

# GAME DAY



Oregon Daily Emerald

Arizona State vs. No. 6 Oregon

## Sweet home Autzen

The Ducks return home for the first time in almost a month to take on the upstart ASU Sun Devils

**Peter Hockaday**  
Sports Editor

If Autzen Stadium could make a tackle, it wouldn't be a hard place for opposing teams to play — it would be the hardest.

But, as Oregon head coach Mike Bellotti stressed to his team this week, Autzen Stadium can't tackle.

"Sometimes when you're on the road, you adopt the mentality of 'It's us against the world,'" Bellotti said. "I told (the team) that even though we're coming home, we can't relax. We can't assume the stadium is going to make a tackle, the crowd is going to make a tackle or make a play."

Neither can Autzen Stadium prevent a blocked punt or prevent an interception, mistakes that plagued the Ducks in last season's wild 49-42 loss to Stanford at Autzen Stadium. That surprise loss, which ended a 23-game home winning streak, came one week after a huge road win, Oregon's 48-7 domination of California in Berkeley.

Now, the Ducks are coming off a huge road win, a 31-30 thriller at UCLA, and are facing a dangerous Arizona State team in the Autzen confines.

The Sun Devils are dangerous for many of the same reasons the Cardinal were dangerous last year. Arizona State is an air-it-out, fun-n-gun type of squad, led by fearless sophomore quarterback Andrew Walter, that can put up huge amounts of points. Those Stanford Cardinal? ASU put up 65 points on them earlier this season.

For that very reason, Bellotti said his Ducks won't take Saturday's contest lightly.

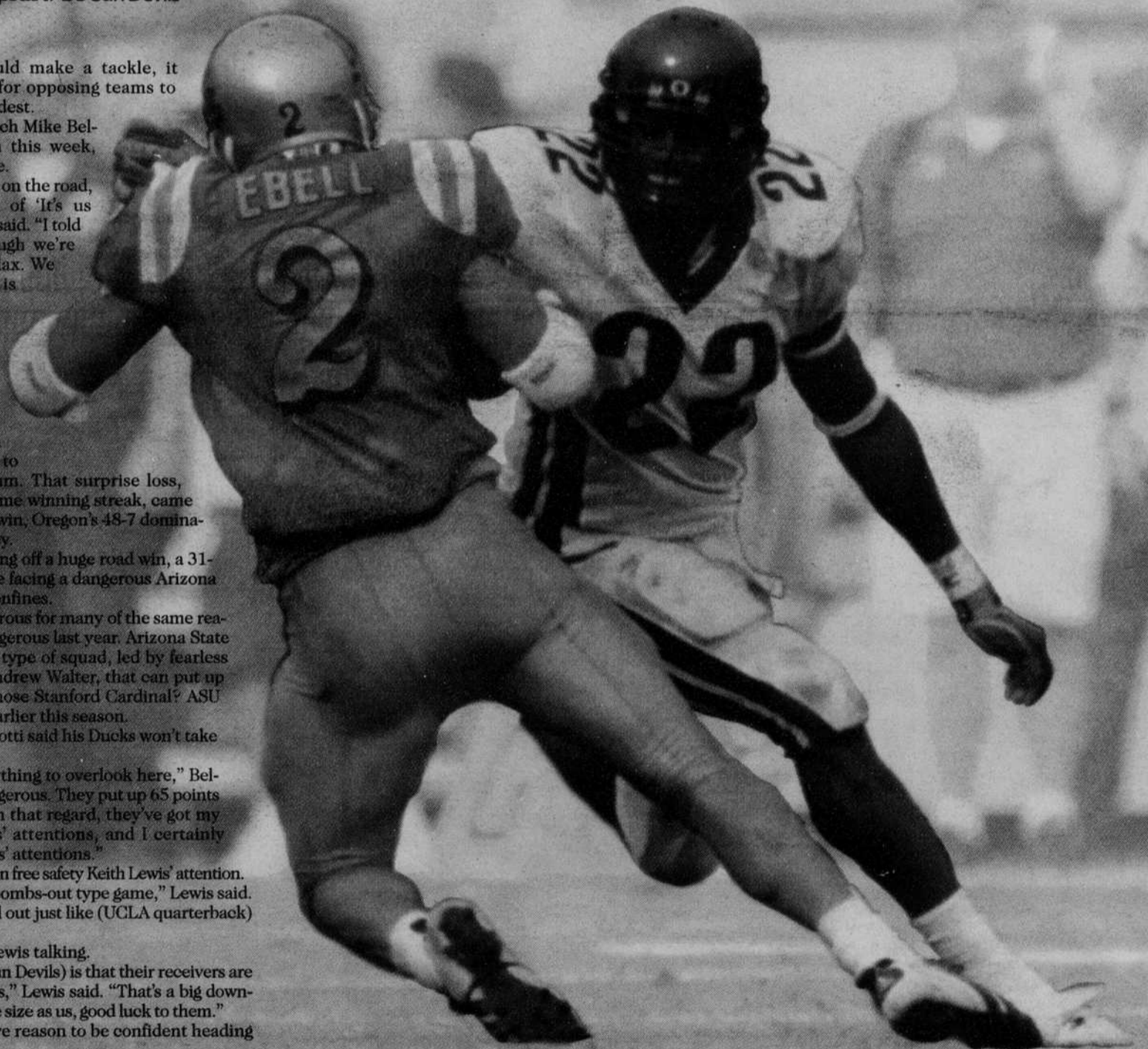
"I don't think there's anything to overlook here," Bellotti said. "They're very dangerous. They put up 65 points on another Pac-10 team. In that regard, they've got my attention and my coaches' attentions, and I certainly hope they've got our players' attentions."

The Sun Devils have Oregon free safety Keith Lewis' attention. "It's going to be another bombs-out type game," Lewis said. "(Walter) likes to air the ball out just like (UCLA quarterback) Cory Paus."

Of course, this is Keith Lewis talking. "A big downfall for (the Sun Devils) is that their receivers are the same size as our corners," Lewis said. "That's a big downfall. Anybody that's the same size as us, good luck to them."

Lewis and the Ducks have reason to be confident heading

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KICKOFF AT 12:30 P.M. ■ AUTZEN STADIUM ■ SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2002 ■ TV: NONE

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**Turning the tables**  
A big reason for Oregon's success this season has been the Ducks' ability to win the battle of the turnovers.  
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**'Thuggs' life**  
Arizona State defensive end Terrell Suggs leads the nation in sacks and strikes fear in opposing offenses.  
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