

■ In my opinion

## An ugly finish to Oregon's ugly season



CLAYTON JONES  
SEVENTH INNING STRETCH

It was disgusting.

Unfortunately, I had the honor of watching the Civil War game in person (out on the freezing photo deck just outside the press box sitting on steel chairs instead of inside the press box ... thanks Oregon State) and witnessed the Oregon team get used and abused by Oregon State, 50-21.

Everybody with half a brain knew Derek Anderson was going to chuck the ball.

It didn't matter. Oregon State offensive coordinator Paul Chryst could of handed his playbook to the Oregon staff and they weren't going to stop Anderson.

Oh by the way, Oregon, Mike Hass was the Beavers' best receiver and keeping a closer eye on him might have been a good idea. The guy at best runs a 4.6 or 4.7 40-yard dash and Oregon just couldn't contain him. His nine catches for 154 yards just opened things up for everybody else.

And something all Oregon receivers should take a look at is how he catches the football whenever it is thrown his direction. If this guy can get a finger on the ball, it will be caught.

To see Anderson drop back pass after pass and find people all day was bad enough, but the slower-than-molasses quarterback ran for four first downs, including three of them on third and long.

Anderson ran for 49 yards before taking away the yardage he lost for sacks.

How do you let a guy that runs more like the tin man low on oil run for nearly 50 yards? This guy isn't Michael Vick. Heck, this guy runs more like William "Refrigerator" Perry from the 1985 Chicago Bears.

The worst part is that one good hit to this guy and he would have been done. He lowered his shoulder while trying to go out of bounds when Aaron Gipson popped him and took him out for a play.

That's right, the 179-pound Gipson knocked the 240-pound Anderson down and out on the turf. Imagine if the 345-pound Haloti Ngata would have gotten a clear shot at him.

But all the blame can't be placed on the defense — the offense wasn't much better Saturday.

The Duck offense looked stagnant all day and quarterback Kellen Clemens seemed to be running for his life on every play.

Oregon State made the senior-laden Oregon offensive line look like Swiss cheese as they got to Clemens six times and planted him into the Reser Stadium turf many more times.

Clemens had maybe his worst day passing and I kept hearing people asking, "How come he can't get the ball deep to the receivers?"

Well, if you only have a certain amount of time to throw the ball, it doesn't give your receivers time to get down the field. That means he needs the big uglies up front to block.

Especially Mr. Bill Swancutt. Swancutt dominated the line of scrimmage and wreaked havoc all day. He had three sacks, a forced fumble and an interception on maybe the worst shovel pass in history.

The running game looked good though, with Terrence Whitehead rushing for more than 100 yards again, even with limited carries in the

■ Duck football

## Ducks battered by Beavers, 50-21

*With bowl eligibility at stake, OSU's offense overwhelmed Oregon*

BY JON ROETMAN  
SENIOR SPORTS REPORTER

CORVALLIS — It was a disappointing end to a season of underachievement for the Oregon football team.

The Ducks were hammered by Oregon State 50-21 Saturday during the 108th installment of the Civil War at Reser Stadium. With the loss, Oregon (5-6 overall, 4-4 Pacific-10 Conference) failed to qualify for a bowl game for the first time since the 1996 season and finished with its first losing season in 11 years.

The Oregon State offense proved unstoppable from its opening drive. Quarterback Derek Anderson torched the Ducks for 351 yards and four touchdowns, while wide receiver Mike Hass caught nine passes for 154 yards and a pair of scores.

"I think Anderson and Hass played exceptional football today," Oregon head coach Mike Bellotti said. "They are two of the more quality players in college football."

While Bellotti's compliments were accurate, they were likely understated. Anderson shredded the Oregon secondary, hitting open receivers in stride and fitting the ball into tight spots when his receivers were covered. The Scappoose native completed 24 of 41 passes and



LAUREN WIMER | SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER

Oregon State wide receiver Marcel Love catches one of Derek Anderson's four touchdown passes in the Beaver's 50-21 triumph over the Ducks Saturday at Reser Stadium. Love caught six passes for 72 yards.

was intercepted only once.

Hass found ways to get open all night and burned the Duck secondary on several skinny post patterns for big gains. The success of the Portland native made life easier for Oregon State's other pass catchers. Wide receiver Marcel Love and tight end Joe Newton burned Oregon across the middle of the field, capitalizing on slant patterns and seam routes

throughout the evening.

Love caught six passes for 72 yards and a touchdown, while Newton finished with five receptions for 66 yards and a score.

