



The 1894 Webfoots lost the first ever Civil War to the Oregon Agriculture College, 16-0.

The Emerald takes a look back at three of the most memorable Civil War games

a Tradition to Remember

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Photos courtesy of University Archives-Special Collections & ODE Archives

Oregon State College (OSU) students ride into Eugene to celebrate the Beavers' 14-0 victory in 1937.



The first Civil War game was played in 1905 at Kincaid Field, which is now the site Gilbert Hall.

Beaver football players physically pummeling Oregon fans, a riot between students from Oregon and Oregon State and a game featuring 11 turnovers are all a part of the 102-year history of the Civil War.

While all football fans in the state know that the Civil War is the most hotly contested battle for state bragging rights, many don't know why or how this rivalry became so heated.

But, it was moments like Oregon fans charging the field at Parker Stadium after a 30-3 trouncing of the Beavers in 1972, Oregon State fans parading through the streets of Eugene in 1937 after their 14-0 win and the 1983 "Toilet Bowl" that ended in a 0-0 tie that made this match-up what many consider one of the greatest sporting events in the Northwest.

"The good, the bad and the ugly" has been used to describe the Ducks, the Huskies and the Beavers, in that order. But some people say that the phrase more appropriately describes the history of the Civil War.

The Good 1972

From 1964 to 1971 the Beavers owned the Ducks, winning all eight contests in that span.

But things were drastically different in 1972.

Future NFL Hall-of-Famer Dan Fouts was playing his final game as a Duck and would not go out as a three-time loser in Civil War games. He called the season-ending game the most important of his career.

Oregon running back Don Reynolds ran 60 yards on the Ducks' first play from scrimmage, and Oregon never looked back. Fouts passed for 133 yards, and the Beavers helped Oregon's cause with eight fumbles in the first half.

Oregon's Bobby Green added to the Beavers' embarrassment by saying the victory was "easy, real easy."

When the Beavers finally finished bouncing the ball off the grass at Parker Stadium, the result was the Ducks' most lopsided Civil War win in 17 years, 30-3.

But it was what went on after the game that added to the lore of the rivalry.

After the game, "hundreds of deliriously drunk Duck fans," as Bob Baum wrote in the Nov. 20, 1972 issue of the *Emerald*, charged the field, pulled down one of the Oregon State goalposts and deposited it on the Beavers' sideline.

The Oregon State players took offense to this and proceeded to phys-

ically beat the celebrating fans.

The Bad 1937

As bad as the 1972 post-game fight was, the repercussions from the Beavers' 14-0 win in 1937 were even greater.

The Beavers beat Oregon for the second straight season and on the Monday following the game, about 2,000 Oregon State fans decided it was time to take their celebration to Eugene — and more importantly to the Oregon campus.

The Ducks' neighbors to the north brought cornstalks with them to Eugene and called out "Duck Soup" to Oregon students. The Duck fans shot back with tomatoes, mud and water bags. Some Oregon students even showered the invading fans with a fire hose and told them to go "back to the farm."

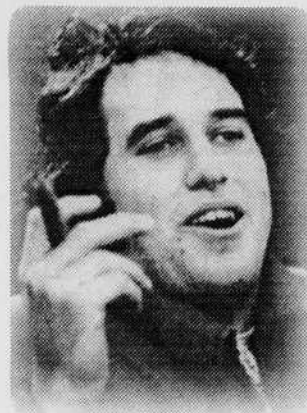
But the fun didn't stop there.

Oregon students grabbed many of the Beaver fans and tossed them into the icy waters of the Mill Race or captured them to fix the orange paint they had used to deface the Ducks' giant "O" on Skinner Butte.

The Ugly 1983

Football fans across the country know about the Rose Bowl, the Orange Bowl and the Cotton Bowl. But only Oregon and Oregon State fans know about the notorious "Toilet Bowl."

The 1983 Civil War has gone down as one of the worst performances by either team in their respective histories.



Oregon quarterback Dan Fouts lights a victory cigar after the Ducks' 30-3 Civil War win in 1972.

Turn to **TRADITION**, Page 3B

