



The Play Maker

Tony Hartley has quietly become Oregon's leading receiver/
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GAME DAY



Oregon Ducks vs.
Arizona State Sun Devils
1 p.m. at Autzen Stadium



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Oregon Emerald

the Box

Scoring	
Offense	
Oregon	2nd
Arizona St.	4th
Total	
Offense	
Oregon	1st
Arizona St.	5th
Rushing	
Defense	
Oregon	8th
Arizona St.	3rd
Total	
Defense	
Oregon	5th
Arizona St.	4th
Turnover	
Margin	
Oregon	9th
Arizona St.	5th

* Pac-10 rank

Quotable

"This is what I perceive to be one of the biggest games of the year for us, simply because we have not had success against Arizona State for three consecutive years."

— Mike Bellotti, UO head coach

"They're probably the most physical corners we'll see this year, but beatable. Very beatable."

— Tony Hartley, UO receiver

Key Player

Herman Ho-Ching

Oregon's freshman tailback can provide the Ducks with a much-needed running game.



Ducks look to exorcise demons



Nick Medley/Emerald

Oregon wide receiver Donald Haynes scored his first career touchdown last week on a pass from former junior-college teammate Akili Smith.

Oregon will have to contain a powerful Arizona State running game if it hopes to reach third place in the Pac-10 race

By Rob Moseley
Oregon Daily Emerald

The memory of last season still burns. When the Oregon football team traveled to Tempe to play Arizona State last season it was 5-4, one win shy of qualifying for a postseason bowl berth.

When the Ducks returned to Eugene they were 5-5 after a 52-31 embarrassment in which the Sun Devils ran for 405 yards and five touchdowns.

Although the Ducks qualified for a bowl one week later against Oregon State, the memory of the loss to Arizona State still remains.

"We knew going into this year, regardless of where we were, that this would be the biggest challenge of the year in terms of stopping the run," Oregon head coach Mike Bellotti said. "It's been a game they have dominated by virtue of running the football."

Saturday at 1 p.m. at Autzen Stadium, Bellotti hopes it will be payback time, as the No. 20 Ducks (7-2 overall, 4-2 Pacific-10 Conference) take on Arizona State (5-4, 4-2) in a game with far-reaching implications.

At stake is third place in the Pac-10 and the corresponding bowl qualification, as well as a chance for Oregon's players to end their three-game losing streak against the Sun Devils.

"I hope they're taking it as a challenge," Bellotti said. "I would if I were them. We're not very pleased with our performance, but the nice thing is we have control of it."

Paramount to the Ducks' success will be stopping an Arizona State rushing attack that is led by J.R. Redmond, who has played in just eight games this season but is second in the Pac-10 with 92.8 yards rushing per game.

Although Redmond is only probable with a sprained right ankle, the Sun Devils also have Gerald Green, who ranks seventh in the conference with 56.7 yards per game.



Arizona State goes for fourth straight against Oregon

The availability of J.R. Redmond and Ryan Kealy will help determine the explosiveness of the Sun Devils' offense Saturday

By Tim Pyle
Oregon Daily Emerald

At this point in the season Arizona State was not supposed to be worrying about merely earning a bowl bid.

According to preseason predictions, the Sun Devils would be battling for the Pacific-10 Conference title — if not the national championship — come their mid-November trek to Eugene.

But those hopes were shattered early and often as Arizona State stumbled out of the gate with four losses in its first six games.

The Sun Devils are still searching for their bowl-requisite sixth win as they prepare to face No. 20 Oregon at Autzen Stadium on

Saturday. "This has just been one of those seasons where everything that could go wrong has gone wrong," Arizona State cornerback Courtney Jackson said. "But it's a long season, and we know we still have work to do. None of these players were born



with a silver spoon in their mouth." The Sun Devils have rediscovered their winning groove of late by defeating three straight conference opponents and are tied with the Ducks for fourth place in the Pac-10 at 4-2.

Last Saturday's 55-22 home thrashing of California seemed to serve notice that the Arizona State everybody expected before the season may have finally arrived. The Sun Devils posted their highest point total of the

season despite the absence of explosive tailback J.R. Redmond and a knee injury to starting quarterback Ryan Kealy that forced him to sit out the second half. Jackson grabbed two of Arizona State's five interceptions as the Sun Devils forced six turnovers.

"Obviously, [Arizona State] does have the potential to be what a lot of people thought they could be before the season," Oregon head coach Mike Bellotti said. "And they're finding ways to get it done and peaking at the right time."

During Bellotti's three-year tenure as Ducks head coach, he has yet to beat Arizona State. In Oregon's 1995 Cotton Bowl season, the Sun Devils won at Autzen Stadium, 35-24. The last two seasons Arizona State has rolled over the Ducks in Tempe — 48-27 in 1996 and 52-31 last season.

In last season's encounter, Sun Devil tail-

On tap

WHO: No. 20 Oregon (7-2, 4-2) vs. Arizona State (5-4, 4-2)
WHERE: Autzen Stadium
WHEN: 1 p.m.
TV: Delayed, Monday at 7:30 p.m., FoxSports Northwest (TCI, 23)
RADIO: KUGN 590 AM

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