

# GAME DAY

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**Best Bet**  
Big 12 Championship:  
Texas at Colorado  
9:30 a.m., ABC



Friday, November 30, 2001

## THE BOX

**Key Number:**  
113

The number of rushing yards Oregon State senior running back Ken Simonton needs to become just the fifth player in NCAA history to have four 1,000-yard seasons

**Pac-10 Rankings:**

**Total Offense**

Oregon.....1  
Oregon State...7

**Scoring Offense**

Oregon.....2  
Oregon State...6

**Passing Offense**

Oregon.....7  
Oregon State...6

**Rushing Offense**

Oregon State...1  
Oregon.....7

**Total Defense**

Oregon State...9  
Oregon.....3

**Scoring Defense**

Oregon.....4  
Oregon State...5

**Passing Defense**

Oregon State...9  
Oregon.....2

**Rushing Defense**

Oregon State...3  
Oregon.....9

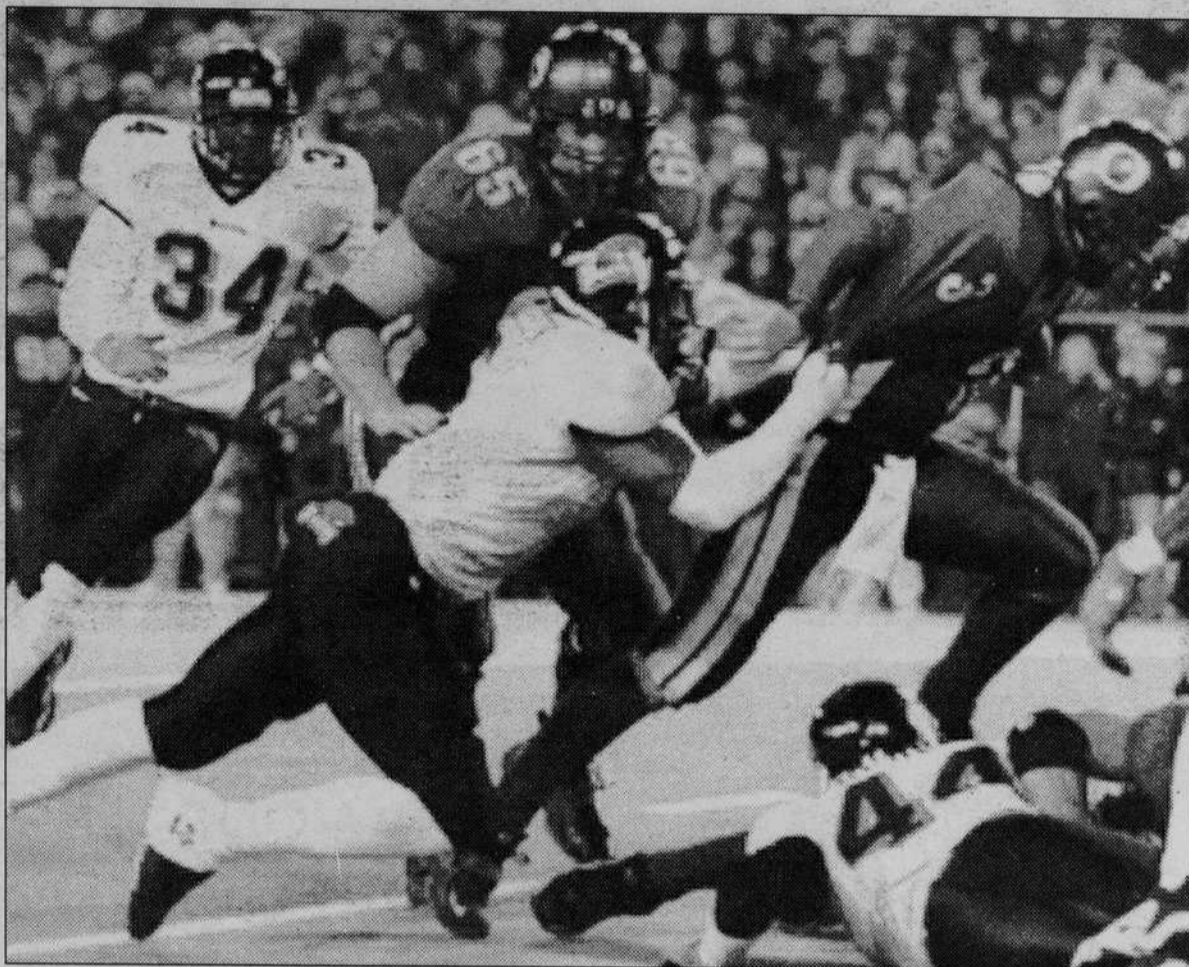
### Quotable

*"He's not getting it. He's not getting it. We feel that that's what they're going to come out and try to do — establish the run — and we're going to come out and stop it. He got 113 last year. He's not going to get it this year."*

**Steve Smith**  
Oregon defensive back on Simonton reaching the 1,000-yard mark for the fourth straight year

**Key Player:**  
**Joey Harrington**

**Oregon quarterback**  
Harrington needs to control his emotions in this big game and avenge his six-turnover performance in last year's game in Corvallis



Senior quarterback Joey Harrington (3) fights tacklers in the 1999 Civil War game, a 25-14 Oregon win at Autzen Stadium.

