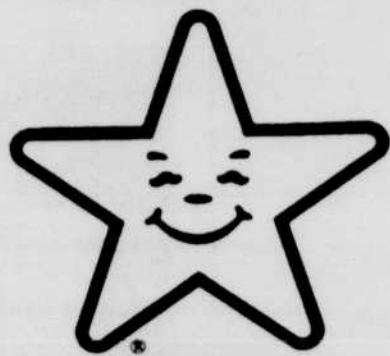
**Pick:** Arizona 17, USC 9.

Stanford is at home against Washington State. The Cardinal are 4-2 in the conference and still could get an invitation on New Year's Day, but Stanford needs to win its last two games. The winner of this game will be in the driver's seat for a berth into the Freedom Bowl.

Washington State has folded when faced with tough competition and will probably finish 4-4 in the Pac-10 and be left out of the bowl

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