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∞Sun Devil notes

Stiffling Sun Devil defense responsible for 4-0 start

Derek Hagan's consecutive streak of 100-yard games ends, but he is second in Pac-10 receiving

BY STEPHEN MILLER
SPORTS REPORTER

The idea of sweeping both Oregon schools in its first two weeks of Pacific-10 conference play has the mouths of the Arizona State Sun Devils salivating.

One thing is certain, both Oregon and the Sun Devils are drooling over a victory this weekend, but only one can win.

"We know Mike (Bellotti) will have those guys foaming at the

mouth," ASU head coach Dirk Koetter said, "and our guys are anxious too. We are looking forward to Oregon this week."

Sunny defense

Oregon State's rushing offense was shoved into a negative-19-yard hole last week by the Sun Devil defense. Arizona State's defense is tied for first

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Oregon: Rosario scores in fifth straight game

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including seven straight dating back to 1996. Arizona State is included on the list with its 42-24 loss in 2001.

More honors for Siegel

Oregon senior kicker Jared Siegel continues to add accolades to his already impressive résumé. In addition to holding the school record for most points scored (276), no fewer than 16 Oregon school and conference records and the longest field goal in Pacific-10 Conference history, Siegel was just added to the list for the Lou Groza Award — given to the most outstanding collegiate kicker in the country. Siegel was one of three finalists for the award in 2002 and is one of three Pac-10 kickers — joining USC's Ryan Killeen and UCLA's Justin Medlock — to be included on the list of 30 finalists.

Rosario continues to impress

Sophomore fullback Dante Rosario has the talent to change the way Oregon thinks about its fullback position. The standout from Dayton has not been shy about asserting himself on the football field. Rosario caught a personal collegiate-best five passes for 60 yards and two touchdowns in the season opener against Indiana, only to better that mark with six catches for 64 yards and one score against Oklahoma. Not only is he Oregon's reception leader (13), he leads the team with 24 points scored this season. His four touchdowns this year are the most by an Oregon fullback since A.J. Welks scored five times in 1997.

Youngsters get a chance

True freshmen usually don't play until their sophomore years.

However, this year is different as Bellotti said that Oregon could use 10 to 12 true freshmen over the course of the season. After three games,



Oregon sophomore tailback Dante Rosario leads the Ducks with 13 catches and 24 points scored. Rosario has also caught a touchdown in five consecutive games.

ERIK R. BISHOP
PHOTOGRAPHER

Oregon is halfway there as two more newcomers took the field last week. Freshmen that have played so far include outside linebacker Kwame Agyeman, wide receiver Cameron Colvin, quarterback Dennis Dixon, defensive tackle David Faaeteete, linebacker Ryan Phipps, and cornerback Jackie Bates, who has impressed Bellotti with his play already.

"I think he is going to be a very good football player," Bellotti said of

Bates. "He's learning everyday. He didn't play last year at the high school level so he's seeing some things for the first time — the speed and athleticism of some of the receivers and the sophistication of the defense. You know he is going to be a viable punt returner, he's a good cover corner and not afraid to make tackles and I'm pleased with how he's playing."

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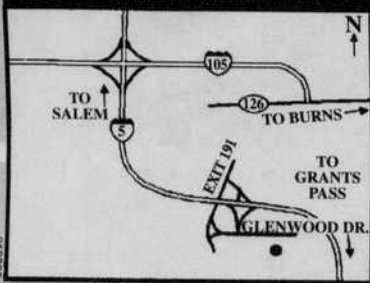
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