

O'Neil, Tate honored for TD pass

Oregon's passing combination of quarterback Danny O'Neil and tight end Willy Tate have been awarded the AT&T Long Distance "pass play" award in Division I-A football this week for their 87-yard touchdown play in the Ducks' 13-7 win at Illinois on Saturday.

The play came with 13:20 remaining in a scoreless first half when O'Neil read an Illini blitz and hit Tate with a short pass over the middle, and the junior tight end took the pass the rest of the way for the score. The pass is the third longest in school history and turned out to be Oregon's only touchdown in the game.

"The only play in terms of our defense that I was particularly upset about was the most important one," Illinois head coach Lou Tepper said after the game. "That was the blitz I called when they hit the tight end for their only touchdown. That was the one call, that if I could pull back, I certainly would come back on that one."

Tate's playing status before



FILE PHOTO
Oregon quarterback Danny O'Neil (above) and teammate Willy Tate were honored for their 87-yard touchdown pass.

the game was uncertain because of a shoulder injury he suffered

in the Ducks' season-opening win over Colorado State, but he finished the game with three catches for 106 yards. O'Neil completed 16 of 28 passes for 269 yards and the one touchdown Saturday.

This award marks the second consecutive year in which an Oregon player has achieved this honor. Oregon kicker/punter Tommy Thompson received the AT&T Long Distance "field goal" award last year when he kicked a 56-yard field goal against Washington.

Tate and O'Neil will both be given an engraved plaque in recognition of their achievements, and AT&T will donate \$400 to the NCAA's Degree Completion Scholarship Fund for the accomplishment.

"AT&T is proud to contribute to this college athletic program so that athletes — both present and future — can continue their educations," said Mary Reiling, national director of sponsorships and promotions for AT&T's Consumer Communications Services.

Relieved UCLA to face Aztecs

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Two days after saying he wasn't sure he's ever had a team that needed a win more than his current one did following its 28-25 victory over Stanford, UCLA coach Terry Donahue was more than ready to move on.

Now, his focus is on the fact that the Bruins can go from 0-2 to 2-2 in a span of five days since they face San Diego State (3-1) at Jack Murphy Stadium on Thursday night.

"We have to look at it like that," Donahue said Monday at his weekly meeting with reporters. "We needed that win (at Stanford). We need one now."

UCLA has a 15-0-1 record against San Diego State over the years with the only blemish a 13-13 tie in 1924. This will mark the 10th straight year the schools have met and is the final game scheduled between them, so if the Aztecs don't beat the Bruins now, it's possible they never will.

"I'm sorry the series is ending," San Diego State coach Al Luginbill said by telephone. "We haven't played well against them the last two years (when UCLA won by scores of 37-12 and 35-7).

"This gives us an opportunity to go up against them and see how far we've brought this program in four-and-a-half years."

Donahue said Luginbill has brought the Aztecs pretty far.

"I would guess this is probably the most talented San Diego State team we've seen," he said. "I would say their defense is the most improved area of their program."

"San Diego State's a very explosive team. They're going to strain you. They're a confident team. They're 3-1 and feel very good about themselves, and they should."

UCLA is one team that's done an excellent job containing San Diego State running back Marshall

Faulk in the past two years, and the Bruins have done it twice.

Two years ago, Faulk gained 79 yards on 15 carries and scored one touchdown. Last year, Faulk picked up 118 yards on 23 carries and scored once, but did most of his damage in the fourth quarter, after the outcome was decided.

Faulk has been held pretty well in check in three of San Diego State's four games this season, but has still averaged 105 yards per game rushing and scored nine touchdowns.

"We've played very well against Marshall Faulk," Donahue said. "We've been able to contain what I would classify as a truly great back."

Donahue expressed concern about new San Diego State quarterback Tim Gutierrez, and understandably because of what Gutierrez has accomplished in the last two games after starter David Lowery suffered a stress fracture in his right fibula.

"They have some very talented players," Donahue said. "(Wide receiver) Darnay Scott, Marshall Faulk, and now, all of a sudden, Gutierrez comes on the scene and throws for 400 yards."

Actually, Gutierrez completed 32 of 48 passes for 375 yards and four touchdowns as the Aztecs beat Minnesota 48-17 last weekend.

A week earlier, Gutierrez relieved Lowery and led the Aztecs to a 38-31 come-from-behind victory over Air Force.

Donahue said that freshman Skip Hicks, who gained 148 yards on 19 carries in UCLA's 14-13 loss to Nebraska on Sept. 18, was "50-50" to play against San Diego State. Hicks missed the Stanford game because of a sprained ankle.

"He wants to play Thursday night," Donahue said. "Most of the swelling has gone away. The ankle is still tender."

Women's golf in sixth

The Oregon women's golf team improved its score, but dropped two spots in the standings during the second round of the Dick McGuire Invitational in Albuquerque, N.M. Tuesday.

Ducks shot 305 as a team Tuesday, a one-shot improvement on Monday's score, but they dropped from fourth place to sixth place. Oregon's 611 score is 14 shots behind co-leaders UCLA and San Jose State heading into this morning's final round.

Juniors Leigh Casey and Shannon Hare have paced the Ducks in the first two rounds and are at 150 and 151, respectively. Casey

opened with a 74 on Monday before shooting 76 Tuesday to tie four other golfers in 11th place. Hare followed her opening-round 77 with a 74 on Tuesday to fall into tie for 16th place.

Junior Karly Mills fired back-to-back 78s in the opening rounds and is in 38th place. Senior Amy Elieff is at 157 after improving on Monday's 80 with a 77 Tuesday. Oregon's other senior, Cappy Mack, is one shot behind Elieff after shooting 77-81.

UCLA's Jenny Park leads the tournament with an even-par 144 score, three shots ahead of six other golfers.

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