

■ In my opinion



SCOTT J. ADAMS
INTENTIONAL GROUNDING

Fall Classic looms under a successful football year

With all of the big news pouring out of Oregon football, I almost forgot there was a World Series going on. Lucky for me, I caught the ninth inning of game two Sunday night, and after looking over the first two games of the 2005 series, I came to realize that this could be one of the most exciting series of all time to start 2-0.

The final inning of game two was a fall classic in itself. The White Sox had Houston on the ropes with the final out of the game looming until the Astros' Jose Vizcaino came off the bench as a pinch-hitter for Adam Everett in the ninth inning with two on. Unlike in game one, Chicago's closer Bobby Jenks could not pick up the save Sunday as he gave the 16-year veteran Vizcaino an ill-fated breaking pitch on the outside corner which was laced into left field for a two-run single tying the game at six.

It made for one of the biggest and most forgettable hits in World Series history thanks to Scott Podsednik, who lined a 2-1 pitch from Brad Lidge into the right-center field bleachers, settling the score at 7-6 and sending the Southside into bedlam.

The right-handed closer Lidge turned to watch Podsednik's walk-off shot disappear into the night sky at U.S. Cellular Field, but did not see where it landed. He didn't have to. Instead he brooded over the lost opportunity of knotting the series at 1-1 and paced toward the packed Astros' dugout.

"I'm frustrated by it, but I'm not changing a darn thing" Lidge told reporters after the game. "I'm ready to get out there and as quickly as possible."

Lidge is right not to want to change his strategy. He surrendered only five home runs during the regular season but has now given up two in the playoffs — both game-winners.

One day earlier, the White Sox knocked Roger Clemens out of game one after two innings en route to a 5-3 win. Jose Contreras worked for his third win of the post-season and Chicago's bullpen stayed the course during the game that featured three home runs, five pitching changes and 17 hits.

The Astros are now one loss away from being swept out of their franchise's first World Series, but luckily for them they will have a home crowd on tap at Minute Maid Park for game four tonight and five tomorrow. Winning games on the road has not been a problem for the White Sox this postseason however. The Red Sox couldn't beat them at Fenway and Chicago stole three wins in Anaheim.

It's hard for me to see how Chicago would even need to return home to wrap this thing up. They've already taken care of the Astros' two aces, Clemens and Andy Pettitte, and aren't strangers to scoring big. The White Sox should have the franchise's first world title since 1917 in a matter of days and I expect to see White Sox fans showing their colors on campus next week.

This postseason, white appears to be the new red.

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360 DEGREES FROM ORDINARY



COURTESY

Oregon student David Feldberg won the Triple Crown of disc golf, earning victories in the National Series Title, US Open Title and the Cash Title. Having played for the past eight years, Feldberg is rapidly turning into the poster child of disc golf.

Disc Golf is a burgeoning sport, and Oregon's Avery Jenkins and David Feldberg are professionals

BY SPENCER CRUM
FREELANCE REPORTER

Oregon is notorious for having produced some of the Pacific-10 Conference's best athletes. Many have even possessed the talent to take it to the next level, as was the case with Fred Jones, the Lukes, Joey, Maurice Morris, and Igor. The Oregon Ducks are represented at a higher level. Now they can add David Feldberg and Avery Jenkins to the list.

Feldberg and Jenkins, both accomplished Professional Disc Golf Champions, are competing at the professional level. Jenkins mastered the distance competition, winning the 2005 event at the U.S. Open. He also won the 2004 Canadian Disc Golf Championship and the 2004 Japan Open.

Feldberg, fresh off the tour of his life, won the Triple Crown in disc golf (National Series Title, US Open Title, Cash Title).

"I've never been able to break through and beat the game's greatest players," Feldberg said. "This was a breakthrough for me. I was able to win easily. I've been learning to win, and I finally know how it feels to win."

Feldberg is relatively new to disc golf. His first experience was eight years ago, when his friends showed him the game. Feldberg remembers: "They said it was a Frisbee golf course, and they handed me a Frisbee and we played 25 cents a hole; \$6 later I learned a lesson."

Numerous lessons and seven years of playing have made the difference.

"I knew what it was like to lose, and now I was feeling what it was like to win," Feldberg said.

