

Football: Hard work translates into award for freshman kicker

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Going into the game, Smith had 10 field goals in 15 attempts and had been steadily improving after a somewhat shaky start.

Considering the job was definitely filled after Belden had proved to be one of the Pac-10's best kickers last year, Smith has come a long way from being a prospective freshman not yet adapted to college life to being the starting kicker of the 17th-ranked team in the nation.

"I have worked really hard at my kicking game," Smith said, adding that having adapted to college life has helped

out his kicking game. "Last week I got settled down. I got comfortable going to classes and going to practice."

But, Smith said, he is far from being done and isn't ready to just hand over his starting role. According to Smith, his main priority is to not miss another field goal or point after attempt for the rest of the season. After that, he plans to really make a name for himself.

"I want to give [Belden] a struggle," he said, "to prove to myself I can be in there. I don't know if I can — because he is one hell of a kicker — but I am going to try."

Stewart: Husky fans give up on Washington in first half

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The score was 10-0 in favor of Oregon and the Huskies had the ball when I got my first real taste of Husky fans' attitude. Washington quarterback Damon Huard was forced to scramble on a third-down play. With an Oregon defender bearing down on him, Huard slid head-first but came up about a yard short of the first down. That's when the fans first turned ugly.

I've heard boos before in Autzen Stadium — usually in the fourth quarter of a blowout that the Ducks are on the bad end of — but nothing could compare to the collective boo coming from over 70 thousand angry Husky fans.

People around me were yelling things like, "Take the hit Huard, that's what you have a back-up for," and, "You guys are terrible."

The amazing thing to me was that it was still the first quarter and their team was only down by ten points. I thought they were going to run Washington coach Jim Lambright out of town and hang the team before halftime.

As I made my way to concessions during halftime, the majority of the conversations that I listened in on were Husky fans saying they were going to give their team one or two drives in the second half, and if the Huskies didn't score, they were leaving.

For the first time in my life I actually felt bad for the Washington Huskies. Not only were they losing by 24 points at halftime, but their fans weren't about to give them any encouragement to mount a comeback in the second half.

In fact, the game at this point may as well have been a home game for Oregon because the only noise being made was from the end-zone seats where all of the Duck fans were located.

As we all know by now, the Huskies did give Oregon a run for their money

in the second half. And suddenly all of those people who wanted Huard's head on a platter in the first half were now life long Huard fans who never doubted him for a second.

While Huard may have escaped his hanging by performing well in the second half, Husky fans were still looking for someone to blame for their pain and suffering of having to sit through a loss. They found kicker John Wales, another guy who really was not to blame.

After all, he didn't spot the Ducks 24 points, and he wasn't the one who let the Ducks through to block his first attempt at a game-winning field goal. And really, after watching the replay of the final kick in slow motion, the only thing you can blame for the miss was the intense wind blowing in Husky Stadium which pushed the kick about five to ten feet to the right.

One would think that with the success that the Huskies football program has had over the years, that the fans would be somewhat sophisticated. In reality, Washington fans may be the most spoiled group of people I've ever been around.

To hear them talk after the game you would think that they had just got beat by a Division II school. What the Husky fans can't seem to grasp is that Oregon football is for real. The Ducks beat them last year and they did it again this year on the road.

I hope that with Oregon's success we don't become the snobs that the Huskies and their fans have turned into over the years.

For now, Oregon fans can sit back and smile. Even though we have some things to learn as fans, and our program is still on the rise, Oregon football and its fans are truly the class of the Northwest. So let's work to keep it that way.

Chris Stewart is a sports reporter for the Emerald

TUESDAY'S TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL

■ **CLEVELAND INDIANS**—Signed Kevin Tolar, pitcher, to a minor-league contract. Named Gary Ruby pitching coach for Buffalo of the American Association; Rod Fridley northern Florida scout; Jim Moran southern Florida scout; and Bill Schmidt cross-checker.

■ **MILWAUKEE BREWERS**—Agreed to a two-year working agreement with Ogden of the Pioneer League.

■ **NEW YORK YANKEES**—Named Lin Garrett director of scouting; John Cox west coast cross-checker; Cotton Nye midwest cross-checker; and Donnie Rowland east coast cross-checker.

■ **SEATTLE MARINERS**—Exercised their 1996 option on the contract of Joey Cora, second baseman. National League.

