

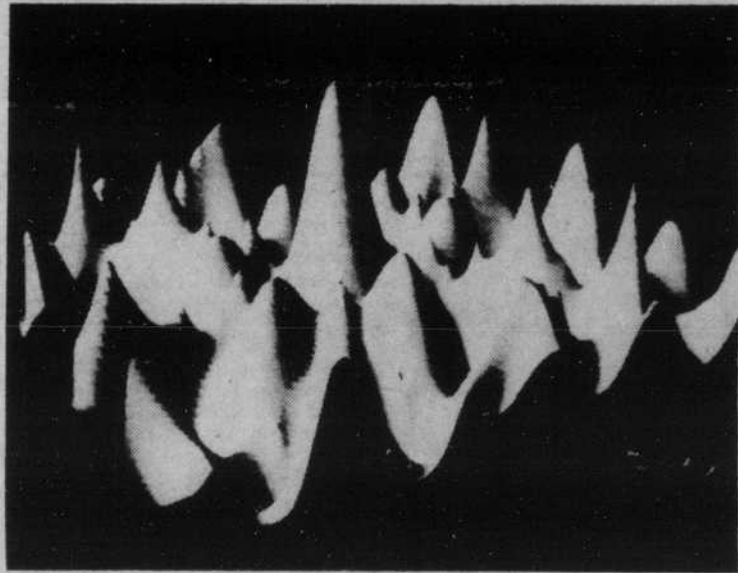
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sports

This one has meaning

By Steve Turcotte
Of the Emerald

When Oregon and Washington meet in football, there is usually not much on the line. In previous seasons, the Ducks played for pride while the Huskies played for prestige.

But this season, the situation is a little bit different.

Saturday at 1 p.m. at Autzen Stadium, the two teams will line up with more than pride on the line. This year, an expected sellout crowd will watch two teams playing for an inside track to the Rose Bowl.

The Ducks, 2-0 in Pac-10 play and 3-3 overall, are riding a two-game winning streak with victories over conference foes California and Arizona. Oregon has won four consecutive Pac-10 games dating back to 1982 — the league's longest win streak.

The Huskies, also 2-0 in the conference and 5-1 overall, are coming off league wins over Oregon State and Stanford.

"It should be a wild one," says Washington coach Don James, 7-1 against Oregon and 4-0 in Eugene. "We have had some great games with Oregon in past years, and I don't see any way around another great game this season."

James probably remembers last season, when winless Oregon led 21-17 early in the fourth quarter before the No. 1 ranked Huskies came back to win 37-21. In 1981 at Autzen, a blocked punt helped Washington break open a close game and win 17-3. Oregon recorded its last win over Washington in 1980 with a 34-10 thumping in Seattle.

Oregon has been playing well in its last two games, especially defensively. The Duck defense has been making big plays time and time again. A week ago, Arizona was held to just 229 yards and 14 first downs.

The Ducks will need the same kind of defensive effort to contain Washington's offense.

"We are still not totally an effective defensive team," says Oregon coach Rich Brooks. "But we are playing with more confidence. The injuries will also hurt us."

Brooks was referring to two key secondary players who likely will be on the sidelines Saturday. Safety Doug Judge is lost for the season with an injured knee, while cornerback Wendell Cason (neck injury) is questionable.

Judge will be replaced by Dan Wilken, who has had 23 tackles and one interception in a backup role. Brooks said the sophomore had "an outstanding game" against Arizona.

Offensively, the Ducks rushed for 152 yards against Arizona, becoming the first team to go over 100 versus the Wildcats. But again, injuries have been crippling. Tackle Greg Schwab is out for the rest of the season because of knee problems, and guard Gary Zimmerman is doubtful with a strained knee.

Oregon hopes its passing attack can compensate for a depleted offensive line. Quarterback Mike Jorgensen has completed just 43 percent of his passes this season, but many of the completions have come at opportune times. Jorgensen's main targets have been Kevin McCall, who has grabbed 17 passes, and flanker Lew Barnes, who has snared 16, three for touchdowns.

