

◀ GAME PREVIEW ▶



Photo by Jake Berg

Oregon's running game was grounded (above) by the Huskies last week but may be relied upon to carry the Duck offense Saturday with the quarterback situation. Stanford fullback "Touchdown" Tommy Vardell (right) leads the conference and is third nationally in scoring with 11.1 points a game.

**STANFORD**

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ing efficiency and ranks seventh in total offense.

"He gets the team into the end zone," Stanford coach Dennis Green said. "That's the big thing."

Stanford has no shortage of offensive threats. The Cardinal starting backfield of halfback Glyn Milburn and fullback Tommy Vardell could be the best in the conference.

Despite being hampered by an injury for much of the season, Milburn is second in the league in all-purpose running, averaging 151.6 total yards per game. The junior tore up the Beavers last week for 316 total yards during the

Cardinal's 40-10 home romp.

Vardell is the team's rushing leader and is first in the conference and third nationally in scoring with 11.1 points a game. The senior's school-record 30 rushing touchdowns earned him the nickname "Touchdown" Tommy.

"It's going to be hard," Duck nose tackle Silila Malepeai said. "Vardell will run over you, and Milburn is elusive."

Something else the Oregon defensive line has to look forward to Saturday is the Cardinal's mammoth offensive line. Stanford averages 300 pounds on its line, its smallest man weighing in at a mere 290 pounds.

"The line's big and physical, but the line was big last year," Oregon linebacker Joe Farwell said.

And last year Oregon blanked the Cardinal 31-0 at Autzen Stadium in a highlight film of a game for the Ducks. The game was a gem for Oregon's defense, who didn't allow the Cardinal offense past the Ducks' 34-yard line in the game.

**GAME NOTES** — Stanford is a 6-point favorite over the Ducks ... Oregon is an underdog at Autzen Stadium for the first time since meeting and beating Brigham Young at Autzen last season ... The last time the Cardinal won at Autzen was a 41-7 win in 1986 ... That season was also the last time Stanford posted a winning record in a season, going 8-4 on the year and visiting the Gator Bowl in the postseason ... "There's no love lost between us and Stanford this or any year," said Joe Farwell.



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Chris Bouneff,  
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Dave Charbonneau,  
Jayson Jacoby

Photographers:  
Jake Berg, Andre Ranieri

Advertising Sales:  
Emerald Advertising Staff

Production:  
Sarah Clark, Susan Head,  
Jennifer Smith

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