

Football

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gon in the Bay Area this Saturday, though.

Scoring on its first three possessions, the Joey Harrington-led offense jumped out to a 21-0 lead by the 3:37 mark of the first quarter. From there, the Ducks' defense could do no wrong.

Quarterback Kyle Boller and running back Joe Igber, Cal's two offensive threats, were held to just 139 yards in the first half. Oregon also forced three turnovers in the first half, including an interception by sophomore safety Keith Lewis.

"The defense is finally clicking," Smith said. "We wanted to make a statement. We showed that the Oregon Ducks are for real."

The Ducks converted two of the three Cal turnovers into touchdowns in the first half, and won the battle of turnovers, 5-2.

"Defensively, I thought this was our best performance of the year," Oregon head coach Mike Bellotti said. "Our goal every week is to improve and I'm pleased that we did that today. The turnover-to-take-away ratio, being on the plus side of that, the correlation of that to winning is incredible."

On Oregon's first drive, Harrington found a wide-open Maurice Morris down the middle who brought the ball to the Cal two-yard line. Harrington dove into the end zone two plays later to give the Ducks their first score.

Redshirt freshman Samie Parker, who had his first career touchdown reception in Oregon's 63-28 rout of Arizona last week, scored on a 37-yard catch from Harrington to give Oregon a 14-0 lead. Also fresh off a career-game in Arizona, sophomore tailback Onterio Smith took a pitch and trotted into the end zone to give Oregon its three-touchdown lead af-

ter the first quarter.

"It felt good. I had a lot of fun," Harrington said after the game. "The key is we're scoring early and putting them on their heels."

The Ducks were held in check for the first 14 minutes of the second quarter, until Cal's Ray Carmel fumbled a punt at the Bears' 24-yard line.

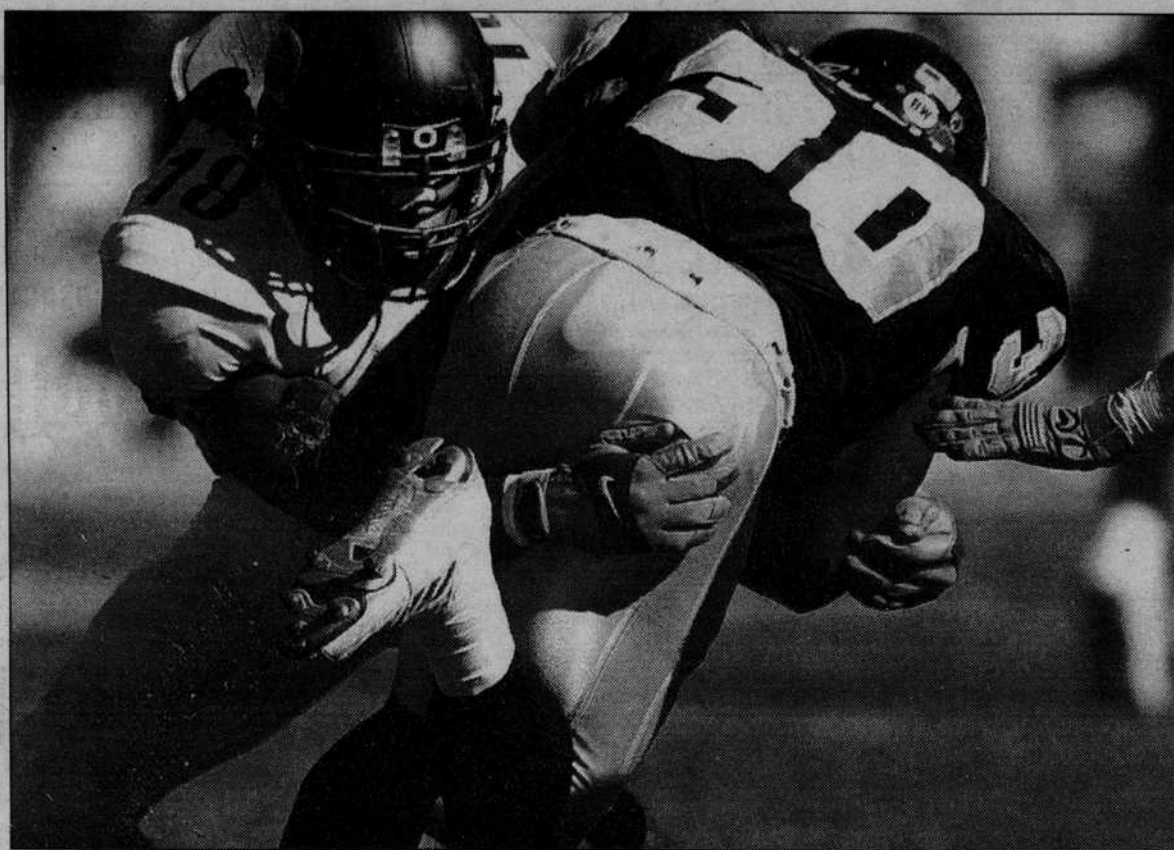
Then, with 0:47 to play, on a crucial third-and-two, Harrington rifled a touchdown pass to tight end Justin Peelle, his seventh score of the season, as the Ducks went into the locker room with a comfortable 28-0 lead.

