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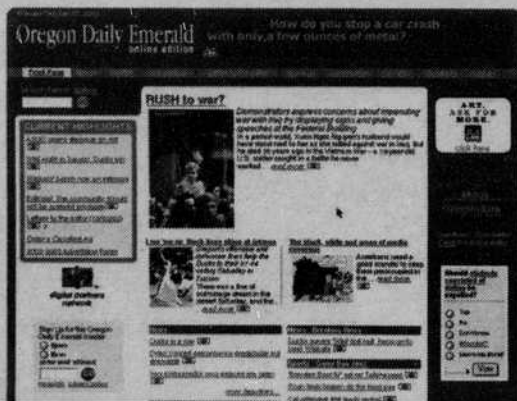
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Oregon Daily Emerald
Your independent campus newspaper



Adam Amato Emerald

Dan Weaver (63) has earned the role as leader of the Oregon offensive line with his strong work ethic.

Weaver

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zon academic all-district second team — and he uses that intelligence to turn the center spot into a thinking-man's position. He's a "technician," according to Knebel, and breaks down an opponent like he might break down a problem in an accounting class.

Weaver is the only accounting major on the football team other than Matt Floberg, and if it's hard to imagine sitting next to a 280-pound man in an accounting class, imagine what a 280-pound pitcher looks like.

"Baseball is a much calmer, laid back sport and that's not my personality. I think I would play (baseball if I wasn't playing football); I'd go pitch."

Dan Weaver
Oregon center

The junior played three sports in high school, with baseball and, yes, pitching as his strongest suit. Weaver said that if he hadn't been able to walk on to the Oregon football team, he might have explored other, more baseball-related options.

"Baseball is a much calmer, laid back sport and that's not my personality," Weaver said. "I think I would play (baseball if I wasn't playing football); I'd go pitch."

So the Ems could have had a center-sized guy pitching long relief. Of course, Weaver wasn't completely center-sized when he graduated from high school, especially not as far as the Ducks were concerned.

Little did he and the team know that a few short years later, he would be the center point of the entire offense.

"Dan has been the leader of (the offensive line) and has carried it out extremely well," Oregon head coach Mike Bellotti said. "And we look to him for leadership, not just on the offensive line but on the entire team."

That's an awe-inspiring comment, coming about a guy who faced such a daunting task so short a time ago.

Contact the sports editor
at peterhockaday@dailyemerald.com.

Dan Weaver File

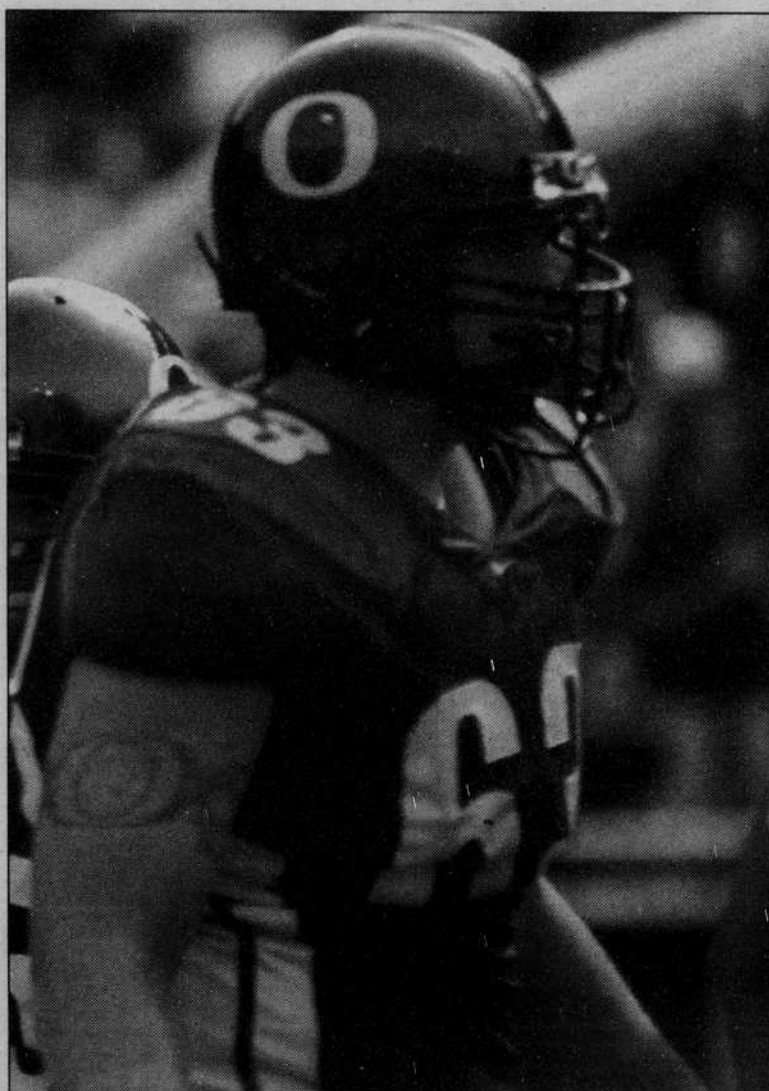
Born: Daniel James Weaver
on June 23, 1980 in
Redmond, Ore.

High School:
All-Intermountain Conference
center and pitcher for
Redmond High School. Led
baseball and basketball
squads to league titles his
senior season. In football,
played center, linebacker and
long snapper, earning first-
team conference honors on
offense and second-team
honors on defense.

Oregon: Took a year and a
half off to bulk up before



walking on
to Oregon
squad in
spring
2000.
Worked his
way into
short-
snapper's
role, also
snapping
some balls
for the offense. Started the
first two games of the 2001
season, came off the bench in
third game and has notched
16-straight starts since then.



Mark McCambridge Emerald

Oregon center Dan Weaver, a Redmond, Ore., native who was walk-on two years ago, has started 16 straight games.