## Football team racks up 'Mimsies'



As another mediocre year of Oregon athletics nears of end, it is time for the first annual Mimsies, the awards celebrating the best and worst of the past 12 months of Duck sports. The envelopes please:

- Most Disturbing Trend of the Year - A tie between the intrusive gender equity programs being forced on the University and the even more intrusive Incidental Fee Committee claiming to act in the best interest of students.
Although the University's athletic department is in debt and no women's sports at the school enerate revenue, proponents of gender equity are trying to persuade the University to add another women's sport. Those in favor of this idea say another women's team must be added so the scholarship distribution between men and women will be equal.
All decisions made by the Oregon athletic department should be made in the interest of reducing the budget, something an additional women's team would
not do.
The IFC recently reduced the athletic department's budget even further, which resulted in a \$2 surcharge for all home football and basketball games. This is an important decision that will affect the thousands of students who attend these games each year, and these students should have had a say in what happened.
-Best New Sports Trend of the Year - The pro-active attitude Oregon head football coach and athletic director Rich Brooks has taken toward moving the program forward. Two examples exhibit this change:
First, when the Ducks lost the Independence Bowl against Wake Forest in December, Brooks was visibly disappointed even though the team finished 6-6. The Ore gon football teams were so bad during the 1970s and early 1980s that when it began to move forward in the late 1980s. 1 expected the coaches to be satisfied with just going to a bowl game. Instead. Brooks' disappointment in the Ducks' folding-chair act in the second half has shown he is not satisfied by just tread ing water. Brooks and his coach es know Oregon football can reach an even higher plateau in the future and have shown the Ducks are willing to work toward this.
Secondly, the firing of women's basketball coach Elwin

Heiny showed Brooks and the rest of the athletic department are taking a strong interest in seeing each sport succeed. Reaction has been mixed as to whether the firing was justified, but there can be no doubt it sends a message to all Oregon coaches that winning is not the only thing, but it is impornot the
-The Charles Barkley "I'm not-a-role-model" Award - To the members of the Oregon football team who have found it tough to stay out of trouble in the past 12 months. At least nine members of the team have been cited by police or disciplined by the team since last spring
I know it is unfair to put these 18 - to 23 -year-olds on a pedestal but being a kid who grew up idolizing the Ducks of the mid-1980s. I know kids look up to the play ers today. Just the fact these young men are wearing the Oregon green and vellow makes them larger than life to these kids and that makes it tough to swallow some of the idiotic acts these players have committed in the past year.
-The Exception to the Rule Award - To Eric Castle, Ronnie Harris. Jeff Cummins and Antho ny fones, four Oregon players who avoided the headlines during their careers and now have opportunities to play in the NFL.

Steve Mims is a sports reporter for the Emerald.



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