

Ducks face must-win in Arizona

It was just 12 days ago that the Oregon football team was 3-0 and on the verge of upsetting California in its Pacific-10 Conference opener.

How things have changed.

The Ducks meet Arizona State on Saturday in Tempe, Ariz., in a game that will give much-needed life support to one team, while the loser can turn its attention toward recruiting and other off-season duties.

Make no mistake about it, if the Ducks return to Eugene with a loss on Saturday, there will be no bowl game at the end of the season. This is remarkable considering only two weeks ago Oregon fans were still sniffing the scent of distant roses.

"Both us and Arizona State hoped to be 2-0 at this point," Oregon head coach Rich Brooks said Wednesday. "Or at the worst, 1-1 and still in the race. The importance of this game is significant because the loser will be 0-3, and whatever hopes there were of a good season will be gone."

Saturday's game is crucial for Oregon, as it marks one of the more winnable games remaining on the schedule. The Ducks are currently 3-2 overall, but 0-2 in conference play with six games remaining.

Oregon must win four of those games to meet the NCAA requirement of six wins over Division I foes to be eligible for postseason play. (Oregon's victory over Montana this year does not count



STEVE MIMS

toward this because the Grizzlies are Division I-AA.)

A quick glance at the remaining schedule for the Ducks shows why this game is essential. If the Ducks could knock off the Sun Devils, they would be in position to reach six Division I wins by winning all three remaining home games. If the Ducks lose Saturday, they would not only have to win all remaining home games, but they would also have to defeat either Arizona or Washington, the current co-leaders of the Pac-10, on the road.

Another reason why Saturday's game is so important is because it gives the Ducks a chance to get into a groove. Three of Oregon's final four games are at home, where the Ducks could pick up some momentum and continue to ride it through the end of the year.

Despite losing their last two games, the Ducks swear they have not lost confidence in the team. Oregon players continue to say their team will turn it around before the season is lost.

"I believe in my team still,"

Oregon wide receiver Cristin McLemore said after the Ducks 24-13 loss to USC Saturday. "I think we still have one of the best teams in the Pac-10. I think we are going to be alright; we'll bounce back."

Oregon cornerback Isaac Walker admitted the team may have to switch the magnitude of its goals, but they are basically the same as before the season.

"They might be cut down a little short, but we still have the goal to reach postseason play," Walker said.

The Ducks are currently standing at a crossroad and Saturday's game will begin to tell which way the rest of the season will go.

In 1991, Oregon suffered a slew of injuries, much like the team has now. They lost their final six games to finish the year 3-8. The Ducks looked to be on the verge of doing the same thing last year when they slipped to 3-4, but they rebounded to win three of their final five games and play in the Independence Bowl.

It remains to be seen which direction Oregon will take this year, but there is no doubt Saturday's game will play a major role in determining this. If the Ducks go another game without finding the rhythm that has departed during the last six quarters, they will be spending Christmas at home for a change this year.

Steve Mims is the sports editor of the Emerald.

Brooks issues apology

By Steve Mims
Oregon Daily Emerald

In a statement released Tuesday, Oregon head football coach and athletic director Rich Brooks apologized to students who were unable to get tickets to Saturday's Oregon-USC football game.

Brooks said his department elected to sell the student seating in Section 5 to the general public beginning Thursday, Oct. 7, two days before the game. This decision was made because more than 4,000 of the available 6,000 student tickets had not been sold as of Thursday morning, Brooks said.

"It was a judgment call on Thursday morning when less than one-third of the student tickets had been picked up that we elected to sell Section 5 to the general public," Brooks' statement said. "This obviously could have been avoided had the students picked up their tickets earlier so that we would have known there was a chance on game day that student walk-up would surpass the seats that were available."

Brooks said the problem arose from "trying to administer a department that is in dire need of funding." He said they tried to sell tickets that "the general public would be willing to buy if the students are not going to use them."

The contract between the Incidental Fee Committee and athletic department states that student tickets can be sold to the public as long as the decision is made 48 hours before game-time. The IFC cut the athletic department's budget last year, resulting in a \$2 fee for student tickets this year.

Brooks said he planned to try to stop this problem from occurring again by restructuring the seating sections in the reserved sections of Autzen Stadium. Brooks said he will continue to try to find ways to generate money while allowing each student the opportunity to attend the games.

"I do apologize to the students that were inconvenienced," Brooks said. "At the same time we're trying to generate enough money to provide the type of competition that students will be proud of... for the 14 athletic teams that we sponsor at the University of Oregon."

Brooks also encouraged students to pick up their tickets earlier in the week, so that the athletic department can get an idea of how many students are planning to attend the game.



Macintosh Rentals and Services

A computer lounge alternative.

Hourly rentals of color Macs in comfortable setting. Reservations, competitive rates and free coffee. Compact Macs delivered to you. Troubleshooting & training. **15% discount to students. \$15.00 Mac tune-up special. 683-8945**



WALT DISNEY World Co.

Walt Disney World Co. representatives will be on campus to present an information session for Undergraduate Students on the WALT DISNEY WORLD SPRING '94 College Program and the EURO DISNEY Work Experience Program.

WHEN: Monday, October 18, 7:00pm
WHERE: Student Union—Fir Room

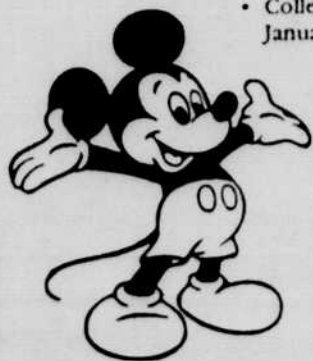
Attendance at this presentation is required to interview for either program.

- College Program Spring 1994 January—May
- EURO DISNEY Program 1994 April—Mid-September

Interviews will be held on Tuesday, October 19.

All majors are encouraged to attend.

For more information Contact: Student Employment Phone: 346-6015 An Equal Opportunity Employer



© The Walt Disney Co.

Kaufman's

WAREHOUSE SALE

TWO DAYS ONLY

SAT., OCT. 16th ★ SUN., OCT. 17th

★ PRICES SLASHED ★

TAKE AN ADDITIONAL

30%-50% OFF SALE PRICES

PLUS SPECIAL GROUPS OF MERCHANDISE

NOW SALE PRICED AT

1.00 ★ 5.00 ★ 10.00 ★ 15.00 ★ 25.00

MERCHANDISE FROM ALL 9 KAUFMAN'S STORES HAS BEEN TRANSFERRED TO OUR WAREHOUSE LOCATED

AT THE REAR OF OUR 135 W. BROADWAY STORE.

PARK FREE SATURDAY & SUNDAY AT THE PARCADE OR OVERPARK.

OPEN SATURDAY 9 A.M.-6 P.M. ★ SUNDAY NOON-5 P.M.