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## DUCK FOOTBALL

# Ducks, Cardinal by the numbers

By Scott Simonson  
*Oregon Daily Emerald*

After nine games, most of a team's game plan is no mystery.

The gamut of sports cliches applies: The cards are on the table. It's one thing to know what the opponent is going to do, it's another thing to stop it. It's just a matter of execution. They know each other's strengths and weaknesses. It's a game of adjustments.

It's safe to assume that Rich Brooks, Bill Walsh and their coaching staffs have been adding wrinkles to their offensive, defensive and special teams schemes and devising ways to exploit possible weaknesses in the opponent's game plan.

But if history is any indication, there are some things that fans can expect to see Saturday during the Oregon-Stanford football game at Autzen Stadium. They include:

- Oregon will try to establish

the run but will rely on the pass. The Ducks have run more running plays than pass plays in their top five games in total offense. However, Oregon is averaging only 2.7 yards per rushing attempt this season.

As a team, the Ducks have accumulated more than 100 net yards rushing only twice this season. The ground game has accounted for just one-third of Oregon's first downs and one-quarter of its touchdowns.

• On the other hand, Stanford's defense is an inviting target. The Cardinal is allowing an average of 4.6 yards per carry and 242 yards per game rushing. Cardinal opponents are averaging more than twice as many rushing plays as passing plays per game. Cardinal opponents have gained less than 150 yards rushing only two times this season.

• As Danny O'Neil goes, so do the Ducks. Considering that he's the quarterback, this is hardly news. In Oregon's five victories, O'Neil has averaged more than 300 yards passing and has thrown 14 touchdowns and three interceptions. In the four Oregon losses, O'Neil has averaged less than 300 yards passing and has thrown four touchdown passes and 10 interceptions.

• Cardinal quarterback Steve Stenstrom is equally vital to Stanford's success. This is partly because of Stanford's anemic running game. The Cardinal averages 72 yards per game rushing and hasn't had 150 yards or more rushing in a game all season.

However, the passing game is



FILE PHOTO

Stanford quarterback Steve Stenstrom leads of the Cardinal offense.

typical of what one has come to expect from a team coached by Bill Walsh. It's high percentage: Stanford has a .659 completion percentage for the season. And, it rolls up the yards: Stanford averages close to 330 yards per game passing.

Stenstrom has been held to less than 300 yards passing just twice this season. He's thrown three or

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