

# Ducks play same ol' song; UW dances to win

□ Washington turns Oregon fumbles and mistakes into 24-3 victory at Autzen Stadium Saturday

By Dave Charbonneau  
Emerald Sports Editor

Remember the Hawaii game when the Ducks fumbled on the go-ahead drive in the fourth quarter?

Or how about the Stanford game when the Cardinal intercepted a potential game-tying pass in the end zone?

Or think back to two weekends ago when Oregon's turnovers and terrible special teams play accounted for the Trojans' first 26 points.

Well, the Ducks have done it again.

Saturday, Oregon had four turnovers and a blocked punt that resulted in the Ducks' fourth loss of the season, 24-3 against No. 1-ranked Washington at Autzen Stadium.

"We wouldn't have had the same success without the turnovers and the big blocked punt," Washington head coach Don James said.

A record crowd of 47,612 watched Oregon play the same song and dance it has all season. Of Washington's 24 points, 17 of those came from the Ducks' mistakes.

The Ducks were not outplayed by the Huskies; they were out big-played.

"The obvious difference in this game is that great teams make great plays when they need them," Oregon head coach Rich Brooks said. "They made the plays, and we didn't. That's why they're No. 1 in the nation."

Oregon had the ball in Washington territory six times, but instead of making a "big play" to get into the end zone, the Ducks usually made a big play for the Huskies.

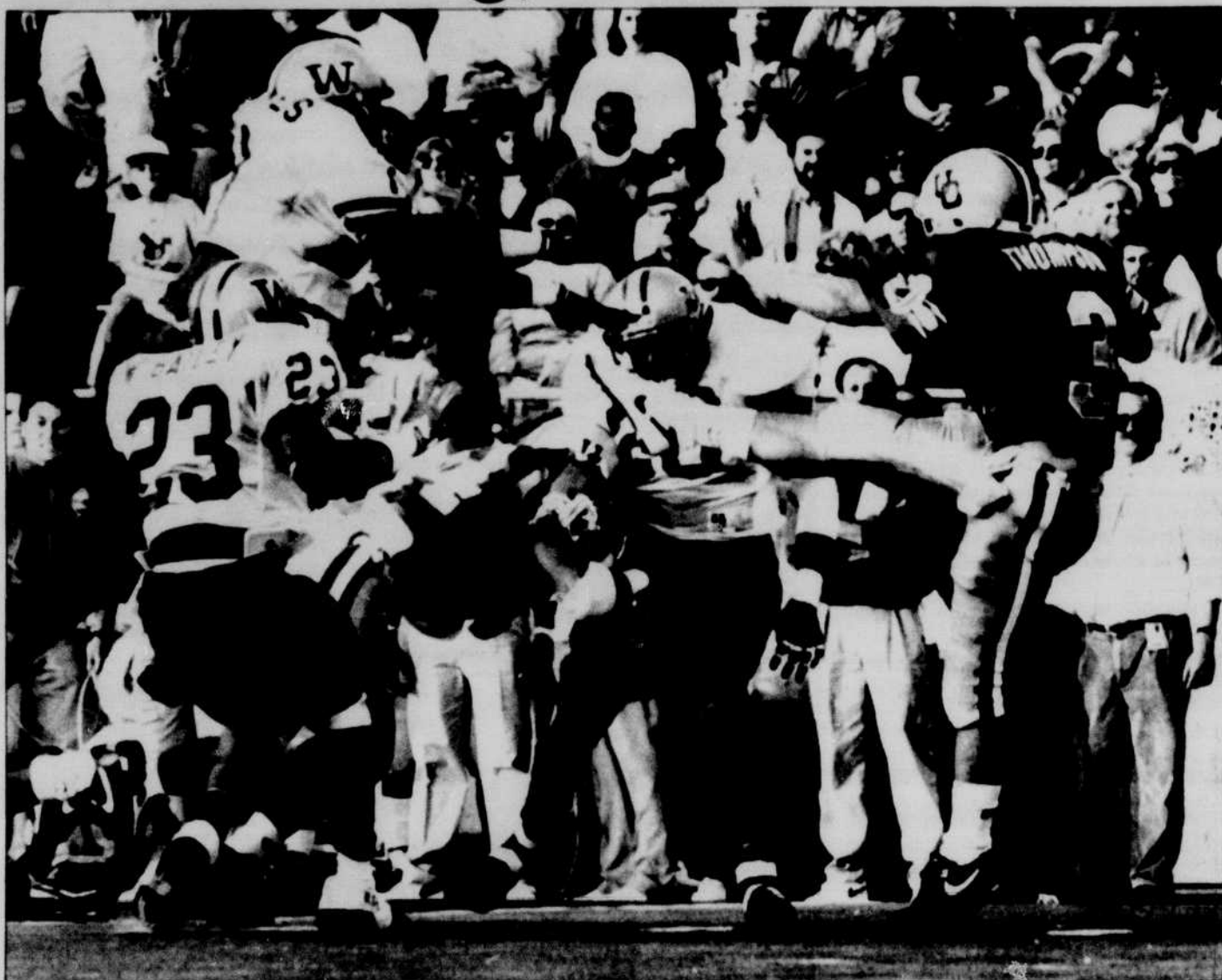
The first failed drive had the Ducks at Washington's 35-yard line. Instead of testing Thompson's leg for a field goal, Brooks opted to punt. On the ensuing drive, the Huskies went 87 yards for the first score of the game, taking a 7-0 lead on a 14-yard run by quarterback Mark Brunell early in the second quarter.

