

SATURDAY

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led 17-0.

"That blocked punt really killed us," Oregon linebacker Joe Farwell said. "It changed the momentum of the entire game."

The momentum may have been in Washington's favor, but the Huskies lost the momentum in the second half as Oregon drove down to the Husky 10-yard line in the third quarter.

But the "Oregon Jinx" prevailed.

O'Neil threw a bad pass in the end zone that was picked off by Husky cornerback Josh Moore.

"It's been our theme all year," O'Neil said. "We get the ball down there, and then we're unable to put points on the board."

It's true the margin of victory in Saturday's game will likely be enough to keep the Huskies at No. 1, at least in the Associated Press poll. But the statistics for the game suggest that maybe the coach's poll is more accurate: Washington is not the best team in the country.

Washington running back Napoleon Kaufman, who ran for 208 yards against California the week before, gained only 91 yards against the Ducks.



Many Husky fans made the trip south to watch Washington beat the Ducks. They were part of a record crowd of 47,612 at Autzen Stadium Saturday.

Oregon quarterback Danny O'Neil threw for more yards than Washington quarterbacks Mark Brunell and Billy Joe Hobert, 202-177.

The Ducks had the ball for 29 minutes, and the Huskies had it 31 minutes.

Washington had only two

more first downs than Oregon.

It was the Huskies' ability to take advantage of the Ducks' many mistakes that proved the difference in the game.

"They're a team that finds ways to win," Brooks said. "They weren't overwhelming,

and they weren't dominant. But they had 24 and we had three."

High points for the Ducks were the performances of Whittle and Thompson. Whittle ran for 80 yards on 13 carries, and Thompson hit an Autzen Stadium record 56-yard field goal.

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than Washington's highly touted tandem of Mark Brunell and Billy Joe Hobert. The offensive line, feared to serve only as a sieve against the Washington defensive line, performed well, allowing only four sacks.

The Oregon defense was able to contain elusive Washington running back Napoleon Kaufman. Although Kaufman finished with 91 yards and scored a touchdown, he averaged only 3.3 yards per carry. Known as a big-play man, Kaufman had only two runs of more than 10 yards.

Farwell said that the Huskies have risen to the top by playing a methodical brand of football.

"They're robotic, machine-like players," Farwell said. "It's not so much that they're conservative, because they do play an attacking style of defense, but they just avoid mistakes."

Washington will likely remain No. 1, but the Huskies should be thankful that no Oregon player gets a vote in the polls.

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