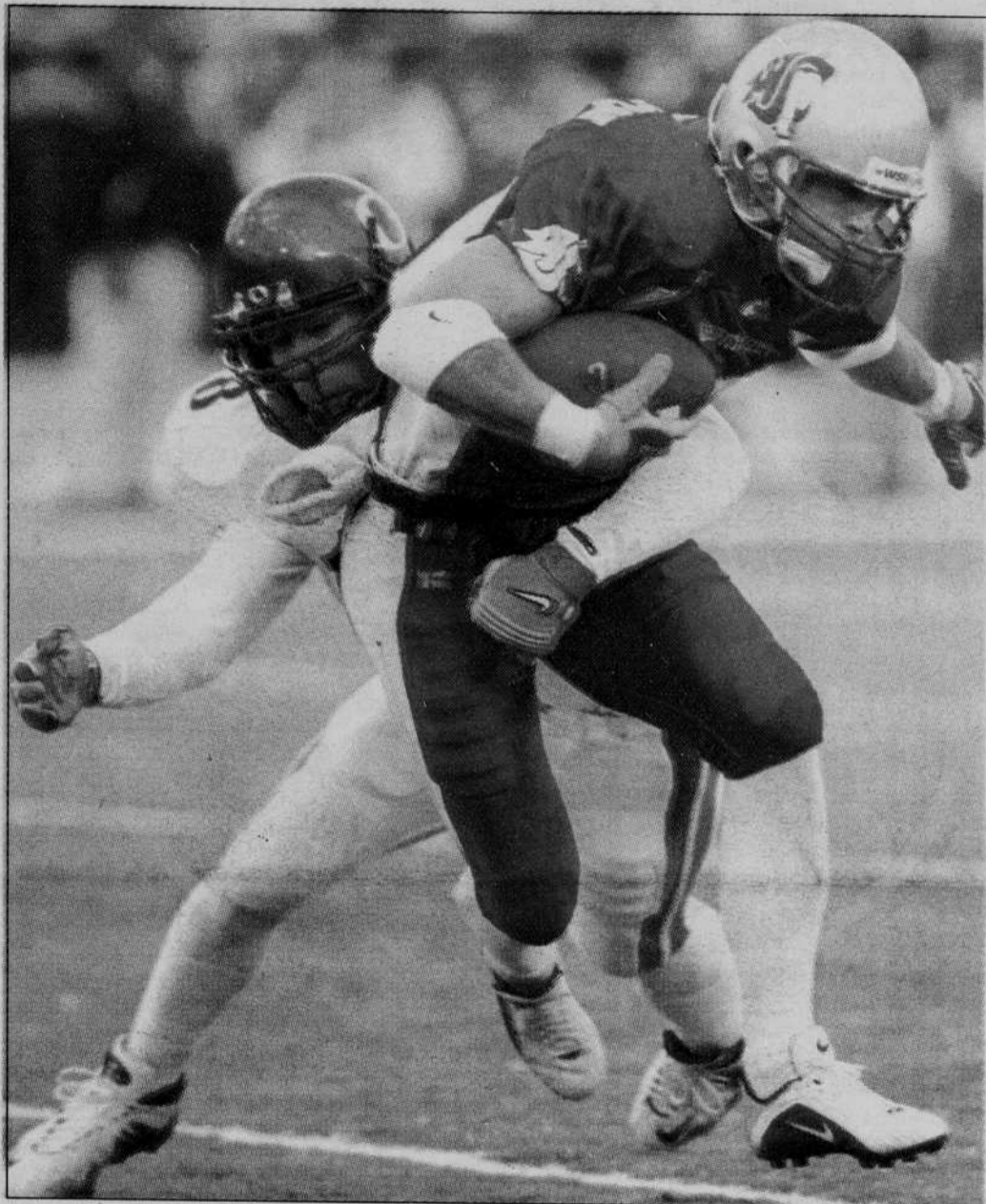




Ducks dodge the bullet in overtime... again



■ A clutch kick and a blocked field goal propel the Ducks to another overtime win

By Jeff Smith
Oregon Daily Emerald

PULLMAN, Wash. — The combination of Josh Frankel's right leg and Jed Boice's right hand provided Oregon with just the right result.

In yet another down-to-the-wire game, the Ducks somehow found a way to win in typical Duck fashion. Oregon trailed by eight, rallied to tie it up in the fourth quarter and survived in overtime to post the 27-24 victory over Washington State in front of 23,314 fans who battled the erratic weather in Martin Stadium.

In the overtime, volatile kicker Frankel split the up-rights for a career-long 47-yard field goal to give the Ducks the three-point advantage.

"It was about time I got some of those through," Frankel said.