Except for official scoring purposes, the second half was essentially irrelevant. Harrington did not attempt a pass in the third quarter, finishing the day 13-of-20 for 181 yards. The Heisman Trophy candidate did, however, have his longest run of the season in the third quarter, a 41-yard sprint inside Cal territory.

Up 42-0 after Morris and receiver Keenan Howry each scored, backup quarterback Jason Fife entered the game late in the third quarter. Fife was 2-for-4 for 25 yards in his second straight week of reserve action.

Backup safety Marley Tucker had two interceptions in the fourth quarter for the Ducks.

Notes: With Florida (previously No. 2) losing, the Ducks moved up one spot to No. 5 in the ESPN/USA Today poll. In the Associated Press poll, Oregon stayed at No. 5, with UCLA (previously No. 7) jumping three spots to No. 4. ... Safety Keith Lewis, Oregon's leading tackler, left the game early in the fourth quarter with a right ankle sprain. Bellotti said Lewis and defensive back Seth McEwen (shoulder) are questionable for Saturday against Stanford. ... With Florida State losing to No. 1 Miami at home, the Ducks now have the nation's longest home winning streak in the country at 23.



Krista Osmundson Daily Californian

Oregon linebacker Wesley Mallard brings down California tailback Joe Igber. The Ducks defense limited Igber to 56 yards on 11 carries.

Football side

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Ducks head coach Mike Bellotti stopped short of saying his team had arrived, but wasn't shy about praising the defensive effort.

"I was very pleased with the defense," he said. "It was one of our best performances of the year."

"I think we made a significant improvement today in playing a complete game."

On last weekend's box score, the Duck offense overshadowed the defense in a 63-28 romp over Arizona.

But two Wildcat touchdowns came in the fourth quarter against Oregon's reserves, and the first two — both in the first half — came on the heels of big plays.

Against Cal, there was no fourth-quarter letdown, even as reserves played through most of it.

"It's not a matter of us giving up yards," Mallard said. "As long as we're keeping them out of the end zone, we're a happy defense."

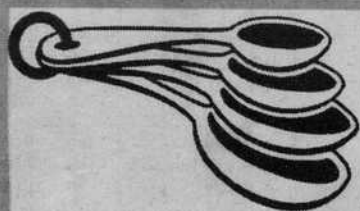
Saturday's win came with a cost. Defensive end Seth McEwen left the game in the third quarter with a shoulder sprain, and free safety

Keith Lewis sprained his ankle in the fourth quarter and had to be helped off the field.

Bellotti called Lewis' injury a severe ankle sprain and said he'll miss at least two weeks. Rover Gary McGraw will start at safety against Stanford in place of Lewis.

But late Saturday afternoon, Aliotti wasn't about to let the injuries dampen his spirits.

"All a coach could ask is for his guys to play hard and smart on every play," Aliotti said. "They're doing that right now, and it's translating into wins."



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Hep A facts

Can cause flu-like symptoms, diarrhea, and severe abdominal pain • Transmitted through oral/fecal contamination
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See www.cdc.gov/ncidod/disease/hepatitis for more info on the disease

Hep B facts

Can cause chronic liver diseases or death • Transmitted through sexual contact, body piercing, sharing razors, cuts in contact sports and other blood/blood contact • Thought to be 100 times more contagious than the AIDS virus
240,000 Americans infected annually • Vaccine available for prevention.

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