Feldberg finally feels he is in the "happy place" and has the confidence in putting it together. He is finally starting to feel like

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■ Football notes

Dixon and Leaf ready for action

After losing Clemens for the rest of the season, the Ducks are eager to continue their winning ways

BY LUKE ANDREWS
SPORTS REPORTER

The 14th-ranked Oregon Ducks, fresh off their fourth-straight win of the season, now enter the bye week in preparation for California, which visits Autzen Stadium in two weeks.

And the timing of Oregon's bye week could not have been better.

The Ducks' draining 28-21 win against Arizona last Saturday proved costly as senior quarterback Kellen Clemens suffered a broken ankle and will miss the remainder of the season. Backups Dennis Dixon and Brady Leaf are left with big shoes to fill for the final three games of the regular season.

"It was unfortunate what happened and how I got in, but Dennis and I have to prepare to keep this team rolling," Leaf said. "I am extremely excited for this opportunity."

The extra week of preparation gives Dixon, who will take the majority of snaps in practice, and Leaf the opportunity to grasp Oregon's spread offense and a chance for Oregon coaches to formulate playbooks catered to the two respective talents.

"The nice thing about the timing

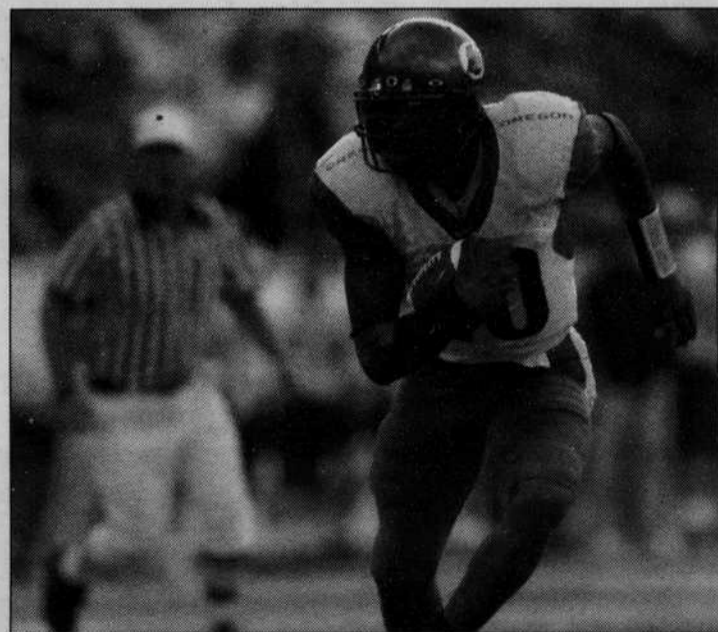
of this is that we have two weeks to prepare, so we can get a lot more work done," Oregon head coach Mike Bellotti said. "It's a lot more this week about the Oregon Ducks and making sure we figure out what parts of the offense we want to focus on for Dennis and Brady."

Dixon, a sophomore from San Leandro, Calif., has played sparingly this season. He's completed 15 of 20 passes for 130 yards with one touchdown and two interceptions.

Most known for his flair running the ball, Dixon, who broke Oregon's 40-yard dash record for quarterbacks previously held by Akili Smith, has rushed for 66 yards on seven carries this season and has scored one touchdown — the go-ahead quarterback sneak in the season-opener against Houston.

"Dennis is an unbelievable athlete. He can make plays that me and Kellen could never make just on sheer athletic ability," Leaf said.

A sophomore from Great Falls, Mont., Leaf is the younger brother of Ryan Leaf, a former Washington State standout and second overall selection in the 1998 NFL draft. Brady Leaf made his Oregon debut in the home-opener against



TIM BOBOSKY | PHOTO EDITOR

Oregon quarterback Dennis Dixon has taken over the reins after an ankle injury sidelined Kellen Clemens for the rest of the season. Dixon has appeared in seven games, rushing and passing for one touchdown in each this season.

Montana, throwing for 25 yards on 2-of-5 passing.

In relief duties against the Wildcats on Saturday, Leaf was 5 of 10 for 53 yards and an interception, but completed two key first downs to lead the Ducks to victory.

Though Bellotti has named Dixon the starter, he expects both to share time under center.

"We're the same football

team," Bellotti said. "We have some weapons at quarterback, and we have some weapons on offense that are not going to be denied. So I think our attitude is pretty good."

While the circumstances causing their jump to the first team are disappointing, both Dixon and Leaf

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