## Numbers mean nothing in War

■ The hype has been built, now the Ducks and Beavers must play

**By Adam Jude**  
Oregon Daily Emerald

A school record 10-win regular season.

A Heisman Trophy candidate. A trip to the national championship.

A No. 4 ranking. Ah, sensory overload. "Throw it all out the window," Oregon head coach Mike Bellotti said.

Just forget about the scenarios, the numbers, the history — none of it means anything now. Blood and sweat will tell the true story when the Oregon Ducks and the Oregon State Beavers hit the Autzen Stadium field Saturday at 1:30 p.m. for the 105th edition of the Civil War, a

nationally-televised game on ABC.

With at least a share of the Pacific-10 Conference title and a Bowl Championship Series bowl already locked, the fourth-ranked Ducks (9-1 overall, 6-1 Pac-10) enter the game as the favorite on their home turf. But, as Oregon State (5-5, 3-4) proved in last year's 23-13 upset,



anything can — and often does — happen.

"It's a great football game, and that's what you coach for," Oregon State head coach Dennis Erickson said. "It's hard because of the emotional situation involved. But one thing as a coach, in these games, you don't have to worry about giving

pep talks and getting Knute Rockne's book out and finding the Gipper or something like that."

On the line for Oregon is a possible, yet long, shot at the Rose Bowl, the host of this year's national championship. A win would make Oregon State, coming off consecutive victories over Washington and Northern Arizona, bowl-eligible for the third straight season.

The game will have added motivation for Oregon senior quarterback Joey Harrington, who had six turnovers — five interceptions and one fumble — in last year's loss in Corvallis.

"Joey will be the first to admit that his performance wasn't what he wanted," Bellotti said. "He is very focused and feels like he has

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## Beavers hunting for third straight bowl



Jonathan Smith (9) gets rocked by an Oregon defender in the 1999 Civil War. Smith has led the Beavers to a 5-5 record this season.

■ After a disappointing start, Oregon State comes to Eugene with a two-game winning streak and a shot at a bowl bid

**By Chris Cabot**  
Oregon Daily Emerald

As was the case last year, Oregon State is once again set up to spoil the Ducks' chance for a Rose Bowl bid and sole possession of the Pacific-10 Conference title.

The road to the 105th Civil War has been anything but easy for the Beavers, though. As Sports Illustrated's No. 1 preseason team, Oregon State (5-5 overall, 3-4 Pac-10) stumbled out of the blocks and plummeted in the rankings after losing three of their first four games (their win in the second week came against New Mexico State).

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*The sooner you lose, the more you learn*

Only one more regular season game separated them from a potential spot in the Rose Bowl to play for a national title.

But it wasn't just any game. It was the game. The game that divides the state.

They entered the game as heavy favorites. After all, they had lost just once, and their opponent didn't even have a winning record.

Plus, the game took place at their home stadium with their passionate rowdy fans who live for those Saturdays when they can dress in their

school colors and scream their lungs out. And this Saturday was when they could say goodbye to their beloved team in the final home game of the season.

The opponent was OSU, with that hated orange on their uniforms and their orange-clad fans who would enter their stadium hoping to celebrate an upset.

In the week leading up to the game, this favored team said all the right things. Their quarterback said that "we're expecting a dogfight." Their defensive lineman said that "it's the opportunity for us to accomplish the goals we set at the beginning of the year." And their coach said that "last year's last year. This year's this year. Everything's different."

Well, what do you think happened?

Yep, that team lost. But nope, we're not talking about Oregon here.

The Oklahoma Sooners entered their rivalry game with the Oklahoma State Cowboys on Nov. 24 sporting a 10-1 record and a spot on the inside track to the national championship game.

The Sooners watched Nebraska lose to Colorado the day before and knew that all they had to do was beat Colorado in the Big 12 Championship game on Dec. 1 to reach the Rose Bowl. Oh yeah, they also had to beat those Cowboys, but seriously, with that 1-6 league record they hardly posed a threat.

Oops. First rule of a rivalry game: Throw out the records.

The Sooners rushed for zero yards, and the Cowboys capitalized, ending Oklahoma's rosy dreams with a shocking 16-13 victory.

The upset made headlines everywhere. It left the BCS computers with a list of one-loss teams and plenty of numbers to crunch.

And 2,057 miles away from the site of that game, while enjoying their Thanksgiving weekend, members of the Oregon football team took full notice of the events that took place in Norman, Okla.

"Anything can happen in a rival game and I think that was perfectly shown in the Oklahoma-Oklahoma State game," linebacker David Moretti said.

Also played on Nov. 24 was the matchup between Michigan and Ohio

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**Jeff Smith**  
Hakuna Matata