◄GAME PREVIEW ►



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Brigham Young might look like a national championship contender, but to win it, they have to get by Oregon first. The Ducks (2-1) and the

fourth-ranked Cougars (4-0) meet Saturday at 12:38 p.m. before a split national television audience and BYU Coach Lavell Edwards is more than a little concerned to be going against unranked Oregon in sold out Autzen Stadium.

By Ashley Conklin

merald Sports Editor

"Prior to the season I felt that probably our two toughest games would be Oregon and Miami," Edwards said. "I singled Oregon out early as one of the tougher ones just based on how our game went last year."

Last year, the Ducks led 33-14 in the third quarter only to see BYU score 24 unanswered points to go ahead 38-33. Oregon scored to lead again at 41-38, but Ty Detmer led a last-minute drive that gave the Cougars a 45-41 win.

It's that big lead and the Ducks' physical nature of play that concerns Edwards again this year.

"It doesn't take long to look back and look at that film and look at how they banged us

OFFENSE

around pretty good f that game," he said.

While Oregon plays in the more physical Pacific-10 Conference and BYU is a member of the pass-happy Western Athletic Conference, Oregon Coach Rich Brooks believes the Cougars can duke it out with anyone they play.

"I don't think we'll make a living running against BYU, he said. "They're a very physical football team and very active and they run a lot of stunts up front now.

'They're not as soft on defense as they were a year ago," Brooks said. "I think they have really made a major stride on the defensive side of the ball."

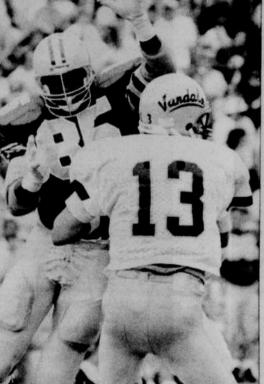
What the sellout crowd at Autzen Stadium is expecting to see Saturday is another offensive shootout with Detmer and Oregon quarterback Bill Musgrave leading the way.

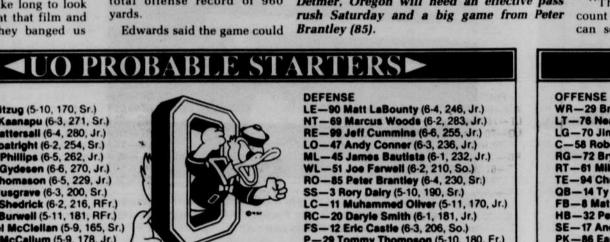
In last season's game at Provo, Utah, Musgrave threw for 489 yards and Detmer 470, combining to set an NCAA single-game record of 959 yards for two quarterbacks. Musgrave and Detmer also set an NCAA total offense record of 960 yards.

Edwards said the game could Brantley (85).



To stop Brigham Young quarterback Ty Detmer, Oregon will need an effective pass





P-29 Tommy Thompson (5-10, 180, Fr.



Ducks to meet BYU before sellout crowd

the offensive shootout everyone is expecting, but could also be just the opposite.

"It certainly has that potential," he said, "because from at least our standpoint, we've had a difficult time the last couple of weeks with passing teams.

"It has all the earmarks of being that kind of a game." Edwards added. "and then the next thing you know it turns into a defensive struggle."

Brooks would like to see a efensive struggle for the second straight week after seeing his team push Arizona all over the field last week, but losing 22-17 when the Ducks couldn't push it over from the one-yard line on three straight plays in the game's final minute.

"I think I'd rather play a team like Arizona than a team like BYU," he said. "I think we match-up a little better with somebody who wants to bloody our nose and just run the ball at us than we do when they pread us out all over the field like BYU does."

"The one thing you can count on from BYU is that they can score on you from any-

where in any amount of time. Brooks said. "They're going to

get yards and they're going to score points. You just can't give it to them easily or quick-

Last year's loss and the way Detmer picked apart a seniorladen secondary still weighs heavily on Brooks' mind, and it won't get any easier with only one secondary starter, sophomore free safety Eric Castle. seeing significant playing time in last year's game.

But as impressed with BYU as Brooks is, he made it clear that he wasn't frightened of the Cougars and doesn't expect his team to lie down and die come game time.

"I don't think there's a game we're going to play that we don't have the opportunity to win," he said. "If we do play well and don't make mistakes like we did at Arizona - turn the ball over five times -1think we have the opportunity to win the football game.

"I mean I'm not in awe of BYU," Brooks said. "I'm not afraid of them and our team isn't. We feel we can play with

To stay with the Cougars. Oregon will need a strong day from Musgrave who needs just 152 yards to eclipse Chris Miller's career record mark for passing yards and needs 418 yards of total offense to break Miller's school record in that category.

After completing 31 of 46 passes for 443 vards and three touchdowns in a 42-21 seasonopening win over San Diego State, Musgrave has struggled the last two weeks and threw four interceptions against Arizona

However, Brooks expects Musgrave to return to form Saturday and expects this game to be a showcase of the top two quarterbacks in the nation.

"I think Bill Musgrave is a great quarterback," he said. "I think, in my opinion, he's better than (San Diego State's Dan) McGwire or (Miami's Craig) Erickson. I think Detmer and Musgrave are the premiere quarterbacks in the country.

"This should be another great match-up between two outstanding quarterbacks."

◄BYU PROBABLE STARTERS►

emu

OFFENSE WR-29 Brent Nyberg (6-2, 195, Sr.) LT-76 Neal Fort (6-5, 295, Sr.) LG-70 Jim Balmforth (6-4, 280, Sr.) C-58 Robert Stephens (6-3, 275, Sr.) RG-72 Bryan May (6-6, 285, Jr.) RT-61 Mike Kiem (6-8, 285, Sr.) TE-94 Chris Smith (6-5, 240, Sr.) OB-14 Ty Detmer (6-0, 175, Jr.) FB-8 Matt Bellini (6-0, 200, Jr.) HB-32 Peter Tuipulotu (5-11, 210, Jr.) SE-17 Andy Boyce (6-0, 185, Sr.) PK-66 Earl Kauffman (6-0, 190, Jr.)

Ramoli







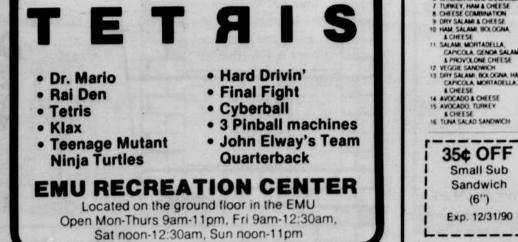
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