

# Football

Continued from Page 9

run last season but a respectable fifth this season entering Saturday's game, held the Wildcats to 34 yards on the ground in the first half but couldn't maintain that level after halftime.

Arizona tailback Trung Canidate scored from 71 yards out on the Wildcats' third play of the second half to stake a 17-3 lead and open the floodgates.

Fullback Kelvin Eafon scored on runs of four, five and seven yards in the second half, in which Arizona ran for 268 of its 301 total yards. Canidate led the deluge with 180 yards on 17 carries, with 12 runs for 158 yards in the second half.

"He picked it up," Oregon safety Michael Fletcher said. "He was running kind of timid in the first half, but he started running a little harder in the second half and he hit the holes and he was out."

Latimer ran for 47 yards on 20 carries, a 2.3 yard average, in his third start of the season. It was Latimer's second-straight start in place of Reuben Droughns, who was leading the Pac-10 in rushing with 164.8 yards per game when he learned he would miss the remainder of the season after breaking his right fibula in the Ducks' Oct. 17 loss at UCLA.

"The running game, we need that, it takes a lot of pressure off me as a quarterback to have that running game," Akili Smith said. "Reuben's at the

house right now, we know he was rooting us on, but being without Reuben is making it a little tough for us offensively."

Oregon's second-leading rusher was quarterback Jason Maas, who split time with Akili Smith as the starter last season and appeared in just his fourth game this season. Smith, the nation's leader in passing efficiency just three weeks ago, completed 13 of 25 passes for 168 yards and no touchdowns. He was intercepted twice, the second time by Rafell Jones, and sacked three times.

Oregon's only points of the game came with 28 seconds remaining in the second half, when Nathan Villegas hit a 33-yard field goal to extend his school record to 13 straight successful conversions.

That kick pulled Oregon to within seven points, as Arizona kicker Mark McDonald had staked the Wildcats to a 10-0 lead with a 38-yard field goal with 1:26 remaining in the first quarter.

After four second-half rushing touchdowns, Smith summed up the Ducks' performance.

"We had some opportunities we just didn't take advantage of like we could have," he said. "They're a good football team. We came to their house, and they basically kicked our butts. We didn't play as well as we wanted to, but they kicked our butts."

# Oregon can't put the pieces together in defeat

**T**UCSON, Ariz. — This was the performance Duck fans feared the most.

This was quarterback Akili Smith running for his life. This was the Ducks' ineffective running game being bottled up at the line of scrimmage. This was Oregon's undersized but overachieving defense missing tackles and getting bounced around like pinballs.

## Opinion



Joel Hood

Here was the penalties and the miscues and the misreads, and all of it was unfolding before us in a frightening 38-3 loss to Arizona on Halloween night in Tucson.

It was the performance the national media thought Oregon was going to give two weeks ago when it fell to No. 2 UCLA at the Rose Bowl 41-38.

It has been many, many years since Oregon football has had to endure a loss as embarrassing as this one. Its offense, which ranked No. 1 in the Pacific-10 Conference in total offense and scoring before Saturday's game, produced just 272 yards in total offense and scored just three points, the Ducks' lowest point total in three seasons.

Oregon's defense fared much worse, allowing the Wildcats to rush for a season-high 268 yards and to score 28 unanswered points to end the game.

For the more than 3,000 Duck fans in attendance, the game was an eerie reminder of season's past where the Ducks' defense

*"We got our tails kicked. Arizona did a great job of playing a very physical game on both sides of the ball. We were still in things at the half, but Arizona came out and closed the door on us."*

**Mike Bellotti**  
Oregon head coach

was able to contain its opponent, insofar as they could stop them on first and second downs, then give up a 75-yard touchdown run or a 50-yard first down catch on the very next play.

In all, Arizona amassed 442 yards on offense, remarkable for a unit that only ranked No. 3 in the Pac-10 before the game.

If Oregon was looking for excuses, it would have several to choose from; with its top three running backs sidelined with injuries, its best defensive player lost for the year with a torn pectoralis muscle and its most experienced offensive lineman out for at least another week with an ankle injury.

