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Geoff Thurner Oregon Media Services

Assistant coach Rock Light (middle) helped Louisiana State to four NCAA titles in the early 1990s and is now a top assistant to Oregon head coach Martin Smith.

## LIGHT

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his style of teaching because it makes it really easy to improve on."

The moments when his athletes achieve new personal records are

what Light lives for and is the reason he loves to coach.

"I love to watch the look on their face when they achieve a great mark or a great time or a great performance," Light said. "I just love to be there to watch it. Just capturing that moment in my mind is something that I strive for,

and I'm relentless at pursuing that."

Light stresses the importance of trust with his athletes every practice. Until they learn to lay it all on the line and have faith in their coach, then the ultimate success of the individual and the program is unattainable.

I care deeply about them as people,

and it's not just about what they do on the track and field," Light said. "I respect all the young people I work with and I want them to be extremely successful in anything they do."

Contact the sports reporter at alextam@dailyemerald.com.

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a lot of confidence," catcher Jon Loomis said. "I can see why they have an undefeated record."

Senior Matt Mensik, Oregon's pitcher who was set to start the first game, tweaked his arm just before the Ducks took the field. Freshman pitcher Jay Tlougan took over for Mensik and started the game. Tlougan threw five innings and allowed 10 hits before Oregon's Donny Udell relieved him in the sixth.

The Ducks faltered in one of their strongest categories; Oregon accounted for two hits against three Colorado State pitchers.

"We weren't able to hit the ball," Loomis said. "So we weren't able to get anything going."

New Releases weekly

When the Ducks did find themselves in scoring position, Loomis said the team failed to move the runners around the bases. Only Loomis and right fielder Brad Ficek recorded a hit.

"We had a tough time moving around the bases," Loomis said. "We weren't playing our game."

With Oregon playing in the first game of the tournament, dealing with the three-hour time change, and having to travel the farthest distance to participate in the tournament, the Ducks had to battle a few more elements than they expected.

"From the very beginning we were fighting an uphill battle," Ficek said. "We had a lot of things stacked against us. It was the very first game of the tournament, we had to travel all day yesterday to get here and we have never been to the World Series before.

Oregon will have plenty of time to get acclimated to the weather conditions and time change before their next game, which is scheduled for Friday at 9:30 a.m. EST. The Ducks will take on the loser of the game between Texas A&M and Central Michigan, which will be played this morning.

"After our first game, I think we will settle down more," third basemen Travis Chock said. "We need to focus more on defense in our next game and not worry so much about hitting."

Kirsten McEwen is a freelance reporter

Oregon catcher Jon Loomis, seen here earlier this season. was just one of two Ducks to get a hit in the team's 10-1 loss to Colorado State.

Erik R. Bishoff

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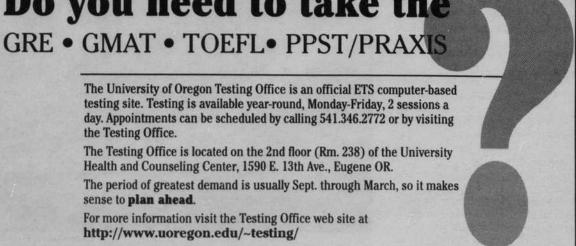
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The Testing Office is located on the 2nd floor (Rm. 238) of the University Health and Counseling Center, 1590 E. 13th Ave., Eugene OR.

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For more information visit the Testing Office web site at http://www.uoregon.edu/~testing/



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