

Sports

Gridders fall in rainy Corvallis; Beavers end 13-years of losing

By Gary Henley
Emerald Sports Editor

So now it's come to this. The Oregon State Beavers, longtime doormats of Pacific-10 Conference football and judged as one of the worst teams in the nation for years, finally found someone with a sadder tale to tell.

The Oregon Ducks, 21-10 losers to the Beavers on Saturday, began the 1988 season with a 6-1 record, and seemed almost assured of playing in their first bowl game since 1963.

But instead of looking through the mail for that elusive bowl invitation, the faltering Ducks, losers of four straight, reached a new low on Saturday afternoon.

The Civil War contest for the past 10 years has been the game where the Ducks could practically name the score. It was the season finale which would salvage the season, and send the seniors out on a winning note.

Not this year. The upstart Beavers took advantage of Oregon blunders late in the game to come up with their first win over the Ducks since 1974.

Turnovers, as the Ducks have become all too familiar with the last two or three weeks, ultimately decided the outcome in the chilling wind and rain of Corvallis.

Beaver Billy Hughely's interception of a Bob Brothers' pass with 4:40 left in the game set up Pat Chaffey's 17-yard run with 1:30 remaining, sealing the OSU victory.

"We obviously didn't execute as well as we'd liked to on offense," said Oregon coach Rich Brooks. "We turned the ball over in a couple of key situations when we had the ball down deep in their territory when we had a chance to score. Oregon State deserved to win the game."

A hard statement to make from a man who has never been on the losing end of a Civil War contest, neither as a player at Oregon State nor as a coach at

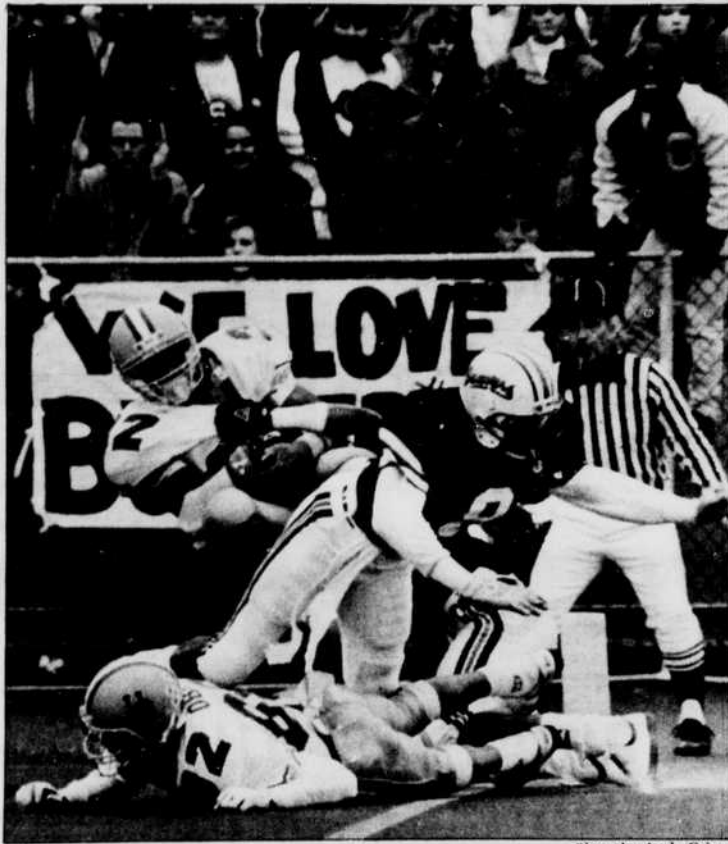


Photo by Andy Cripe

Oregon tailback Derek Loville dives into the end zone for the touchdown that put the Ducks up 10-7 late in the second quarter.

Oregon, Brooks' combined Civil War record is now 18-1-2.

Chaffey ran for 109 yards on 24 attempts to pick up the slack

for a Beaver offense in which Erik Wilhelm, now the all-time Pac-10 passing leader in yard-

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