

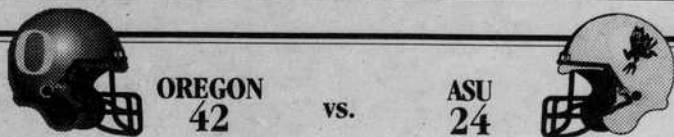
## SPORTS

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Best Bet  
NFL: Denver at Oakland,  
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## Ducks use passing game to rout Sun Devils

■ Harrington to Howry, times four, provides Oregon offensive punch against Arizona State

By Adam Jude  
Oregon Daily Emerald

It must have been a rough Saturday night for Keenan Howry.

After Oregon's 42-24 victory over Arizona State in front of 46,064 fans at Autzen Stadium, Howry moped into the media room at the Casanova Center with a look of disgust.

"I've never dropped two passes in a game before, especially two touchdowns," the junior wide receiver said. "I'm pretty bummed out."

Nevermind the nine passes Howry did catch. Or the 126 total receiving yards. Or the school-record four touchdown receptions, which also tied a Pacific-10 Conference record.

"I'm my biggest critic," Howry said, admitting that he was eventually able to "laugh it off."

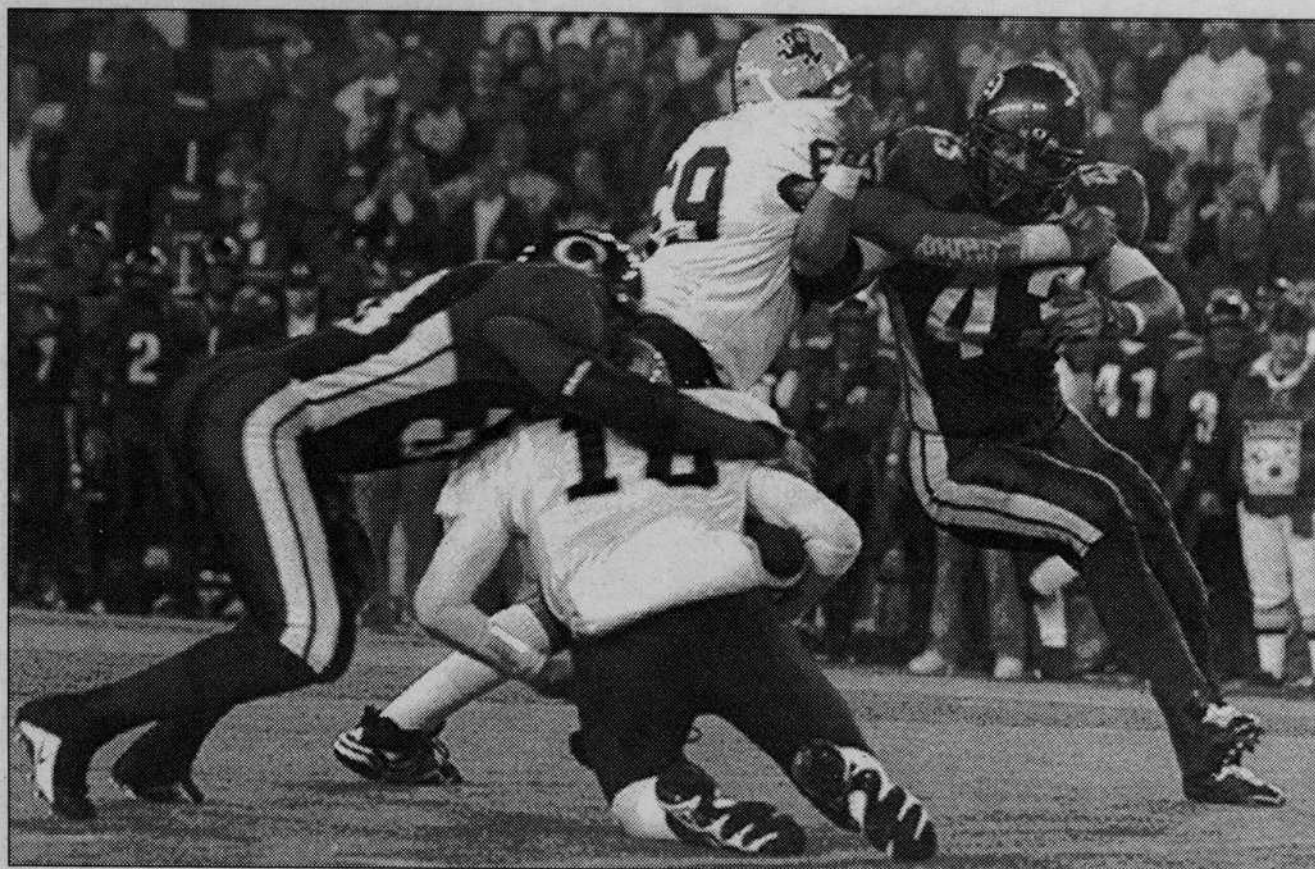
Such are the expectations of the Oregon football team (8-1 overall, 5-1 Pacific-10 Conference), now in the driver's seat in the Pac-10.

"It's interesting because Keenan's probably dropped more passes in this game than I've ever seen him drop in his career," head coach Mike Bellotti said. "But he also had four touchdown catches that tied a Pac-10 record."

The catches, of course, had their source.

After throwing for a season-low 119 yards against Washington State last week — because the running game tallied a school-record 446 total yards — senior quarterback Joey Harrington was able to let loose against Arizona State, completing 19-of-32 passes for 319 yards. His six touchdowns tied a school record (which he also tied against the Sun Devils last year) and his 72 career touchdowns (54 passing,

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Adam Jones Emerald

A Duck defender tackles an Arizona State opponent as another Oregon player fights his way into the play in Oregon's victory over the Sun Devils.

