

Oldham nets second team all-American honors from AP

By Ashley Conklin
Emerald Sports Reporter

Oregon football player Chris Oldham has added another award to his long list of post-season honors.

The senior defensive back from Sacramento, Calif., was named second team all-American by the Associated Press on Tuesday. It was the first time an Oregon player has been named all-American by the Associated Press since Lew Barnes was named first team all-American in 1985.

Oldham was the only Duck on either of the three teams, but a host of other Pacific-10 players were named to the all-American teams.

Southern Cal placed the two players on the first team with defensive back Mark Carrier and defensive lineman Tim Ryan winning the honors. The other first team all-American from the Pac-10 was placekicker Jason Hanson of Washington State.

The only other Pac-10 players on the second team were linebacker Junior Seau of USC and center Bret Brostek of Washington. UCLA punter Kirk Maggio was the only conference player named third team all-American.

The AP award was the third all-American team that Oldham has been named to this season. Oldham was named first team all-American by the Football Writers Association of America

and second team all-American by *Football News*.

Oldham has 13 career interceptions heading into the Dec. 16 Independence Bowl game with Tulsa. He is also the school record holder in kickoff return average for a career, averaging 28.7 yards per kick return.

A two-time all-Pac-10 first team selection, Oldham was a first team all-conference return specialist this season after being a second team return specialist last year.

Oldham has had a big hand in the improvement of the Oregon defense the last two seasons as the Ducks have went from being one of the worst defensive teams in the conference to being one of the best.

Individually, Oldham is second in the conference and 19th

in the nation with six interceptions. He is also first in the Pac-10 and fourth nationally in kickoff returns, averaging 28.7 yards a return.

This season Oregon was second in the conference in total defense, allowing 336.9 yards per game and led the Pac-10 in kickoff return average and was third in the nation, at 25.1 yards per return.

Quarterback Andre Ware of Houston, who won the Heisman Trophy last weekend, was named to the all-American first team, as was Indiana running back Anthony Thompson, who finished second in the Heisman Trophy race.

Notre Dame led the way with three first team selections while USC, Colorado, Florida State, Michigan State and Houston all had two first team selections.



File photo

Oregon defensive back Chris Oldham joined several other Pac-10 players by being named second team all-American by the Associated Press Tuesday.



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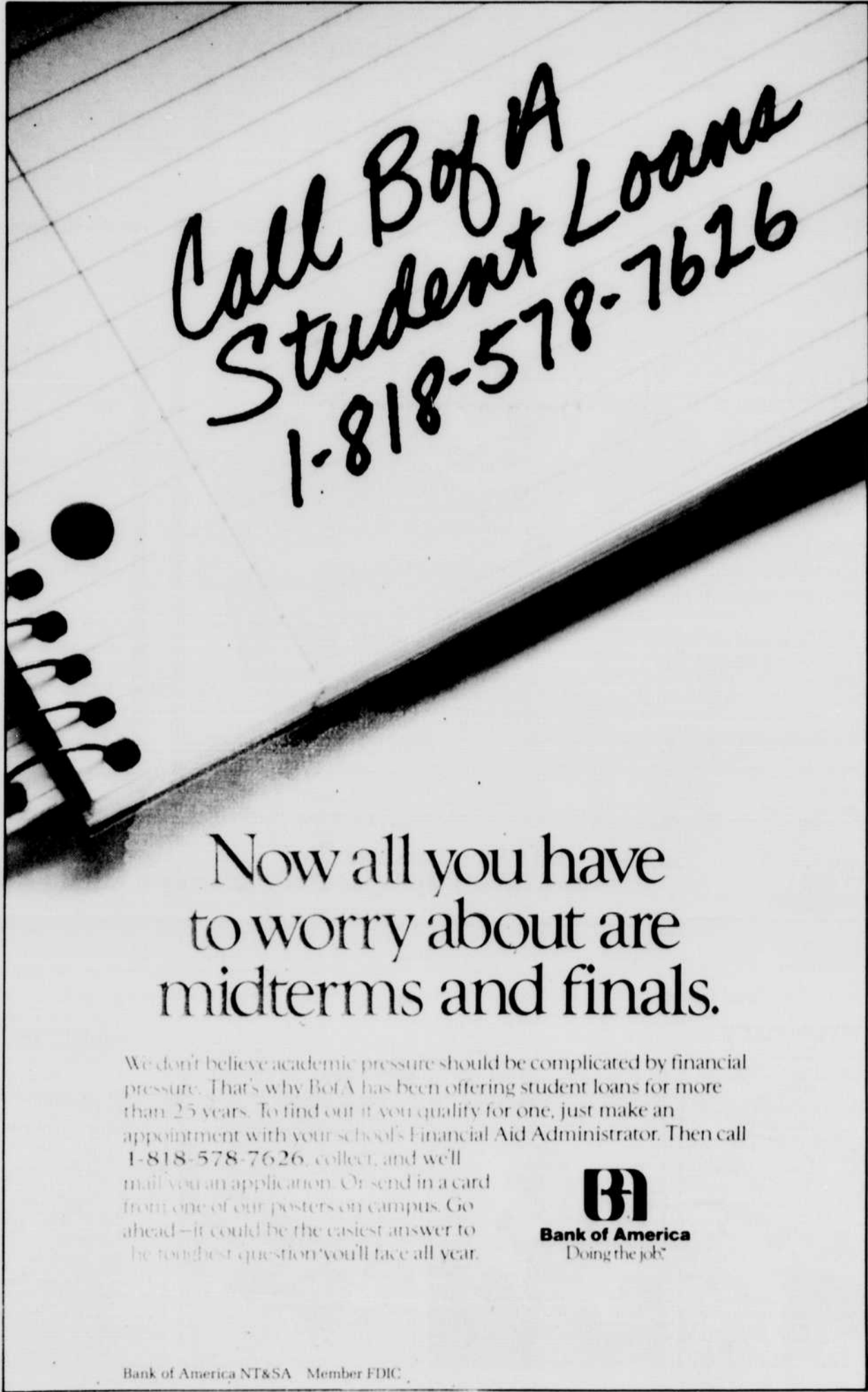
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