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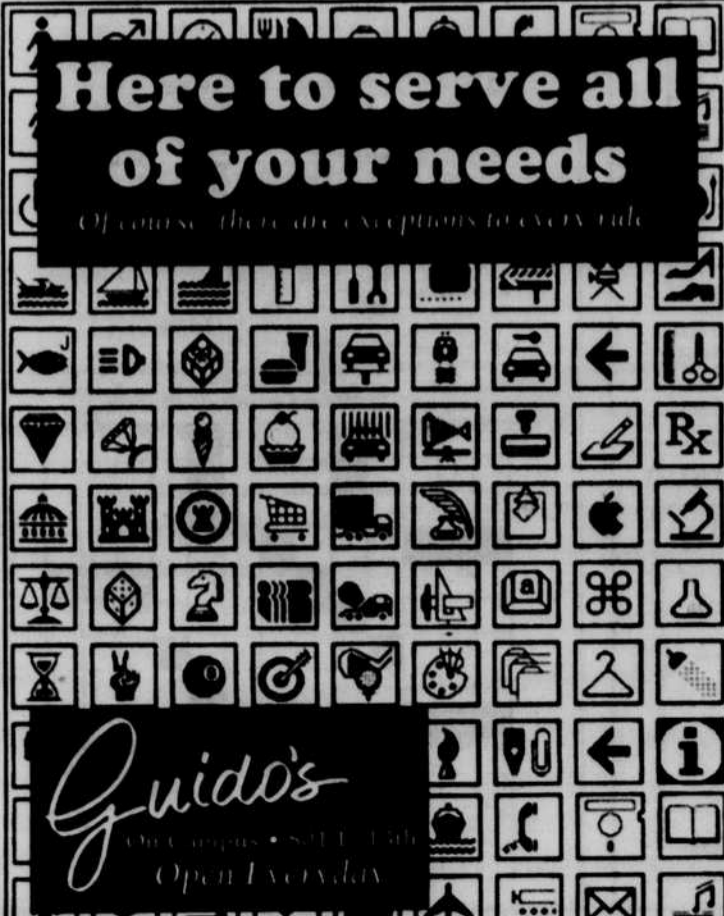
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Brooks' blame well deserved

Last week, only a few days before the Civil War football game, Oregon head coach Rich Brooks pleaded with Duck fans and the media not to blame his players for this season, but rather blame him.



DAVE CHARBONNEAU

Brooks told everyone to stick with his team.

Well, about 30,000 Duck fans stuck with Oregon Saturday at Autzen Stadium and watched Brooks blow it.

Never has Brooks' comments prior to a game been more applicable. Don't blame his players, blame him.

You didn't need Brooks to tell you that. All you needed was to be at Saturday's game. Or at least watching it in the comfort of your own home, like I should have done.

True, Oregon's offense sputtered, but the Duck defense played one of its best games the year. And thanks to the defense, Oregon was in position to win the final game of the season and finish 6-5. Nothing to brag about, but a lot better than what did happen.

Now this is not a column calling for Brooks' head. Thankfully, this is my final year at Oregon, so I could care less if Brooks stays or not. What is upsetting is that I've gone to this school for four years and never saw Oregon beat the Beavers at home. Two years ago, Oregon State embarrassed us 14-3 at Autzen.

I have friends at Oregon State, not to mention a wicked stepmom who is a Beaver fan, so losing to Oregon State is a humbling experience for me to say

the least. But twice in four years? At home?

On Saturday, Brooks and his coaching staff played tail-between-the-legs football, taking the game away from his players.

Brooks has become synonymous with the cliché, "he was playing not to lose, rather than playing to win." And Saturday was a prime example of that.

Oregon somehow grabbed a 12-7 lead and then the defense got tough and stopped the Beavers on fourth and two, taking the ball over on their own 40 yardline.

The Ducks had prime field position with just more than eight minutes left in the game. But somehow, Brooks thought that with a five point lead, he could run out the clock by keeping the ball on the ground. Never mind that the Ducks' only touchdown drive of the game came in the third quarter when quarterback Danny O'Neil threw the ball nine of the 10 plays on the drive and completed six of those passes.

Suddenly, Brooks seemed to think the Ducks could establish a running game in the final eight minutes. Sure they only had 10 yards rushing up to that point, but God forbid we throw the ball and try to get another touch-

down. So, Oregon runs two stupid running plays up the middle. Both plays lose yardage. Apparently, it's taken Oregon State coach Jerry Pettibone only three years to figure out what Brooks' game plan is for the Civil War: Get the lead and sneak out with the win. Brooks did it last year, and he tried to do it Saturday.

Pettibone outsmarted him ... again.

Third and 14 rolled around and O'Neil dropped back to pass, deciding not to run the popular Oregon third and 14 draw play. O'Neil got sacked. Then, Tommy Thompson gets a bad snap and gets tackled at the Oregon 24.

A few plays later, the Beavers take the lead.

Oregon gets the ball back, has its drive stall, and Brooks calls for the punt with three minutes left in the game.

What a shocker! Oregon State runs out the clock, and Oregon loses its second consecutive Civil War at Autzen.

No matter what anyone says, the players did not lose that game. They played hard when they really had no reason to play hard. It's very unfortunate when seniors like Romeo Bandison — who had a remarkable game — Ernest Jones, Tommy Thompson and Derrick Deadwiler have to end on such a crappy note, especially when their own coach didn't even give them a chance to win.

Dave Charbonneau is a sports reporter for the Emerald.

O'Neil named Oregon's top player

Junior quarterback Danny O'Neil was presented the Hoffman Award as the team's most outstanding player Sunday at the University of Oregon football banquet.

O'Neil's selection in balloting by members of the Ducks' squad marked only the second time in the last seven years that the year's top award has gone to a representative of the offensive unit.

O'Neil became the third quarterback in Pacific-10 Conference history to pass for more than 3,000 yards in a season and established six Oregon one-year records. He passed for 3,224 yards and 22 touchdowns on 223 completions, connected on 61.9 percent of his passes and accounted for 3,085 yards total offense.

Juan Sheddick was voted the Wil Gonyea Award as the squad's most inspirational player and

Cristin McLemore was selected for the Clarke Award as the team's most improved player. Josh Wilcox and LaMont Woods shared the Len Casanova Award as the top first-year players.

Tommy Thompson was the recipient of the Gordon Wilson Award as the top player on special teams for the second straight year after leading the team in scoring, and Eric Barnes was presented the Oregon Club of Portland Award in recognition of his play as the team's most valuable offensive lineman.

To Curran and John Taumoepeau were co-winners of the Bob Officer Award to honor team members who played despite physical adversity and Rockwell, who completed undergraduate and master's programs during his playing career, accepted the Elmer Salstrom Award as the squad's top senior student-athlete.

Freshman Seminars

Winter Term 1994

PSY 199	Introduction to Mental Disorders
TA 199	Clothing and Culture
WST 199	Women's Narratives of Peace
PHYS 199	Ozone Hole: Sunburned Penguins?
ANTH 199	Scientific Racism: an Anthropological History
INTL 199	Perceiving Asia and Asian Perceptions of the West
ART 199	International Animation-Artists and Ideas
PHIL 199	Immortality
EDPM 199	Women in Sport: Making a Difference
MUS 199	From Rag to Rock: Sources and Styles of the American Popular Song

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