## UO steps into driver's seat with win

■ A week after they won with the run, the Ducks air it out against the Sun Devils and now control their own destiny

By Jeff Smith  
Oregon Daily Emerald

The window of opportunity was exposed earlier in the afternoon Saturday, and by the time the evening rolled around, Oregon had flung it wide open.

Knowing that Washington had defeated Stanford, Oregon took the field at Autzen Stadium and emphatically secured the inside track to the Fiesta Bowl, beating Arizona State 42-24 in front of 46,064 appreciative fans.

"We always want to control our own destiny," cornerback Rashad Bauman said. "We don't like to put our destiny in anybody else's hands."

Entering the day, five Pacific-10

Conference teams had one loss, including Stanford, which would have had the advantage over Oregon in a tiebreaker.

After the day's events were done, though, the now-seventh-ranked Ducks were tied with only the two Washington schools at 5-1 in the conference — and Oregon holds the tiebreaker edge over both teams.

Should Oregon beat UCLA this Saturday and Oregon State on Dec. 1, the Ducks would be guaranteed at least a Bowl Championship Series berth in the Jan. 1 Fiesta Bowl.

"There's no slips. Can't slip," Bauman said. "We fell once and can't let it happen again. Let it happen again, and every dream that we had will be gone. And I don't think this team is ready to give up that dream."

The Ducks sure played like a determined team Saturday.

Senior quarterback Joey Harrington was throwing often and setting records. Junior receiver

Keenan Howry was catching often and setting records. And sophomore tailback Onterrio Smith was carrying often, and well, helping sustain Oregon's one-loss record.

In all, Harrington threw for six touchdown passes, setting a new Autzen Stadium record and tying the Oregon record he set in last season's 56-55 win at Arizona State.

Howry caught four of those scoring strikes Saturday, tying a Pac-10 record and setting the Oregon and Autzen records for most touchdowns caught in a game.

And Smith, starting in place of the hobbled Maurice Morris, wasn't as explosive as he was against Washington State but still rushed for 152 yards on 36 carries in a workmanlike performance that helped move the chains.

"Sure, let them try and stop the run and we'll pass the ball, let them try and stop the pass and we'll run the ball," said Harrington, who threw for 319 yards on

19-of-32 passing. "I have such a fun time running this offense."

Don't forget the Oregon defense. After surrendering a Delvon Flowers 54-yard scamper into the end zone in the first quarter to start behind 7-0, the Ducks buckled down.

Harrington hooked up with Howry for a 14-yard score and four minutes later, dumped it off to Smith, who raced in to complete a 22-yard touchdown pass that gave Oregon the 14-7 lead at the end of the first quarter.

It was then the Ducks defense's turn to make a statement. In the Sun Devils' first complete series of the second quarter, they drove downfield and had a first-and-goal at the one-yard line. But three unsuccessful attempts later, Arizona State was forced to settle for a short field goal.

"Any time you get a first and goal, and you hold them to a field goal, that's a huge momentum

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## Oregon's NCAA Tournament hopes ended by Beem's hat trick

■ The Oregon soccer team can't win its eighth game and falls to Oregon State 4-1 in Corvallis on Sunday afternoon

By Peter Hockaday  
Oregon Daily Emerald

The Oregon soccer team was picked to finish last in the Pacific-10 Conference by the Pac-10 coaches before the season started.

On Sunday in Corvallis, Oregon State's Lindsey Beem all but ensured that the Ducks will end the season in the conference cellar.

Beem scored a hat trick in Oregon State's 4-1 victory over Oregon on Sunday afternoon. It was the Beavers' first-ever victory in the se-

ries between the two teams. The victory kept Oregon State's hopes alive for the NCAA Tournament, while effectively ending Oregon's chances.

Beem scored her first goal in the match's 11th minute. After an Oregon foul, Beem took a free kick and drilled it into the upper right-hand corner of the goal, past Oregon goalie Sarah Peters.

Oregon senior midfielder Beth Bowler answered with a free kick goal of her own 12 minutes later. She also placed her direct kick into the goal's upper right corner.

Oregon State scored its second goal with only three seconds left in the first half. The Beavers' leading scorer, Katie Henderson, sent a ball

through the Oregon defense to freshman Jillian Nicks, who redirected it past Peters for her sixth goal of the year.

"When you get a goal right before halftime, I think that's the best time for you to score, and the hardest time for your opponent," Oregon State head coach Steve Fennah said.

The goal actually sparked the Ducks' offense in the second half. Oregon took only eight shots in the first frame, but outshot Oregon State 13-12 in the second period.

Despite the Ducks' shooting

spree, the Beavers' Beem continued to dominate the scoreboard, sealing Oregon State's win with two goals in the second half. Beem's second goal of the game came six minutes into the second frame, as she headed in a cross from Emily Hughes. Beem's final goal came after Peters saved a shot but gave up the rebound, which Beem easily put away for the game's final goal.

"It was a tremendous team performance, and Lindsey Beem was the icing on the cake," Fennah said.

With the win, Oregon State moved to 10-7-1 overall, and 2-5 in the Pac-10. The Beavers could earn a trip to the NCAA Tournament with a victory against either Washington State or Washington

next weekend.

"I'd like to think if we won both (of the next two games) we would be one (of the teams selected for the tournament)," Fennah said.

Oregon moved to 7-8-1 overall, and 1-6 in Pac-10 play. Even if the Ducks could earn a school-record eighth victory in Washington next weekend, it would not be enough to send them to the NCAA Tournament.

Oregon will travel to Washington on Friday and Washington State on Sunday in its final games of the season.

Peter Hockaday is a sports reporter for the Oregon Daily Emerald. He can be reached at peterhockaday@dailymerald.com.

