

Monday, October 6, 2003



Mindi Rice

The girl and the game

## Oregon should 'show off' new Howe

Imagine parking on University Street between McArthur Court and East 18th Avenue without worry of a broken windshield or dented car during softball season.

Think of sitting right behind home plate — just behind the fence, on field level, in the first row — watching the Ducks host an NCAA softball tournament.

Now picture a different view to left field — those hills might not be seen from the new location — and even a new scoreboard.

In a backward sort of way, this new basketball arena plan is working out to be a sweet deal for more than a few college hoopsters.

The chosen site for the "new Mac Court" — the area just southeast of the existing facility — is home to, among other things, the Oregon softball team's Howe Field.

Taking that space for the arena means relocating softball to an area yet to be determined. And while the space is being chosen, the requests come flooding in for location, amenities and outfield view.

The first request that women's softball head coach Kathy Arendsen and I agree on is that the new field meets NCAA eligibility for hosting a regional tournament.

"I'm hoping that we will make sure we are eligible," Arendsen said after the arena decision was announced on Saturday. "That's including lights, and there's minimum seating allowances to that."

With the coaching and playing levels of the softball team on par with the Pacific-10 Conference — the best softball conference in the nation — it's time for a stadium that is eligible to host NCAA tournaments. It will benefit and showcase the school, the athletic department and the Eugene community.

Another request Arendsen had — and I agree with this one as well — is proximity to campus. That's the biggest issue of all.

"We definitely want to be accessible to students," Arendsen said. "I think that's one of the strengths of Howe — students can easily walk up. So I'm hoping that will still be the case."

As it stands now, Howe is in an opportune spot on campus. Students on their way home to the South University community can stop by and catch an inning of softball. Other student athletes on their way to or from practice and training rooms can support their softball counterparts.

Unfortunately, the chosen location may spot the new softball digs in the Autzen Stadium realm — with women's soccer and lacrosse nearby.

"We're just starting to look at potential space we currently own," Athletics Director Bill Moos said

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## Utes frustrate Oregon in close game

Oregon is held scoreless in the second half as Utah pulls out a win in front of a large home crowd

By Mindi Rice  
Senior Sports Reporter

The defense held steady, giving Utah two touchdowns and a field goal.

The Oregon offense, however, failed to be the point-scoring machine that it had been for the season's first four weeks.

Although the season is entering its seventh week for the Ducks, they return to the Pacific-10 Conference after a 17-13 defeat in Utah's Rice-Eccles Stadium.

"When it's a close game and you know you had chances to win that are probably four or five plays on both sides of the ball, then we say 'gee, if we had only made those plays we could have won this game,'" Oregon head coach Mike Bellotti said in a teleconference on Sunday.

Oregon (4-2 overall, 1-1 Pac-10) was in the game early, putting the first points on the board with a 42-yard field goal by Jared Siegel midway through the first quarter. The short-lived lead silenced the crowd of 44,676 fans — the sixth-largest crowd in the stadium's history.

The Utes answered in the same quarter with a 28-yard field goal by Brian Borreson — the only field goal he made in three attempts.

In the second quarter, the Ducks looked like the Oregon of old as they took the lead with 10 points in four minutes.

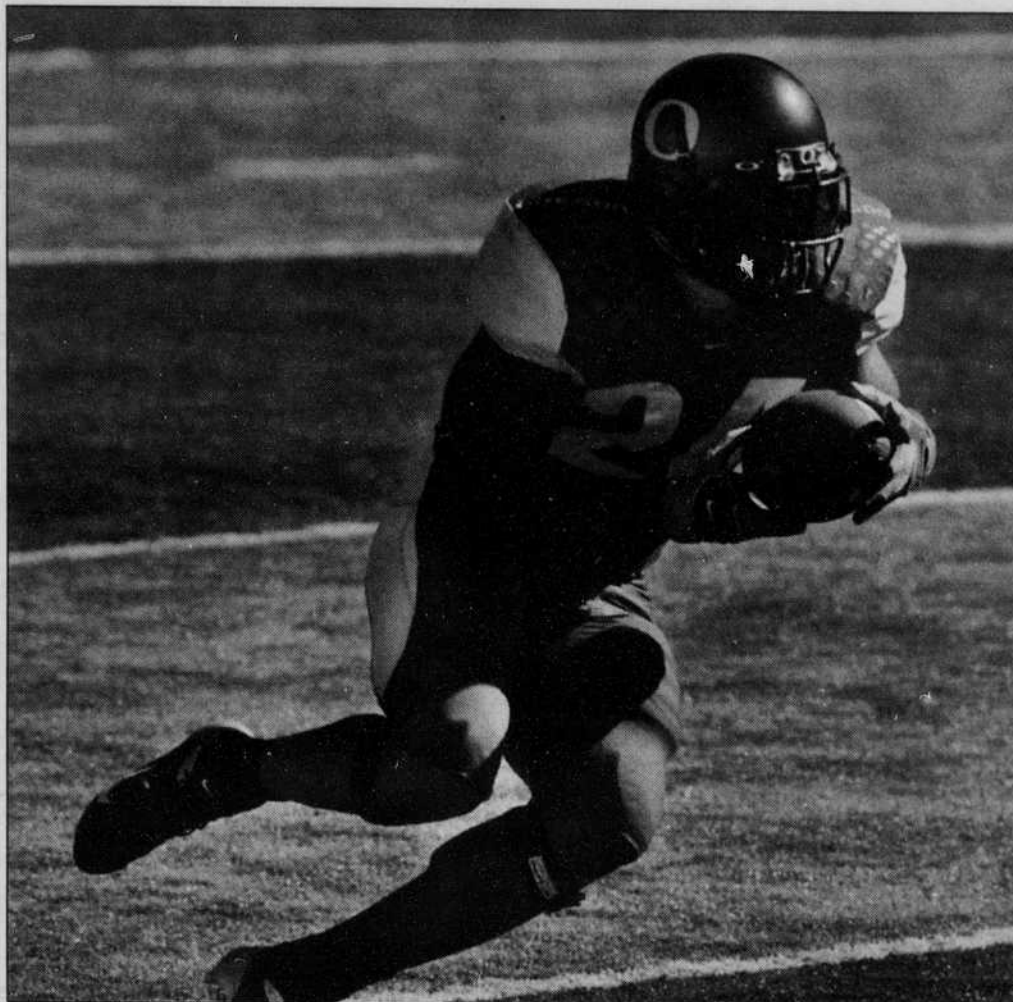
After a successful fake punt on fourth down, quarterback Kellen Clemens threw a long pass to Samie Parker to get Oregon to the two-yard line.

