

SPORTS

Oregon faces Huskies Saturday

By Ashley Conklin
Emerald Sports Editor

In the last 50 years, Oregon has beaten Washington only six times in Seattle and the last time the Ducks beat the Huskies in Husky Stadium was 1980.

Given those odds, it would seem that Washington has a huge advantage going into Saturday's Pacific-10 Conference game.

"Those aren't very good odds," Oregon Coach Rich Brooks said. "Maybe we

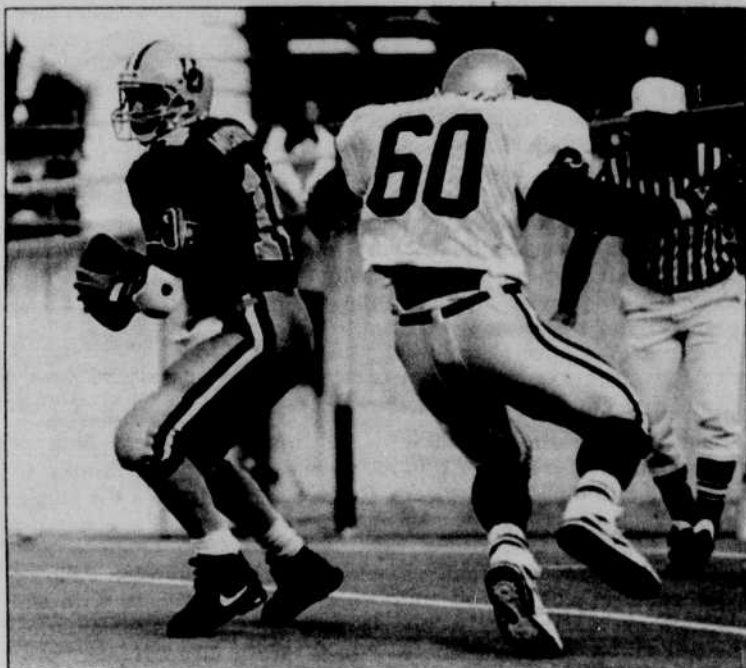


Photo by Andre Kanieri

Oregon quarterback Bill Musgrave will lead the 19th-ranked Ducks against 17th-ranked Washington Saturday in a key Pacific-10 Conference game.

Pac-10 Football

Team	Conf W-L-T	Overall W-L-T
Washington	2-0-0	4-1-0
Arizona	2-1-0	4-1-0
UCLA	2-1-0	2-3-0
California	1-1-0	3-2-0
USC	1-1-0	4-1-0
Stanford	1-1-0	2-3-0
Washington St.	1-2-0	2-4-0
Arizona St.	0-1-0	2-2-0
Oregon	0-1-0	4-1-0
Oregon St.	0-1-0	0-5-0

should stay home. It's a tough place to win and Washington certainly has the decided advantage in the series totally, regardless of whether it's been up there, or here, or in Portland, or wherever it's been played."

Husky Stadium is expected to be filled to the 72,500-seat capacity by game time and Washington Coach Don James said in a rivalry of the Oregon-Washington nature, the home field advantage is a distinct one.

"When you enter into a rivalry like this, the crowd always plays a major role," he said. "The noise level and the 12th-man factor is a big advantage. When you play a game against a non-rival it's different."

Last year, the Ducks had as good a chance as ever to win in Husky Stadium, but four Bill Musgrave interceptions and three fumbles did them in as Oregon lost 20-14.

The Ducks had a chance to win in the end, but fumbled away their final chance on the

Husky 40-yard line with 1:38 remaining in the game.

It was a battle of defense on both sides of the ball and Brooks knows that given the strength of Washington's defense this time around, Oregon cannot turn the ball over and expect to win.

"Seven turnovers is an inordinate amount of turnovers in a game and if we're going to be that free with the football then we don't have much of a chance to win the football game," Brooks said.

Last year's game was one of the worst in Musgrave's career. He did complete 21 of 40 passes for 250 yards, but the four interceptions were too much to overcome.

"(In) last year's game the interceptions hurt our defense because they played a great game," Musgrave said. "I need to play a little bit better this time and make amends for last year."

James has seen enough of Musgrave to know what he can do though. Three years ago

Musgrave completed 17 of 23 passes for 282 yards, including an 83-yard scoring strike that helped Oregon beat the Huskies 29-22.

Musgrave and the Ducks did it again the following year, 17-14, on a last-minute touchdown by Terry Obee.

"We have lots of respect for Oregon and it all starts with their operations at quarterback," James said. "We're very impressed with Musgrave and have a lot of respect for what he can do."

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