

Aloha could mean good-bye for Ducks' bowl hopes

■ **DISAPPOINTMENT:** Oregon gets overlooked by the Aloha Bowl; now hopes for Copper Bowl bid

By Chris Hansen
Sports Reporter

The Aloha Bowl selection committee chose the television market over the hotter team when it invited California to its Christmas Day bowl game instead of Oregon just hours after the Ducks' 49-13 romping of Oregon State and the Bears' 42-21 loss to Sun Bowl bound Stanford.

"It's a great disappointment," Oregon Athletic Director Bill Moos said. "I don't understand the decision. But we are at the mercy of their committee."

Moos wasn't the only one baffled by the decision to take a California team that has lost three games in row and five of its last six. Oregon, on the other hand, has won three in a row by a combined score of 138-67.

"I think it's a terrible decision, a real travesty," Oregon head coach Mike Bellotti said. "It's a real injustice that the best team is not able to go."

This gets to the question of why Oregon was overlooked when it was tied with California for fourth place in the Pacific-10 Conference with a 6-5 overall record and a 3-5 conference record. Especially since the Ducks handily beat the Bears 40-23 just two weeks ago.

"My gut feeling is that they wanted to go with Cal all along," Moos speculated. "I can't see any other reason."

He also speculated that the Aloha Bowl selection committee was probably swayed to pick a team that hadn't been to a bowl game for some years and liked California be-

cause it is a team led by a record-setting quarterback.

"They were zeroing in on Cal because they are up-and-coming and on Pat Barnes because of what he has done this year," he said. "But I tried to really drive home the point that we are the Pac-10's winningest program [the last three years]."

"That's probably true," Bellotti said, agreeing with Moos' assessment. "Because it obviously had nothing to do with head-to-head competition or what our kids have

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Oregon 49, Oregon State 13

Ducks' domination leads to win

■ **FOOTBALL:** Oregon ends with a winning season for its third consecutive year

By Chris Hansen
Sports Reporter

During the last two seasons, Oregon's Bowl fate has come down to the outcome of the Civil War. And this year was no different with the Ducks needing a win to be eligible for the post-season.



OREGON by the NUMBERS

- **RUSHING YARDS:** 240
- **PASSING YARDS:** 238
- **TOTAL YARDS:** 478
- **3rd DOWN CONVERSIONS:** 12-of-18
- **SACKS:** 0

And while the Ducks did their part by thrashing Oregon State 49-13 in the 100th meeting of these two state rivals, the Aloha Bowl failed to do its part Saturday night, selecting California instead of Oregon for its Bowl game.

But the loss of a Bowl bid doesn't take away what

Oregon [6-5 overall, 3-5 Pacific-10 Conference] did on the field Saturday in Corvallis. The win gives the Ducks a winning season for the third consecutive year, the first time that has happened since 1962-64.

Oregon's defense, a squad that had struggled so mightily throughout the

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MARK McTYRE/Emerald

Oregon State quarterback Tim Alexander was under relentless pressure all game from linebacker Reggie Jordan and the rest of the Oregon defense.



Play of the Game

Linebacker Reggie Jordan hit Oregon State quarterback Tim Alexander creating a fumble that was recovered by safety Jaiya Figueras. The offense scored on the turnover to give the Ducks a 14-0 first quarter lead.



Player of the Game

Saladin McCullough. 28 carries for 146 yards and three touchdowns. He also broke the single-season record for rushing touchdowns with 15 on the year.



Quote of the Day

"We just tapped opened up a can of whoop-ass [on the Beavers]."

— Josh Wilcox, tight end



Turning point

Opening kick-off went to the Ducks and they never looked back.

Notre Dame names Bob Davie as replacement for Lou Holtz

■ **HIRED:** Bob Davie's first head coaching job comes after 20 years as an assistant

By Nancy Armour
The Associated Press

SOUTH BEND, Ind. — Notre Dame stayed within the family, ready to begin a new era in its storied football history.

Bob Davie, Notre Dame's defensive coordinator the last three years, was hired Sunday to succeed coach Lou Holtz in the glamour job of college football.

"I've waited a long, long time for this moment," Davie said. "And I can tell you standing here, it's well worth the wait..."

"Words can't describe how proud and honored I am to stand here and be introduced as the next head coach at the University of Notre Dame."

The hiring was announced at a campus news conference one day after Notre Dame defeated Rutgers 62-0 in Holtz's final home game.

It's the first head coaching job for Davie, who has spent the last 20 years as a defensive assistant. It's the first time Notre Dame has hired an assistant as head coach since 1954, when Terry Brennan replaced Frank Leahy.

"Bob's personal and professional strengths, his

knowledge of the university and the program and his appreciation of all that it means to be the head football coach at Notre Dame made him the clear-cut choice to succeed Lou Holtz," said the Rev. William Beauchamp, Notre Dame's executive vice president.

"We look forward with great anticipation to the Bob Davie era at Notre Dame."

Davie, who learned Friday that he had the job, signed a five-year contract.

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