"They have really shown a lot of progress offensively," says James. "Not only have they progressed

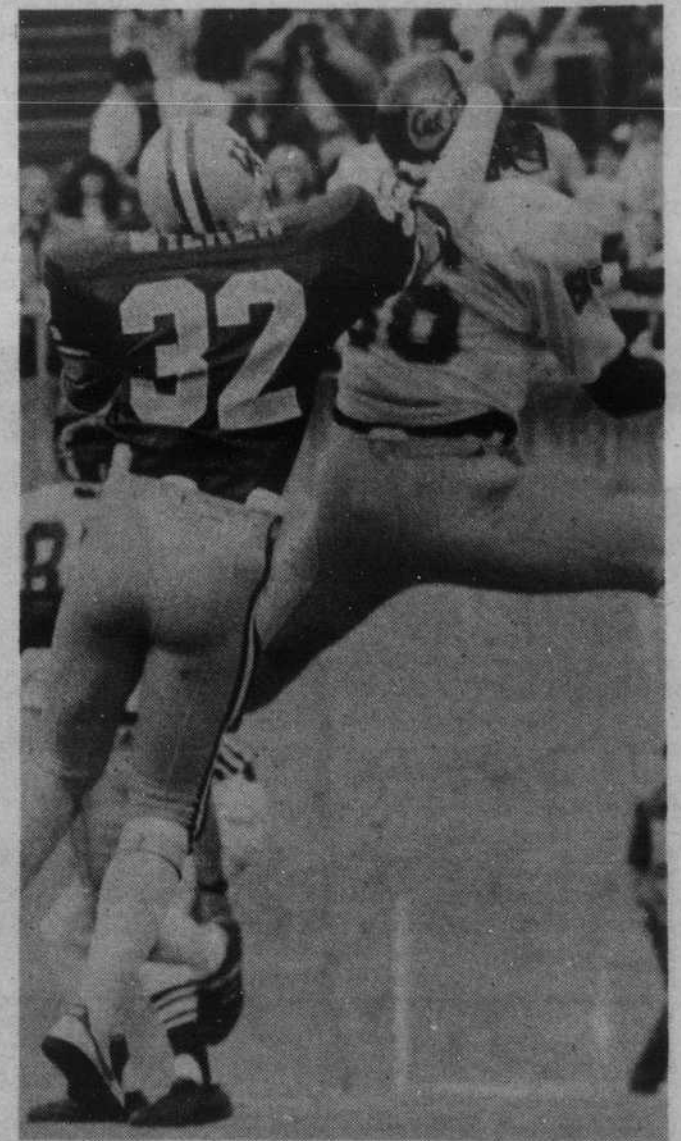


Photo by Dave Kao

Dan Wilken, delivering a solid hit here, will start in place of injured Doug Judge in the Oregon secondary.

well on offense, but I think their defense has really come around."

Washington heads to Eugene with its usual balanced offensive attack — the Huskies have rushed for 1,339 yards and passed for 1,323.

Quarterback Steve Pelluer leads the Husky offense. He has completed 127 of 187 passes for 1,289 yards and five touchdowns.

"It's really a typical Washington team," says Brooks. "Pelluer is a very talented quarterback and has very good receivers to throw to."

Most of the time, Pelluer has thrown to split end Danny Greene, flanker Dave Stransky and flanker Mike Pattison. Greene and Stransky have 24 catches, while Pattison has 21.

Tailback Sterling Hinds is the top Washington running back with 417 yards, 188 of those against Stanford last weekend. Fullback Walt Hunt is second with 273 yards, while Jacque Robinson, doubtful for Saturday with a sprained ankle, has 259.

For Oregon, Ladarja Johnson is the No. 1 rusher with 239 yards on 52 carries. Kevin McCall is second with 152 yards, and Kevin Willhite has added 145.

It's not Monday, so skip Raiders

From Associated Press reports

It's being called a preview of the National Football League championship game. If that's the case, the Dallas Cowboys could be only half a season and a postseason away from winning Super Bowl XVIII.

The Cowboys, the NFL's only

unbeaten team, are a victory shy of an 8-0 start. The last time they did that, in 1977, was also the last time they won a Super Bowl.

They're going against the Los Angeles Raiders, possessors of the league's top defense. But they're also going against an offense that will have Marc Wilson at quarter-

back instead of Jim Plunkett — and the prediction is that the Cowboys will have Wilson for Sunday night dinner.

Even Al Davis can't convince his troops that it's Monday night, so take DALLAS minus 4 over the Raiders.

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