

Defense

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Smith threw toward the right, the ball landed right in the hands of senior cornerback Rashad Bauman and Bauman took off right down the Beavers' sideline to wrap up the 105th Civil War in typical dramatic style.

"He promised us one before the game," Lewis said of Bauman's interception.

Bauman was also one of the Ducks, along with cornerback Steve Smith, to promise that tailback Ken Simonton would not get the 113 yards needed for his fourth straight 1,000 yard season. Simonton ended with 84 yards on 26 carries.

"We knew he wasn't going to get his 113," Bauman said. "It wasn't any disrespect to Ken Simonton. That's just the confidence we have in our defense.

"I'm just glad we were able to not put our foot in our mouths."



Thomas Patterson Emerald

Fans rush the field at Autzen Stadium after Oregon defeated Oregon State 17-14 on Saturday to claim its second solo Pac-10 title in program history.

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Jude

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It turns out that it does rain at Autzen Stadium. It also hails — sideways.

The conditions may have warmed up the Oregon defense, which silenced critics against Oregon State by allowing just six points until late in the fourth quarter. The Beavers also netted just 107 yards on the ground, and Ken Simonton was denied in his bid to become just the fifth running back in NCAA history to have four 1,000-yard seasons. He finished the season with 971 yards.

Oregon State did rack up 359

yards of total offense, but as head coach Mike Bellotti said, "Yards don't beat you, points beat you."

"It was the funnest game of the year," said Mitchell, who had a career-high 17 tackles. "I loved every minute of it."

Comparable to a pitcher's duel with 15 intentional walks, the 105th Civil War was an all-around defensive battle. Oregon State was brilliant against the Ducks' high-powered offense, allowing just 209 total yards and forcing seven punts. Oregon forced eight Beaver punts — the biggest coming with 14:36 to play in the game.

Keenan Howry took a kick from Oregon State punter Carl Tobey at the Oregon 30-yard-line, found an opening through the middle and

dashed into the end zone to put the Ducks up 10-6.

"We knew that the game was over after Keenan's return," senior defensive back Rashad Bauman said. "We knew our defense would be able to hold up."

The defensive stop came in the form of Bauman's 12th career interception with 52 seconds remaining, clinching the Oregon victory.

If nothing else does, it makes sense that Bauman ends his Autzen Stadium career in dramatic fashion.

Emerald sports editor Adam Jude can be reached at adamjude@dailyemerald.com. His opinions do not necessarily reflect those of the Emerald.

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