Then it was up to the Oregon defense. Two offensive penalties forced a third-and-26 upon the Cougars, but back-up quarterback Matt Kegel completed a 19-yard pass to Dave Minnich to set up a 39-yard field goal attempt.

The Ducks had practiced all week on getting a stronger push on the line, and Zack Freiter helped the Ducks do just that. Boice followed his lead and stuck up his right hand to deflect Anousith Wilaikul's kick and clinch the Oregon win.

"Zack got through the hole really well and I slipped

right in and got a hand on it," Boice said. "We just talked about coming out and finding a way to win."

The victory keeps Oregon (8-1 overall, 6-0 Pacific-10 Conference) atop the league as the only undefeated team. It also came in front of Nike CEO Phil Knight, who was visibly caught up in the Rose Bowl-hype after attending his first football game since his much-publicized break-up with the university over labor relations.

The Ducks could have still gone to the Rose Bowl had they lost to the Cougars and won their final two games. But now they have an opportunity to clinch the Pac-10 title next week with a win over California and an Oregon State loss to Arizona.

"We're in the driver's seat and we have two games left," Boice said. "If we win both, we're going to the Rose Bowl. There's no question about that so it makes it pretty easy for us actually."

Easy is certainly not the correct adjective to describe the way Oregon has been getting wins lately. A week after outlasting Arizona State 56-55 in double overtime, the Ducks again gave their fans and their coach some late-game suspense.

"I just told them that they're making me an old man before my time," Oregon head coach Mike Bellotti said. "I'll take it anyway we can get it. I don't care if it's one point in overtime or Turn to **Football win**, page 8



“We're in the driver's seat and we have two games left. If we win both, we're going to the Rose Bowl. There's no question about that so it makes it pretty easy for us actually.”

Jed Boice
Oregon defensive tackle

Courtesy Washington State media services
The Oregon defense kept a tight grip on Washington's offensive strategies Saturday and held on for the overtime win.

The going got tough, so Frankel got going

Oregon's Josh Frankel gets fan appreciation — and the monkey off his back — by kicking the game-winner

By Adam Jude
Oregon Daily Emerald

Pullman, Wash.— After the clock stopped, and the disappointed Cougar fans began to scramble for the exits, a jubilant crowd of Oregon supporters packed together in the northwest corner of Martin Stadium.

They knew exactly who to thank for an exhausting 27-24 overtime victory.

"Frankel, Frankel, Frankel!"

It was a cheer that many Oregon fans have yelled throughout this season, but not necessarily in the same context.

Heading into Saturday's game in a chilly, snow-filled Washington State stadium, Oregon kicker Josh Frankel had made just four of his previous 14 field goal attempts.

But that didn't matter to the Duck fans after the senior

from Pacific Palisades, Calif., hit a career-long 47-yard field goal in overtime to keep the Ducks undefeated in the Pacific-10 Conference.

"That definitely touched me," Frankel said of the crowd's post-game chant. "The fans make this program, and those are the die-hards. They sat through the rain and the snow, and for them to be here and for them to start chanting my name was just unbelievable. If I knew all of their names, I'd start chanting ... back to them."

After missing a potential game-winner in the first overtime of last week's game at Arizona State, Frankel was able to convert on an extra-point attempt to secure a 56-55 win for Oregon.

In practice last week, the

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Soccer finishes season on sour note against Bay Area schools



Dan Brunell Emerald
Forward Beth Bowler and the Ducks fell 4-0 twice this weekend

■ The Oregon soccer team finishes up their season with back-to-back 4-0 losses to Stanford and California

By Peter Hockaday
Oregon Daily Emerald

In a season full of disappointment, the Oregon soccer team ended its 2000 campaign on a disappointing weekend in the San Francisco Bay Area.

The Ducks dropped two games on the weekend. The first loss was a 4-0 decision to No. 15 Stanford Friday, and the second was a 4-0 defeat at the hands of No. 8 California Sunday.

Oregon ended the season 4-15-1 overall, 1-7-1 in the Pacific-10 Conference, and eighth place in the league.

For the second game in a row, the Ducks were beaten by one player in Friday's match against Stanford. After

Washington's Theresa Wagner notched four goals and an assist against Oregon last Sunday, the Ducks couldn't stop Stanford's Marcie Ward Friday.

Ward had two goals within 10 minutes of play in the first half Friday night. The first came on a breakaway seven minutes into the match, then Ward put away a Marcia Wallis pass two minutes later. The two forwards then switched spots as Ward fed Wallis for the Cardinal's third goal. Britany Oliveira scored Stanford's last goal at the 66-minute mark.

Ward's goals were her 11th and 12th of the season, but her one assist was her most

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