But the Ducks are not ones to make excuses.

"We got our tails kicked," Oregon head coach Mike Bellotti said. "Arizona did a great job of playing a very physical game on both sides of the ball. We were still in things at the half, but Arizona came out and closed the door on us."

In Arizona's locker room fol-

lowing the game, players hugged each other, veterans cried, and head coach Dick Tomey was motionless save for a polite nod after Arizona's athletic director Jim Livengood cradled the back of Tomey's head and whispered into his ear, "That was an ass-kicking, coach. Unbelievable."

Indeed it was.

The last time the Ducks lost by this many points was a 45-7 loss to California in 1991. But that's the only similarity between the Ducks this season and that 1991 team which finished 3-8.

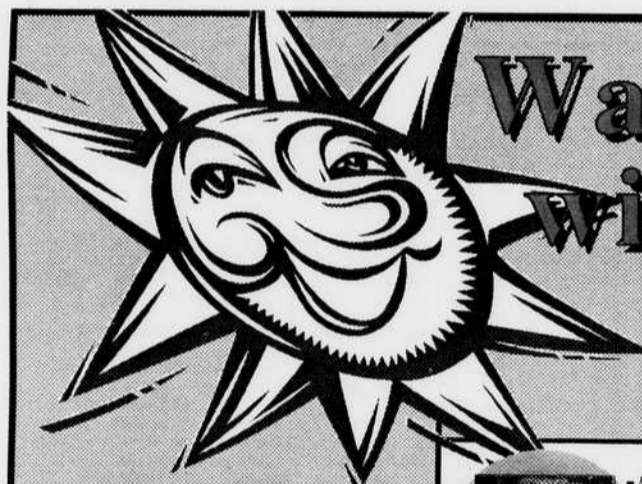
Arizona's players were shocked by how easily the Wildcat defense could control the Pac-10's most prolific offense.

"I would not have expected this performance," Wildcat quarterback Keith Smith said after the game. "Our defense stepped up a whole bunch, they did whatever they could to contain Oregon's offense."

Even with the Ducks' barrage of injuries, there was a large number of Duck fans who thought Oregon's offense was so explosive that it could simply will itself to victory against the top teams in the Pac-10. Saturday's game was a rude awakening.

No sooner had the Ducks thought they had arrived at the doorstep of a New Year's Day Bowl bid when they were quickly kicked off for wearing the most dated costume of them all — that of a Pac-10 title contender.

Joel Hood is sports editor for the Emerald.



# Want to fortify yourself with healthier habits?

Come talk to a Peer Health Educator.  
*It's free.*

Peers are also involved with:

- World Aids Day** (Mariah)
- Relaxation Workshops** (Vatsana)
- Ethnic Cooking Workshop** (Sara)
- Cholesterol Screening** (Rie)
- Great American Smoke Out Fun Run** (Jenni and Amy)
- Nutritional Analysis Program** (Christi)
- Weight Management Workshop** (Kate)
- Men's Health Project** (Amy)



■ Mariah Bowden  
sex and HIV



■ Amy White  
Stress Management



■ Christi Simmons  
Nutrition, Weight Management and Cholesterol



■ Vatsana Chanthala  
Stress Management



■ Sara Kofman  
HIV



■ Rie Miyahara  
Cholesterol



■ Kate Skola  
Nutrition and Weight Management



■ Jenni Rotenberg  
Eating Disorders

Peer Health Educators are trained to provide health information, assist in setting realistic goals, and provide support and other resources for students that are ready to make healthy changes. Call 346-4456 to make an appointment or stop by the Health Education Room in the University Health Center.

UNIVERSITY  
**HEALTH CENTER**  
*We're a matter of degrees* ◆

Open daily 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., except Tuesdays (9 a.m.) and Sundays (10 a.m.).  
Appointments and after hours: 346-2770 • Web: darkwing.uoregon.edu/~uoshc