Following an incomplete pass, Clemens ran around the right side and dove in for the Ducks' only touchdown of the day and a 10-3 lead.

When Utah came back on offense, cornerback Steven Moore stripped a Utah receiver of the ball to bring the Oregon offense back on the field. The Ducks capped their scoring with a 40-yard field goal by Siegel.

The Utes narrowed the lead to 13-10 on a 69-yard

### DUCK FOOTBALL



Mark McCambridge Senior Photographer

Terrence Whitehead gained 40 yards on 18 carries on the ground against Utah on Friday.

touchdown pass from Alex Smith to Steve Savoy.

"We need to come back with greater attention to detail," Bellotti said. "We did some things on both sides of the ball that allowed them to bring it back."

On the offensive side, the Ducks sank during the second half. At one point, four straight drives by Clemens resulted in punts, and Oregon didn't score after halftime.

Defensively, the Ducks held for most of the half. However, the 13-10 lead wasn't safe.

Shortly after the fourth quarter began, Smith found Ben Moa open for a nine-yard touchdown pass. Borreson's successful point gave the Utes the 17-13 lead.

"I was not pleased with the way we blocked at the line of scrimmage," Bellotti said. "Either at the

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### OREGON 13, UTAH 17

**First downs:** Oregon 16, Utah 21

**Rushing attempts-yards:** Oregon 32-80, Utah: 44-126

**Passing attempts-completions-yards:** Oregon 34-16-277, Utah: 38-25-340

**Penalties: Number-yards:** Oregon 5-35, Utah: 5-35

**Possession time:** Oregon 25 minutes, 4 seconds, Utah 34:56

**Sacks by: Number-yards:** Oregon 2-12,

Utah 5-25

#### Rushing

**Oregon:** Terrence Whitehead, 18 carries, 40 yards; Jason Fife, 3-26, Kellen Taylor, 1-7, Kenny Washington, 1-4, Kellen Clemens, 9-3;

**Utah:** Brandon Warfield, 22-74; Paris Warren, 5-32; Mike Liti, 3-10; Alex Smith, 14-10.

#### Passing

**Oregon:** Kellen Clemens, 24 attempts, 12 completions, 0 interceptions; Jason Fife, 9-3-1;

Paul Martinez, 1-1-0;

**Utah:** Alex Smith, 38-25-0

#### Receiving

**Oregon:** Demetrius Williams, 4 catches, 89 yards; Samie Parker, 4-86; Kellen Taylor, 4-39; Marcus Maxwell, 1-28; Dante Rosario, 1-21; Dan Kause, 1-10; Terrence Whitehead, 1-4

**Utah:** Paris Warren, 10-54; Steve Savoy, 6-176; Ben Moa, 4-73; Travis LaTendresse, 3-25; Brandon Warfield, 2-12.

## Young Ducks pace Oregon in weekend play

Dominika Dieskova and Thomas Bieri impress in their matches against top opponents this weekend

Alex Tam  
Freelance Reporter

The future of Oregon women's and men's tennis appears full of optimism after two of the younger Ducks — freshman Dominika Dieskova and sophomore Thomas Bieri — performed well over the weekend in their first showings of the season.

With disappointing seasons last year

for both the men's and women's tennis teams, it was important to get off to a good start and have a positive outlook for the upcoming year.

Dieskova defeated Laura Nigro of Air Force, 6-4 and 6-3, in her first-round matchup at the Riviera/ITA Women's All-American Championships in Los Angeles on Saturday. In the second round of the qualifiers, the Duck freshman almost pulled out another win after defeating Maria Brito of Clemson on the first set.

However, Dieskova lost the last two sets to Brito to finish the match 5-7, 6-3 and 6-4. It was an impressive first showing for Dieskova, who showed she will have an impact on the future of Oregon tennis. She also is the one to reckon with currently.

"It's great for Dominika to get her feet

wet against top competition," women's tennis second-year head coach Nils Schylander said in a press release. "She proved right away that she's going to be a great collegiate player. She's just going to get better and better."

All-American senior Courtney Nagle will compete on Tuesday in the prequalifying round and the reigning Pac-10 Women's Player of the Year Daria Panova will begin play on Thursday in the singles main draw.

According to preseason singles rankings issued by the Intercollegiate Tennis Association, Panova is currently ranked No. 7 in the nation and Nagle is ranked 35th.

The women's team will participate in

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Nils Schylander  
Women's tennis  
head coach

### WOMEN'S TENNIS