

## Smith

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But even with the score 14-0 for Oregon, the eyes didn't let you see a potential blowout in the making. And sure enough, Arizona fired back with two clutch scoring drives, including one that benefited from a 78-yard burst by tailback Clarence Farmer. Just like that, it's all tied up at 14 with more than 13 minutes to play in the first half.

Stop. Stop the play-by-play tape right there. There's no need for it anymore.

Mark the time in the game: 13:38, second quarter.

Over the next 30 minutes of football, the Ducks were as good as they've ever been.

Over the next 30 minutes of football, the Ducks were as fluid as they've ever been.

And over the next 30 minutes of football, the Ducks were as top-10 as they've ever been.

The eyes stopped noticing statistical details and started noticing moments, situations, facial expressions, body movements and other's reactions to Oregon's play.

During those 30 minutes of football, the yardage of the scores, the recipients of the scores and the events that led up to those scores didn't seem to matter. What was taking place during those minutes was that a team that had gotten tired of hearing how overrated they were just exploded.

For the first time all season, a squint wasn't necessary to make out who was the top-10 team on the field. For the first time all season, the eyes were as wide open as could be and seeing what others had only talked about seeing for some time.

A Harrington two-yard touchdown run. A Parker 38-yard touchdown catch. A Justin Peelle 17-yard touchdown catch. A Maurice Morris one-yard touchdown run. An Onterio Smith one-yard touchdown run. Another Harrington two-yard touchdown run. And another Smith two-yard touchdown run.

All unanswered points. All more crushing to Arizona than the previous

one. All plays that deserve to be clumped together because they were a part of the 30-minute stretch where Oregon took a 14-14 game and made it 63-14 with 12:57 to play in the fourth.

Read that again: 63-14. This is an Oregon Ducks game. A Pacific-10 Conference contest on the road no less. The 63 points tied a school record for most points scored in a Pac-10 game.

The last time the Ducks scored that many points in a league game was on Sept. 26, 1998, when 20th-ranked Oregon, led by Akili Smith and Reuben Droughns, crushed Stanford, 63-28.

Now, here we are again, and the final score was identical. But will the teams be? The '98 team was 4-0 after the big win and moved to 5-0 heading into a showdown at UCLA. Oregon lost a heartbreaker in overtime and would end up losing three more times that season, including to Colorado in the Aloha Bowl.

This 2001 version is now just the sixth Oregon team in school history to open the season at 5-0. It has a very winnable game on the road next weekend at California before a difficult back-to-back stretch against currently undefeated Stanford and Washington State.

But the mind is getting much too far ahead of itself. The eyes still want to comprehend what they saw. Harrington throw for three scores and rush for three more. Smith gain 131 yards with two scores with Morris picking up 110 yards with one score. And the Oregon defense, which forced five Arizona turnovers that the Ducks' offense promptly turned into five touchdowns.

Come to think of it, the eyes aren't even sure anymore if the Oregon team they saw on the field Saturday night was a top-10 team at all.

The eyes believe they might just belong in the elite company of Miami, Florida, Oklahoma and Nebraska.

The top five.

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## News briefs

### Ripken says good-bye

BALTIMORE (KRT) — With the Red Sox serving as the backdrop, Baltimore said an emotional farewell to its favorite baseball son Saturday night, honoring the Orioles' Cal Ripken Jr. in his 3,001st and final game of his unforgettable 21-year Major League career.

Mired in one of the worst slumps he's ever known and showing the effects of pushing his 41-year-old body through the demands of the last few weeks, Rip-

ken came into the game with just two hits in his last 45 at-bats.

As the announced crowd of 48,807 saluted his every appearance at the plate, the twinkling of thousands of flashbulbs gave Camden Yards a celestial quality.

Despite the best wishes of the fans, Ripken was unable to add to his career total of 3,184 hits. He lined out to left in the second and popped to shortstop in the fifth.

In his final plate appearance in the eighth inning, Ripken stepped out of the batter's box to acknowledge the enormous outpouring, removing his batting

helmet and waving to every area of the ballpark.

Ripken was on the on-deck circle in the bottom of the ninth, and with first base open, fans booed the Red Sox decision to pitch to Brady Anderson. Anderson struck out on a 3-and-2 pitch from reliever Ugueth Urbina. Alas, the emotional wave couldn't carry his team to a victory, as the Red Sox edged the Orioles, 5-1.

— Sean McAdam

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## Soccer

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nated the rest of the contest, and scored two goals on Oregon backup goalkeeper Dominique Lainez. The first came with 11 minutes left in the game, when the Pilots' Lori Mansoor took a corner kick that was put in by Amy Orr amid the ensuing confusion in front of the Oregon net.

Nine minutes after Orr's goal, the Ducks suffered another embarrassing goal on the feet of Melanie Langley. With three minutes left in the game, Lainez and senior defender Angela Romero

ran into each other as they were going for a ball at the corner of the 18-yard box. The ball squirted free, and Langley put it into the empty net.

"I think we learned a lesson. You can't let your guard down, you can't play sloppy," Steffen said. "Now, the question is, can we learn from that?"

Steffen and his team will have to learn quickly, because the Ducks open conference play next weekend against No. 6 California on Friday, and No. 7 Stanford on Sunday. The Ducks will have home-field advantage, which has been vital to their success this season, over the top-ranked teams. With the win Sunday, the Ducks moved to 5-1 at home this season.

## Volleyball

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bined .099 percentage, while the Cal women came back with a .149 percentage.

Despite the Ducks inability to stop the Golden Bears' offense, serving may have been key to the match. California recorded seven service aces to Oregon's three, and had seven service errors as opposed to the Ducks' 11.

Three weeks into Pac-10 play, and the Ducks find them-

selves 0-6 in conference play. Oregon is three matches away from ending the first half of conference play without a win, something they have done for the last two seasons and three of the last four.

Cal has won five straight against Oregon, including a four-match winning streak at Haas Pavilion.

"The biggest challenge we've had to overcome once the Pac-10 has started is give the UO volleyball program a competitive identity, and I think we've

done that," Ferreira said. "But I'm most disappointed about losing these key matches when you're trying to climb the Pac-10 ladder.

"We're going to be a better team in the second half of conference play. There's a tremendous amount of positive resiliency on this team."

The Ducks travel to Corvallis Wednesday to take on the Beavers in the first installment of volleyball's Civil War this season. The match at Oregon State is set to begin at 7 p.m.

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  - eat well
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