

History of Rock II

(From the Beatles to Led Zeppelin)

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Dr. Steve Valdez

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Top Five Reasons to Attend Talk by William Raspberry

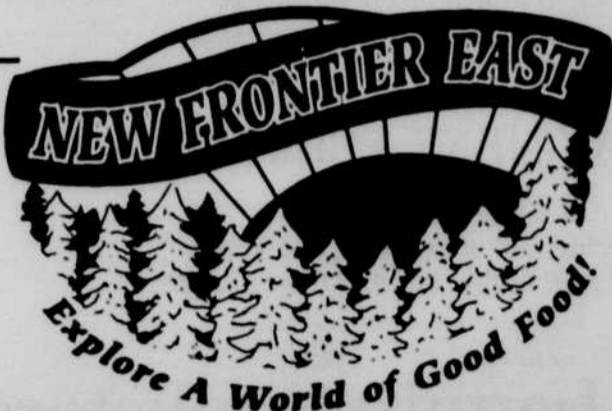


5. It's better than studying for a final
4. He once opened for Pearl Jam
3. He isn't William F. Buckley
2. He isn't H. Ross Perot
1. You might learn something

William Raspberry, syndicated columnist for *The Washington Post*, will speak on Friday, Dec. 3, at 3:30 p.m. in the EMU Ballroom. He will be available for a student question and answer period from 11:30 until 12:30 that day, in the EMU Ballroom.

Both events are free.

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'The season that could have been'

By Steve Mims
Oregon Daily Emerald

There was a time Oregon fans were satisfied with a 5-6 record. However, those same fans have expressed disappointment with the 1993 Oregon season that ended with that record. The fans aren't the only ones disappointed.

"This was the season that could have been," Oregon football coach Rich Brooks said Wednesday. "We didn't accomplish what we should have. We should have been 8-3 but we finished three games away from that."

The Ducks had their chances to finish somewhere around 8-3, but they slipped away. Oregon was not blown out in any of its games; in most of the games you can pick out one or two plays that could have changed the outcome.

The 30 point lead against California, the six turnovers in the second half against USC, Danny O'Neil's six interceptions at Washington, the last onside kick against Stanford or the botched punt against Oregon State. If a few of those situations go the other way, Oregon might be on its way to the Freedom or Alamo Bowl right now, rather than preparing for finals and Christmas break.

The game that will live in the mind of Oregon fans for a lifetime will be the 42-41 loss at California. Oregon was 3-0 at the time and led 30-0 in the first half with everything going its way until it happened.

It was the biggest comeback in Pacific-10 Conference history. As all fans remember, California scored on its first play of the second half, blocked a punt for a touchdown and when it scored the final touchdown with 1:17 left in the game, the two-point conversion was a mere formality and the Ducks were doomed.

"It was a tough loss," Brooks said. "But about five times this year in the conference there was a team in control and then lost it. It's a tough way to lose."

Oregon's talk of rankings and roses stopped after the trip back



The Emerald examines the Oregon Football program in a two-part series.

TODAY: A look back on the 1993 football season

FRIDAY: Looking ahead to next season



JEFF PASLAY/Emerald

Oregon football head coach Rich Brooks is disappointed with this year's season.

makes no apologies for the goals.

"I think (high) expectations are good," Brooks said. "I'm just sorry we couldn't fulfill them. We didn't achieve what we wanted so there is frustration (among fans)."

Even more frustrating is that the race for the Rose Bowl was as wide-open as ever this season. Washington, the three-time defending conference champion, was placed on probation before the season and declared ineligible for a bowl game. The preseason conference favorite was Arizona, a team with a new quarterback and a very shaky offense. UCLA eventually won the right to go to the Rose Bowl with a 6-2 conference record, only the second time since 1986 a team with two conference losses went to the Rose Bowl.

"A team with two losses went to the Rose Bowl," Brooks said. "We finished second in the league in 1989 but the last three years we have been nowhere near that level. We need to get back up in that position."

The Ducks did have a lot of impressive individual performances this season, particularly on offense. Junior quarterback Danny O'Neil threw for a school-record 3,224 yards and 22 touchdowns.

His receiving corps was one of the best in school history featuring wide receivers Cristin McLemore, Derrick Deadwiler and Dameron Ricketts, along with tight ends Willy Tate and Josh Wilcox. Deadwiler set Oregon records with 11 catches for 234 yards against California, and McLemore came close to that with 230 yards receiving against Stanford.

Defensively, the telling factor is that the teams top two tacklers were safety Chad Cota and cornerback Isaac Walker, showing that opposing offenses made a habit of getting into the secondary.

The postseason reaction from fans has been especially harsh this season, with letters and calls asking for Brooks' resignation flowing into many local media organizations. Brooks says he has heard the criticism, but will be back for his 18th season at Oregon next fall.



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