California

"I told him not to look back," said Oregon head coach Rich Brooks. "When you're out in front you don't look back if there's a guy chasing you. I think he might have been able to reach the end zone."

There was a bright spot. The fumble occurred right in front of the student section, and they didn't like the call. The section responded to the officials with a shower of insults and trash, which ignited the stadium and the Duck defense.

"Defensively, the turning point for us was after Latin Berry's fumble," Brooks said. "The crowd got fired up. The defense got fired up."

Cal gained only 13 yards on the next possession and was forced to punt the ball away.

Meanwhile, Cal's defense was falling apart. The Bears were penalized 15 yards for spearing tailback Derek Loville. A later face mask call cost Cal five yards, and a pass interference charge cost 14 more.

This set up an 18-yard pass to Joe Reitzug, who made a spectacular catch in the back of the end zone for the touchdown. With the extra point, the score 25-13 Oregon. Another McCallum field goal from the seven yard line in the 4th quarter made it 28-13.

Cal made the game interesting with 6:04 remaining in the game with a one-yard TD pass to Greg Zomalt. But a much needed two-point try was incomplete, and the score was 28-19. Oldham recovered a fumbled Cal punt return, and Loville put the final nails in Cal's coffin with a 3-yard TD run with 25 seconds left.

Several factors in the game negated Taylor's impressive performance. The Bears were called for penalties 10 times for a total loss of 84 yards; 34 of those came at key moments during an otherwise lackluster Oregon drive that ultimately resulted in a Duck touchdown.

Although Taylor avoided Oregon's pass rush well, Cal's offensive line allowed him to be
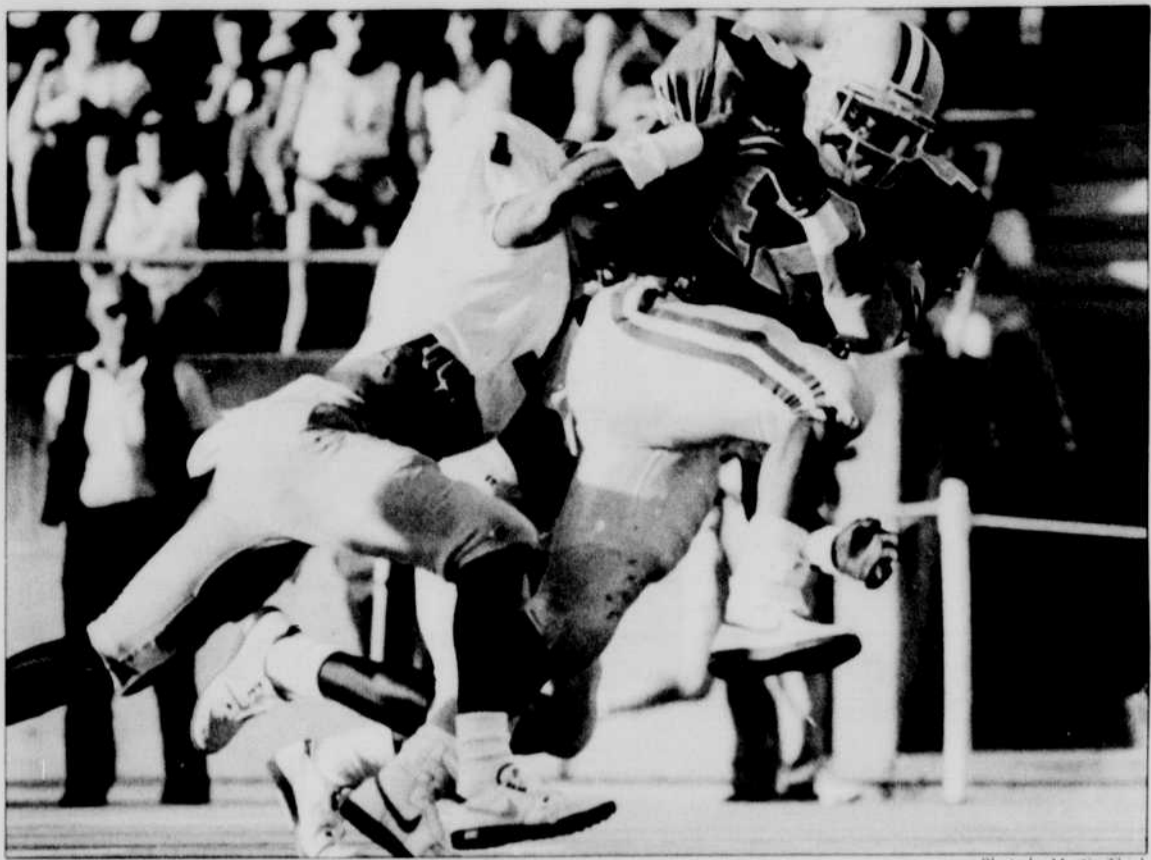
Photo by Martin Thiel

Fullback Latin Berry eludes another would-be tackler while scampering for 151 yards rushing (a career best) and 81 yards receiving in Oregon's 35-19 triumph over California.