After a 40-yard run by Oregon running back Ricky Whittle in the second quarter, the Ducks were in Husky territory again. But the drive stalled and Thompson missed a 51-yard field goal.

As the first half was coming to an end, it looked as if the Ducks would go into the locker room with a miniscule 7-0 deficit. With two minutes left in the half, Thompson lined up to punt from his own 20, but the Huskies broke through a sorry Oregon line and blocked the punt.

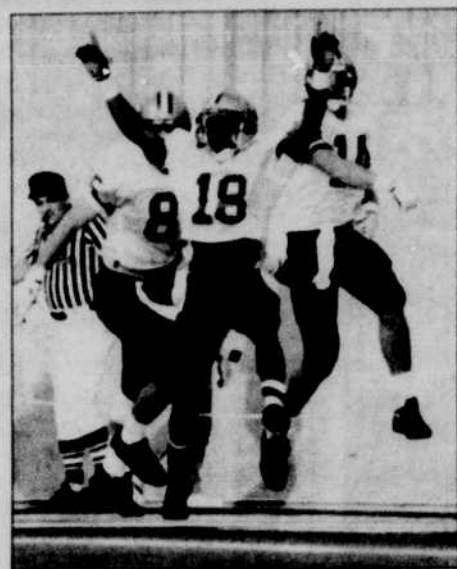
It took Washington only two plays to go up 14-0 when Brunell rolled left, avoided a sack and lofted a pass 31 yards to Jason Shelley.

But the Huskies didn't stop there. Washington ended the first half with a 38-yard field goal by Travis Hanson and



This blocked punt in the second quarter was the beginning of a 10-point onslaught by the Huskies to end the first half. Washington went on to win the game 24-3.

## Oregon not too impressed with No. 1



The Huskies left Eugene thinking they're No. 1, but are they?

□ Duck players question Washington's "top-ranked" play in loss Saturday

By Erick Studenicka  
Emerald Sports Reporter

Although the Washington Huskies will surely retain their No. 1 national ranking after defeating Oregon 24-3 Saturday afternoon, the game left some Oregon players questioning whether or not they had actually played the best team in the country.

"Well, I've never played a number one team before, so I have nothing to compare against," said Ricky Whittle, the redshirt freshman who had just run for 80 yards against the Huskies, "but I can tell you, I was expecting to take some big hits today. But I never got hit really hard. It was just like any other game; the holes were still there."

Duck linebacker Joe Farwell, who finished the game with 12 tackles, was left unimpressed with Washington.

"We definitely showed we can play with them," Farwell said. "They're certainly not unbeatable. If there was an unbeatable team, it might have been last year's (Washington) team, but I'll be surprised if someone doesn't beat them this year."

Farwell said the game had been an "if, and, but, would, should game."

"For instance, 'if we hadn't given up the blocked punt 'and' not have allowed the field goal, we 'would' have been close," Farwell said.

"The blocked punt was really a killer; it changed the entire momentum of the game. We had the chances and opportunities; we just couldn't get in the end zone," he said.

The Huskies did not dominate the Ducks statistically. Oregon quarterback Danny O'Neil threw for more yardage

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## Small crowd watches Ducks win

□ Oregon's volleyball team plays one of its best matches of the year

By Erick Studenicka  
Emerald Sports Reporter

The 167 hardy Oregon fans who chose to watch the volleyball match rather than tailgate before the Washington football game were rewarded Saturday.

They saw the Ducks pick up their second Pacific-10 Conference win of the year with a 15-12, 15-9, 5-15, 15-11 win over Arizona.

Stephanie Warren, the Ducks' sophomore middle blocker, had her best offensive match of the year, registering 22 kills. Although the mark fell far short of Sue Harbour's school record of 41, the 22 kills were

the most by an Oregon player this year.

Oregon started out the match by playing its best volleyball of the season, racing out to a 9-0 lead and forcing Arizona to call two quick timeouts in order to regroup. Anne Conway was especially sharp, scoring on two attacks and a solo block.

The Wildcats, who were coming off a win at Oregon State Friday night, would pull to within 14-12, but LaReina Woods and Angee Henderson combined on a block to secure the final point for Oregon. Henderson, who would finish the afternoon with three kills and three digs, proved to be a solid contributor coming off the bench.

It was more of the same in game two, with the

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Oregon's volleyball team won its second Pac-10 match of the season Saturday, defeating Arizona at McArthur Court.