■ **CINCINNATI REDS**—Named Mark Berry manager and Mack Jenkins pitching coach of Chattanooga of the Southern League.

■ **FLORIDA MARLINS**—Named Jose Sotolongo director of community relations and Pat McNamara corporate sales manager.

BASKETBALL

US BASKETBALL LEAGUE

■ **USBL**—Awarded an expansion franchise to Portland, Maine to be known as the Portland Mountain Cats.

FULL COURT AMERICA

■ **FCA**—Named Eric Geldart supervisor of officials.

FOOTBALL

NFL

■ **CAROLINA PANTHERS**—Signed Blair Thomas, running back. Claimed Anthony Johnson, running back, off waivers from the Chicago Bears. Released Randy Baldwin and Vince Workman, running backs.

■ **WASHINGTON REDSKINS**—Waived Mike Flores, defensive end.

HOCKEY

NHL

■ **ANAHEIM MIGHTY DUCKS**—Recalled John Lilley, right wing, from Baltimore of the AHL.

■ **DALLAS STARS**—Announced the retirement of Paul Cavallini, defenseman.

■ **ST. LOUIS BLUES**—Traded Pat Jablonski, goalie, to the Montreal Canadiens for J.J. Daigneault, defenseman. Recalled Tony Twist, left wing, from Worcester of the AHL, and Bruce Racine, goalie from Peoria of the IHL.

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Horoscope by Frances Drake

For Sunday, Nov. 12, 1995

ARIES

(March 21 to April 19)
That nagging concern you've had for some time comes to a happy resolution. Be on the lookout for a financial or business opportunity. A friend needs some extra attention.

TAURUS

(April 20 to May 20)
You are tempted to confide in someone about your business plans, but this isn't the right time. Financial backing received helps you get a project off the ground. However, this needs careful tending.

GEMINI

(May 21 to June 20)
Be very wary of your financial dealings with others. Some are looking to take advantage of you in a weak moment. Married people achieve an important new understanding this evening.

CANCER

(June 21 to July 22)
You are correct in feeling that a co-worker has let you down by telling tales to the boss. Not only are these stories untrue, they are self-serving and destructive to you. Feel free to speak your mind.

LEO

(July 23 to Aug. 22)
Your instincts are correct about a bigwig being on your case. However, you need to take steps to correct this and get back in this person's good graces. At home, a certain domestic concern is resolved.

VIRGO

(Aug. 23 to Sept. 22)
Feel free to pursue your aspirations because you have greater confidence in your abilities to achieve your goals. Romantically, take things a step at a time. You're being too impulsive.

LIBRA

(Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)
In your quest to improve yourself, you could enroll for a new course of study. You are too aware of others'

weaknesses and apt to point them out. Instead, be supportive.

SCORPIO

(Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)
Do what needs to be done to bolster your self-esteem. A new travel or educational opportunity is waiting in the wings. At night, romance is iffy.

SAGITTARIUS

(Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)
Relationship interests are favored, particularly concerning children or a romantic interests. Something you feared is faced head-on. A new pinnacle is reached in your personal life.

CAPRICORN

(Dec. 22 to Jan. 19)
Relax and have confidence. You're on the right track toward the achievement of a major goal. An acquaintance isn't being truthful with you about a certain situation.

AQUARIUS

(Jan. 20 to Feb. 18)
Keep your wallet closed when a friend approaches you for a loan. In fact, in general, friends are not favored. Stick to family instead.

PISCES

(Feb. 19 to March 20)
You are suspicious of someone in business and distrust what's being said. Group activities do a lot to bolster your spirits. At night, seek out a friend whom you haven't seen in a while.

YOU BORN TODAY tend to be overly self-critical and hard on yourself. You flit from one task to another in a constant flurry of activity and then drop in exhaustion. Once you learn how to successfully combine work with relaxation, you are a much happier person. You do best in fields where you don't have to take the initiative and can simply follow orders. Friends are chosen carefully, but they last for life.

Birthdate of: Nadia Comaneci, gymnast; Stephanie Powers, actress; Kim Hunter, actress.

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085 GREEK ANNOUNCEMENTS

IK I have a '91 sis, Her name is Sami. I'm so excited, 'cuz she's now in the family! I♥—Guess Who YBS

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