

FOOTBALL

OREGON VS WASHINGTON STATE

Ducks seek revenge against the Cougars

■ **PREVIEW:** On Saturday, Oregon looks to improve on its one-touchdown performance last year against Washington State

By Chris Stewart
Sports Reporter

The Oregon football team is looking to avenge its only conference loss from a year ago and improve its Pacific-10 Conference standing when it takes on Washington State this Saturday at 7 p.m. at Autzen Stadium.

The Ducks come into Saturday's contest at 5-1 overall and tied for third with the Cougars and Stanford at 2-1 in the conference. Oregon is coming off an impressive 52-30 victory over California, which earned the Ducks a 12th-place ranking in the nation.

Coach Mike Bellotti said that beating Washington State is important not only to get another victory but to get revenge for Oregon's only Pac-10 blemish a year ago.

"I think it's part of our rallying cry this week that they were our only Pac-10 loss," Bellotti said. "It's time to show them that we were the Pac-10 Champions."

The Ducks put on an offensive clinic through the final three quarters last week, but this week they will face a Cougar defense that should pose a bigger challenge.

"I'm very encouraged and

COMPARING OFFENSES

Season Offensive Statistics:



DENNIS BOLT/Emerald

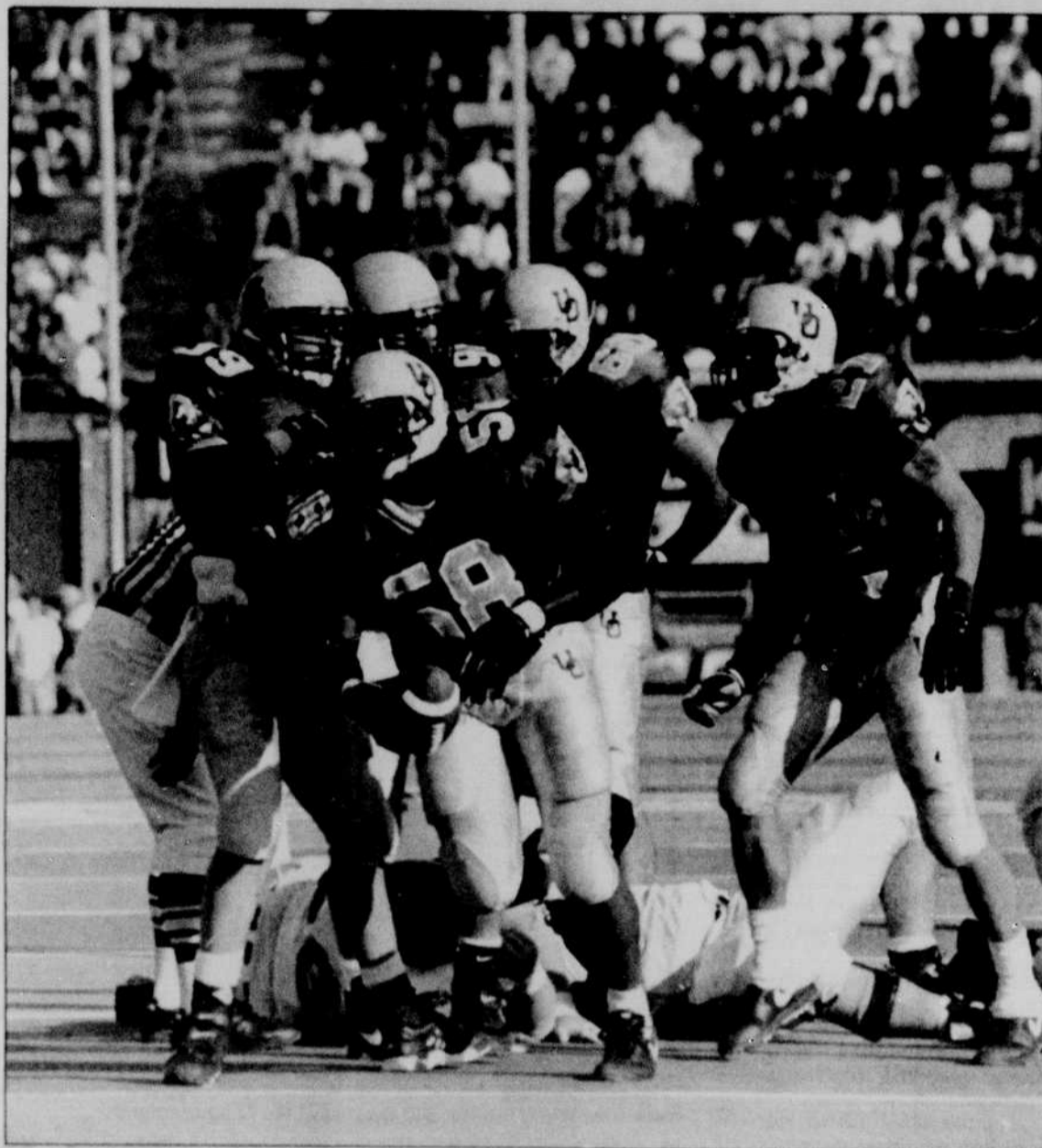
impressed with the offensive production," Bellotti said. "The only thing I'm not impressed with is the turnovers."

Bellotti said that the Ducks' success this week will depend on the turnover margin and how well they can control the line of scrimmage.

"It starts at the line of scrimmage," Bellotti said. "We need to control the line of scrimmage and we have to get our running game going."

Oregon managed only seven points against last year's Cougar team, which had one of the best defenses in the conference. Nine of those 11 starters graduated.

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Junior outside linebacker Derrick Barnes and the rest of the Oregon defense will have to step it up against Washington State's potent passing attack this weekend at Autzen Stadium.

MARK MACTYRE/Emerald

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