

Ducks and Huskies trade places

By Steve Mims
Oregon Daily Emerald

There will be an interesting twist when Oregon and Washington renew their Northwest rivalry in Seattle on Saturday. Oregon will have something tangible on the line, and the Huskies won't.

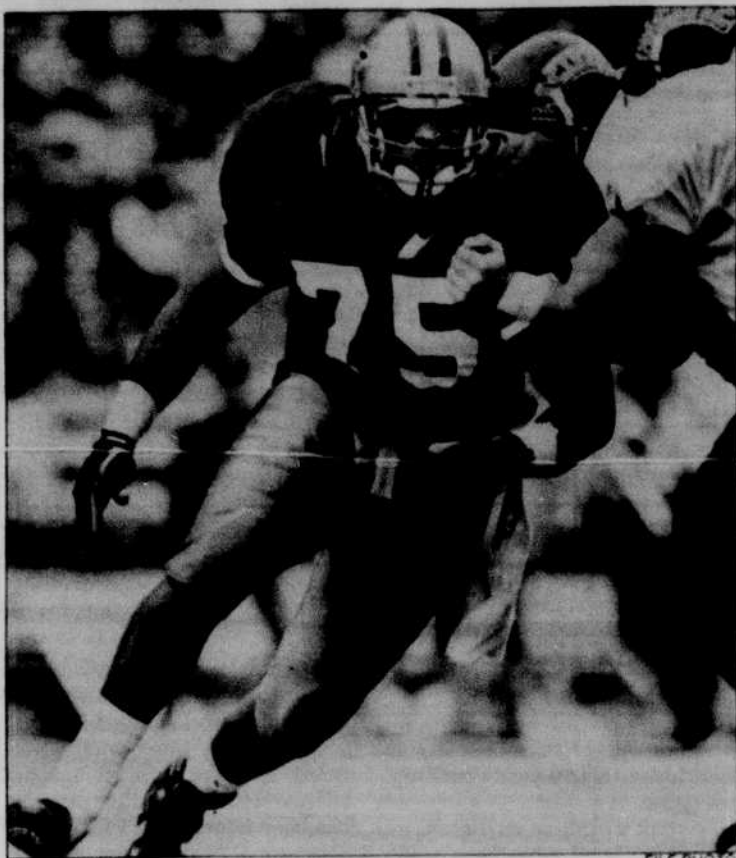
As everyone knows by now, Washington (4-2 overall, 2-1 in the conference) was placed on two-year probation by the Pacific-10 Conference before the season, ending its chance of playing in the Rose Bowl for the fourth consecutive year.

When the Huskies take the field at 12:30 p.m. Saturday, they will be playing to continue their revenge against the schools that placed them on probation.

For the Ducks (4-2, 1-2), the game is important to their post-season bowl hopes, as a loss not only knocks them out of the Rose Bowl race, it forces them to win three of their final four games to be eligible for any bowl game. This is quite a turnaround from past years, when the Ducks were playing for pride and trying to divert the Huskies' bowl plans.

There were plenty of questions about how Washington would respond to the penalties this season, but they all have been answered. There has been little dropoff from the past few Washington teams, which built a national power in the 1980s and have continued their strong play into this decade.

Washington was off to a 4-1 start before blowing a 15-0 first-



Washington defensive tackle D'Marco Farr has been a force for the Huskies this year with four sacks and 10 tackles for losses.

half lead last week at UCLA, where the Huskies lost 39-25. Washington's only other loss was to third-ranked Ohio State in Columbus, Ohio. It's apparent that although the Huskies are now under the guidance of head coach Jim Lambright, they have not lost a step.

"I haven't seen vulnerability

in the Washington program in my 17 years here," Oregon head coach Rich Brooks said. "I think they are a great football team. We need to play a great game to win."

Washington's most potent weapon on offense is junior run-

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Duck volleyball strives to improve

By Scott Simonson
Oregon Daily Emerald

This week, Oregon volleyball head coach Gerry Gregory was talking about getting better, meeting goals and potential. He wasn't talking about winning.

Oregon plays USC and UCLA, two of the nation's top-ranked teams, on the road this weekend. Oregon, 1-8 in the Pacific-10 Conference and 4-13 overall, is confident after two strong showings last weekend, but strong showings probably will be the only things the Ducks achieve against the Trojans and Bruins.

"For a team to continue to improve and to know it's realizing its potential, even a loss can be encouraging," Gregory said. "If we focused on wins and losses right now, we might never win another game. But we focus on setting and meeting intermediate goals."

In two losses last weekend, Oregon met some of Gregory's goals. Gregory praised his team's passing and serving in the two matches.

"It was our most consistent weekend series so far," he said. "I think we've gotten better. Karissa Meith had two very good games. Anna Gomez also did some good things for us. Our defense really came alive."

Gregory called the Southern California schools the "toughest pair of teams that we play. I said that when we played them in September, and it is even more of a challenge when you have to play them on their home turf. We have our work cut out for us."

Oregon plays USC, which is 6-3 in the Pac-10 and ranked fifth in the nation, Friday night. The Ducks play UCLA, undefeated for the year and No. 1 in the country, Saturday night. Each team beat Oregon in three games earlier in the season.

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