## WOODS Continued from Page 2

After moving from Texas to Corvallis, Woods saw plenty of Oregon State games but decided to come to Oregon because he wanted to play for a team on the rise in the Pac-10. Woods said he never really considered going to a college far from home because of his mother, Bertha.

"She only got to see four of my brother's games after we moved from Texas and one of those was the national championship game," Woods said. "My mom is the biggest sports fan and goes to all of our

"It really kills her to miss one of our games and if we went some place else and she couldn't see us play, she would just die," he said.

Woods made an immediate impact when he arrived at Oregon two years ago, being the only true freshman to play on defense.

He had two quarterback sacks while backing up David Cusano at nose tackle and last year continued to excel in a back-up role, spelling Cusano at times and also playing in Oregon's four-man line on passing situations

Woods admitted he didn't expect to have such an impact as a true freshman but once he started playing, lack of experience was not a factor.

"I was surprised at first," he said. "The only thing was that I needed to learn and respond to what I saw out there. Once I played, I picked up things pretty fast because I'm a fast learn-



**Marcus Woods** 

Last season, Woods continued to play well in limited situations with three quarterback sacks and five tackles for lost yardage despite missing the first two games with a knee in-

Oregon Coach Rich Brooks knew what Woods could do. but was, a little concerned about Woods' ability to stay healthy when playing all of the time.

"I thought Marcus would be a very good player but my fear was that Marcus would miss some time with nagging injuries which he has," Brooks

Woods has been banged up quite a bit this season with ankle problems and other injuries including missing most of the Washington game with a bad

In that game, Woods missed most of the second quarter and the entire second half. When he left the game. Oregon and the Huskies were tied 7-7 and the

Ducks were down only 14-10 at halftime.

But without Woods, Washington was able to use its size to wear Oregon down and run all over the Ducks for a 38-17 win as Woods watched the game from the sidelines

'That was the worst feeling," Woods said. "I just felt so helpless."

Woods came back strong last week and started, despite the ankle sprain. He had one of his best games of the season with two sacks and applied constant pressure to Arizona State quarterback Bret Powers.

When Woods is healthy. there are few nose tackles around that are any better. His 10 sacks already rank him among Oregon's top 10 list since sacks officially started being kept at Oregon in 1980.

Not only does Woods have great size at 6-foot-2, 283 pounds, he has tremendous quickness that allows him to shed blockers and get to the quarterback in a hurry

In fact, Woods is probably the quickest defensive lineman Brooks has coached in 14 years at Oregon.

"He's as quick probably and he's quicker than he is fast,' Brooks said. "He has good size and the most important thing is he has great instinctive reaction skills. He can read the blocking schemes and come off of blocks better than most of the linemen we've had in the past."

That's a frightening thought for quarterbacks throughout the Pac-10 who don't care to thank Michael Woods for introducing Marcus to football



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## Continued from Page 7

thrown for 1,688 yards and sev-

en touchdowns. Halfback Glyn Milburn, a transfer from Oklahoma, is second in the nation in all-purpose yards with 208.1 yards per game, and split end Ed McCaffrey is fourth in the country in receiving.

Throw in bruising fullback Tommy Vardell, who has scored 12 touchdowns, and the Stanford offense is a downright nightmare for opposing de-

"I think Jason has done a tre-mendous job," Brooks said. "Anybody who completes 68 percent of their passes and has as few interceptions (six) is having a tremendous year.

"Milburn presents problems that not very many people can present to you because of his unique athletic ability." he said. "He is so quick and so fast (and) can change directions so dramatically. You don't face

"Now you couple that with a very powerful running game that Vardell presents to you,' Brooks said, "and you've got a real good combination of Mr. Inside and Mr. Outside.

That Palumbis is back starting for the Cardinal is rather amazing considering the circumstances at Stanford the past two

Two years ago Palumbis started seven games as a redshirt freshman but didn't even take a snap last year as Brian Johnson and Steve Smith split time at quarterback. Palumbis wasn't even third string and was so far down the depth chart that no one could find him.

But in the off-season Palumbis had surgery on his right shoulder, which was the throwing shoulder that had been bothering him since high school. Johnson decided to pursue a baseball career, and the rest, as they say, is history.

"Now he's throwing the ball players like that from week to well, making good decisions and reading defenses." Green

said. "He throws accurately and is capable of leading the team."

Based on the success Stanford has had in the past against the Ducks, Palumbis could very well lead his team to a win Sat-

Game Notes:Oregon will likely be without starting flanker Michael McClellan who reinjured a knee against Arizona State. Sophomore Anthony Jones will take his place in the starting line-up. Offensive guard Jon Tattersall and reserve linebacker/special teamer David Massey should both play this week after sitting out the Arizona State game

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