

# Plummer: QB's ability worries Ducks

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"He is a tremendous leader, and the heart of this group. They listen to what he says," Cozzetto said.

Oregon senior nose tackle Bryant Jackson hasn't seen what Plummer does off the field, but he is impressed by what he has done on the field.

"Basically he is a good quarterback. He can scramble, is elusive and can complete passes. What else can you ask for in a quarterback," he said.

Oregon defensive coordinator Rich Stubler knows his injury plagued defense will be facing one of the top quarterbacks in the Pac-10 Saturday.

"He has great eyes. He sees things better than most quarterbacks and makes great things happen," he said. "That's what makes average quarterbacks great quarterbacks. Every quarterback has the arm and foot-speed, but most don't have the eyes to play the game."

In the past three years, Plummer has posted an average of 228

yards per game and five touchdowns, including a 35-24 win in Eugene last season, against the highly touted Gang Green defense.

"In the past, he has given us some problems, of course he is a better quarterback this year from last year," Jackson said. "He finds a way to get the ball to who he needs to get it to and he finds a way to avoid the sack."

Plummer's ability to elude the rush has earned him the nickname "the Snake", which Oregon junior cornerback Kenny Wheaton feels is a fair assessment.

"His scrambling ability worries us, he is great out of the pocket," Wheaton said. "He loves to scramble. He doesn't like to sit in the pocket and that causes a lot of trouble for the defensive backs and the entire defense."

The key to Plummer's success lies in Cozzetto's system, one which allows his quarterback to be creative.

"The system that we have built around him has helped him,"

"He is very mobile and has a good arm. You just can't tell what he's going to do,

— Reggie Jordan  
UO outside linebacker

Cozzetto said. "He just does so many things that he excels when we don't burden him with checks and let him do what he can."

It is Plummer's creative ability that Oregon senior outside linebacker Reggie Jordan is worried about.

"He is very mobile and has a good arm. You just can't tell what he's going to do," he said. "Some quarterbacks, when they get rattled, will just throw the ball away. Not him. He will keep the ball and make positive yards."

If Jordan and the rest of the Ducks' defense is unable to contain the Sun Devils Saturday, Plummer could be on his way to accomplishing his mission.



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