Even when the Duck defense seemingly had a play stopped, Anderson — who will never be mistaken for fast — escaped the pocket and ran for several key first downs. The senior finished with 19 yards and a touchdown on the ground.

The Beavers' leading rusher was tailback Dwight Wright, who was held to 60 yards in 16 carries.

"We didn't even try to stop the run," Bellotti said. "We knew we had to stop the pass today. We just couldn't stop it."

While the Beavers (6-5, 5-3) had no trouble moving the ball down the field, the Duck offense

■ Men's basketball

## Oregon beats Idaho State in opener

*The Ducks outrebounded the Bengals 50 to 25 en route to a 77-51 win in their season opener*

BY CLAYTON JONES  
SPORTS EDITOR

An emphasis on defense and rebounding in practice all week paid off for the Oregon basketball team as the Ducks cruised past Idaho State 77-51 at McArthur Court in their season opener Friday night.

Oregon held Idaho State to 15 first-half points and doubled the Bengals up on rebounds 50 to 25.

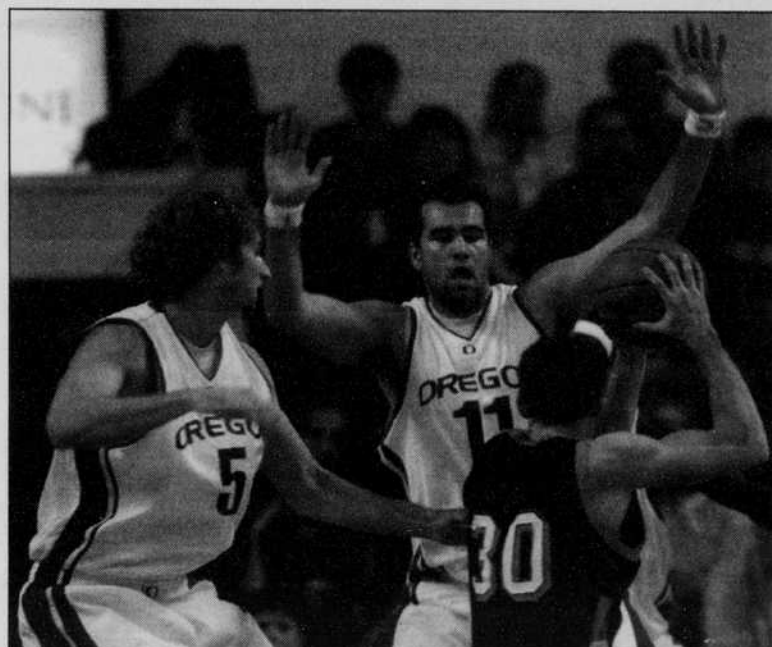
"When you look out on that floor and see the expression on their faces and how hard they defended in the first half and stopping a team on 25 out of 31 opportunities, that's impressive," Oregon head coach Ernie Kent said. "Especially with a young team this early on."

To help out on the boards after being outrebounded by a Western Oregon team last week that didn't have a player over 6-foot-7, the Ducks set goals for themselves before the game for each player to get a certain amount of rebounds.

"We had the coaches on the sidelines telling us the rebounding totals," Oregon's Ian Crosswhite, who led the team with nine rebounds, said. "They made sure to tell us how many we needed to get (to reach our total)."

Oregon's 26-point victory was led by a balanced scoring attack. The Ducks had four players in double figures with Crosswhite and 17-year-old freshman Malik Hairston leading the team with 15 points a piece.

The flashiest two points for Hairston came



DANIELLE HICKEY | PHOTO EDITOR

in the first half when he juked two Idaho State players and drove baseline for a reverse lay-in.

"That's just creativity," Kent said about the play. "That's nothing we can coach. Guys understand when they have to make that kind of move and he made it."

Hairston's 15 points was the most by an Oregon freshman in a first game since Terek Brown's 26 against Hawaii-Hilo in 1995.

Along with Hairston's 15 points, fellow freshman Bryce Taylor dropped in 11 points, including three three-pointers.

Kent cautions that despite the freshmen's success early on, everybody needs to let them develop.

"This is a young team and the fans just need to be parents and watch them grow and enjoy them," Kent said. "We don't need to put too much pressure on them. I'll handle all the expectations."

Despite Kent's forewarnings about the freshmen, Hairston said they weren't too nervous about it being their first game.

Oregon's Ian Crosswhite (11) and Matt Short (5) trap Idaho State's David Schroeder during the Ducks' 77-51 victory over the Bengals Friday night at Mac Court. Crosswhite had 15 points and a team-high nine rebounds in the game.