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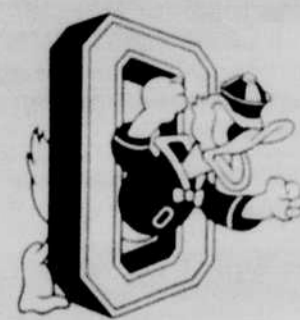
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Oregon Starters

OFFENSE

- SE - 8 Derrick Deadwiler
- QT - 75 David Collinsworth
- QG - 64 Jon Tattersall
- C - 57 Tom Curran
- SG - 65 Mike DiFonzo
- ST - 77 Steve Hardin
- TE - 88 Vince Ferry
- QB - 16 Danny O'Neil
- TB - 21 Sean Burwell
- FB - 24 Juan Shedrick
- FL - 18 Anthony Jones

DEFENSE

- LE - 54 Gary Williams
- NG - 97 Romeo Bandison
- RE - 99 Jeff Cummins
- LO - 49 Terrell Edwards
- ML - 39 David Massey
- IL - 51 Joe Farwell
- RO - 40 Ernest Jones
- SS - 7 Chad Cota
- LC - 1 Alex Molden
- RC - 4 Herman O'Berry
- FS - 12 Eric Castle
- P - 3 Tommy Thompson

Graphic by Heather Zilbauer

Ducks face challenge of national proportions

By Dave Charbonneau
Emerald Sports Editor

Saying Saturday's game with Washington is a big game for Oregon is like saying there's going to be a protest on campus today.

It's just plain obvious. The Huskies are returning to Autzen Stadium for the first time in four years and are ranked No. 1 in the country by the Associated Press. The Ducks are coming off a 32-10 embarrassment at the hands of USC last week, are 1-2 in the Pacific-10 Conference and fighting to stay alive in the Pac-10 race.

But the question for the Ducks is, what exactly are they racing for? A Rose Bowl bid is just not an option at this point, so is it a race to go undefeated the rest of the season? Very doubtful. Is it a race to finish in the top half of the Pac-10? That's reasonable. Is it a race to get a bowl bid? Perhaps.

But none of those options will be easily attainable — barring a miracle — without a victory over Washington on Saturday.

In two of Oregon's three losses this year, it basically gave the games away with costly turnovers.

Last week, the Ducks highly-touted special teams were directly responsible for USC's first 26 points.

Those three losses have the Ducks facing the most unenviable task in the country this week: Beat Washington — your season depends on it.

Oregon has a two-game winning streak against the Huskies at home, winning in both 1987 and 1988. Don James, Washington's 17-year head coach, knows what its like to play the Ducks at Autzen.

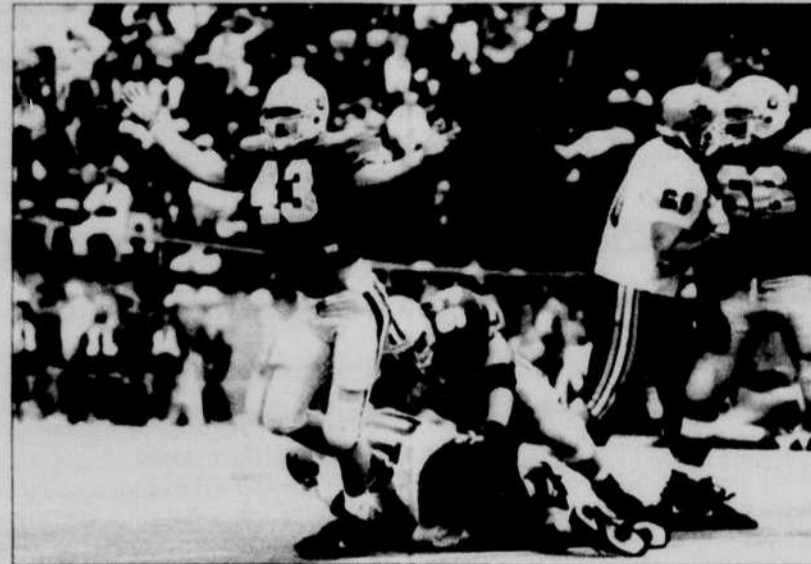


Photo by Jeff Paslay

Because Oregon held USC to 226 yards of total offense last week, Washington coach Don James said the Duck defense "looks ... better than ours."

"Oregon's tough to play," he said. "We've had a lot of close games against them at both stadiums, and we've lost a lot of them. The games are really hard-fought. I think Rich Brooks is one of the best coaches in the country."

The Huskies have been able to maintain an 19-game winning streak over two seasons by defeating the likes of Nebraska, USC and California this season. Because of those nationally ranked challenges, the Huskies are currently ranked dead last in the rushing defense department among Pac-10 teams.

That won't matter for Oregon if it continues to bobble the ball on Saturday.

"I think (the stats) are very misleading," Oregon head coach Rich

California and ran for 208 yards. He has gained 495 yards so far this season and could be the best back in the Pac-10.

"The key to containing Kaufman probably lies in playing 12 or 13 guys on defense," Brooks said. "We don't have anyone that is as fast as him on defense, so the important thing is not to give him a lot of running room."

The other offensive weapon in the Husky arsenal comes in the form of two quarterbacks, Mark Brunell and Billy Joe Hobert.

Brunell will start on Saturday for the first time this season. Hobert and Brunell have split time at quarterback all season, with the second-stringer coming in during the second quarter.

The quarterbacks don't seem to be fond of the system, but Washington head coach Don James has proven it can work and has no plans of changing his system on Saturday.

"We've done what we've said we'd do," James said. "The backup plays in the second quarter and we reevaluate at halftime as to who's going to start the second half."

Brooks doesn't expect James to change his system either.

"James is going to play them both," he said. "You have to defend their system, not just their quarterback."

Brunell is excited to return to the role he played two years ago, when he led the Huskies to the Rose Bowl.

"It's difficult for Billy and I sharing time," Brunell said. "There's pressure to get things going right off the bat. Billy's felt that pressure, now it's my turn. Two years ago I was the starter, and I think I'm a better quarterback now."

Turn to HUSKIES, Page 8B



Washington Starters

OFFENSE

- SE - 6 Damon Mack
- LT - 76 DeMario Vaughn
- WG - 60 Andrew Peterson
- C - 52 Jim Nevelle
- SG - 65 Frank Garcia
- ST - 71 Pete Pierson
- TE - 85 Mark Bruener
- QB - 11 Mark Brunell
- TB - 8 Napoleon Kaufman
- FB - 31 Darius Turner
- FL - 9 Joe Kralik
- PK - 4 Travis Hanson

DEFENSE

- DE - 47 Jamal Fontaine
- DT - 75 D'Marco Farr
- NT - 74 Mike Lustyk
- OL - 13 Andy Mason
- IL - 54 Dave Hoffmann
- IL - 53 James Clifford
- OL - 3 Jaime Fields
- RO - 20 Tommie Smith
- CB - 23 Walter Bailey
- CB - 7 Josh Moore
- FS - 21 Shane Pahukoa
- P - 16 John Werdel

Graphic by Heather Zilbauer

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