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■ Oregon notes

Siegel earns records, honors with kicks against Stanford

Kicker Jared Siegel kicks three crucial field goals while breaking record

BY BRIAN SMITH
SPORTS REPORTER

Oregon kicker Jared Siegel silenced some of his critics last week against Stanford, connecting on three field goals of 51, 37 and 21 yards.

The senior has had a sub-par 2004, making less than one goal per game and ranking seventh in scoring among kickers in the conference.

His three field goals against Stanford earned him Pac-10 Special Teams Player of the Week honors. It marked the first time this year that an Oregon player has received the honor, and it marks the second time that Siegel has earned the award — the last time was against Stanford his sophomore year.

"We worked a little bit on the angle of the ball, the hold and some other things that I think have made a difference," Bellotti said. "I think he is going to be fine, I think he's doing a good job. Certainly confidence is important at any position."

A Lou Groza Award finalist — given to the nation's top collegiate kicker — Siegel has put himself at the top of a number of school records. Siegel recently set the record for career points by an Oregon player, eclipsing Derek Loville's old mark of 272 points. He now has 302 points and counting. Last week against Stanford, he set the record for career field goals made, which was previously held by Gregg McCallum, who had 45 from 1988-91. Siegel also passed McCallum in field goal attempts with 65.



DANIELLE HICKEY | PHOTO EDITOR

Kicker Jared Siegel (25) set the Oregon record for career field goals last week against Stanford. The senior has drilled 46 field goals during his four-year tenure.

Ducks needing to finish more drives

It's not a secret that Oregon possesses the ability to move the ball up and down the field seemingly at will. The Ducks have tallied over 400 yards of total offense in five of seven games this year, equaling last season's total. Their 1,562 yards over the last three games mark the highest output in consecutive weeks since Oregon totaled 1,620 yards against Utah State (550 yards), Arizona (607) and California (463 yards) in 2001.

However, while in past seasons they were able to finish off drives, Oregon has had a problem getting the ball across the goal line in 2004. The Ducks are sixth in the conference in

scoring offense with 23 touchdowns and 25.3 points per game.

The Ducks are also tied for first in the amount of times they have failed to score inside the red zone. Oregon and USC each have 10 failed opportunities inside the 20-yard line.

Whitehead continues to deliver for Oregon

Terrence Whitehead has stepped up and become a pleasant surprise for the Oregon offense this year.

Whitehead is the third-leading rusher in the Pacific-10 Conference, averaging just under 100 yards per game. He has accumulated 697 yards and five

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■ In my opinion

Roetman's dirty little secret: He used to be a Washington fan

It sits on the shelf of my entertainment center, acting as a reminder of what college football meant to me as a child growing up in Portland.

It recalls memories of a potent passing attack, a bruising ground game and a helmet-crunching defense.

It conjures visions of crisp Saturdays in the great Northwest and a victory full of roses.

It is a VHS cassette titled, "Our Dream Season." It is the tale of a co-national champion. It is the story of the 1991 Washington Huskies.

You read that last paragraph correctly.

My name is Jon.

I grew up in Oregon.

And I grew up a Husky fan.

Before you call me Benedict Arnold, a scumbag or something worse, understand that I didn't come from one of those families that had three generations of graduates from the University of Oregon. Nobody in my immediate family even went to college. So instead of being born into the Duck-fan fraternity, I was left to choose my favorite team.



JON ROETMAN
ROUGHING THE PASSER

I became a coherent sports fan in 1990 at the age of 8. Washington was one of the best teams in the country and usually had its games televised on ABC. It didn't take long for me to fall in love with an offense led by quarterback Mark Brunell and wide receivers Mario Bailey and Orlando McKay. The Huskies also had a punishing defense featuring defensive tackle Steve Emtman, who was eventually selected No. 1 overall by Indianapolis in the 1992 NFL Draft.

I was hooked.

To make things even better, the Huskies had the best season in school history the following year, earning a share of the national title with Miami. Quarterback Billy Joe Hobert started

the season in place of an injured Brunell, but the offense kept on clicking. Bailey and McKay were too much for opposing secondaries to handle, and freshman running back Napoleon Kaufman had the first of four stellar years with the Huskies.

The defense had shutout potential every week. Emtman and All-American middle linebacker Dave Hoffman rendered opposing running backs obsolete.

Washington outscored its opponents 495-115 — including a 321-77 advantage against Pacific-10 Conference foes — and smoked No. 4 Michigan 34-14 in the Rose Bowl en route to a 12-0 season.

Meanwhile, Oregon finished 3-8, losing eight of its last nine games. Needless to say I was happy with my decision to side with the Evergreen State.

As time went by, being a Washington fan made even more sense. My grandparents moved to Renton, Wash., meaning Husky apparel for Christmas was inevitable. It also gave

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