

## Basketball

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was his two-point conversion in the fourth quarter that really keyed the Cardinal win. Now, the Oregon basketball team has a chance to

somewhat avenge the football loss. For the record, Kent has not beaten Stanford in eight tries as Oregon coach.

But this is a different Oregon team.

E-mail sports reporter Peter Hockaday at peterhockaday@dailymerald.com.

## Football

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handed down by Bellotti: "We can't let Stanford beat us twice."

They didn't. A thrilling win at Washington State followed, most memorable for Onterio Smith's school-record 285 yards rushing. Bellotti called the relationship between Smith and starting tailback Morris this season as "one of the greatest things I've seen in sports."

"Mo could have easily been selfish and had an attitude about the whole situation," Smith said. "But that's not Mo. Me and him grew to be best friends."

Two weeks after the visit to Pullman came another nail-biting victory, this time a 21-20 squeaker against UCLA in Pasadena. A three-week layoff then built up a Civil War that would be played in a downpour fitting for December football. Oregon won, 17-14, and thus captured sole possession of the Pac-10 crown.

In the month leading up to the Fiesta Bowl, Harrington flew back to New York as a Heisman Trophy finalist, having lived up to the expectations of the billboard. He finished a distant fourth in the balloting, but would later put on a Heisman-worthy performance in the Fiesta Bowl.

Harrington's four touchdown passes highlighted Oregon's 38-16 win over Colorado on New Year's Day to give the Ducks their first-ever 11-win season and set up the possibility of sharing the national championship.

Even though Miami went on to claim sole ownership of the title, a No. 2 final ranking and a convincing Fiesta Bowl win was enough to satisfy Bellotti, who admitted that with all the preseason hype, this felt like the longest season of his career.

"To live up to (the hype) is by far the most pleasing thing as a coach,"

## 2001 Oregon Football

**Sept. 1: Oregon 31, Wisconsin 28**

Joey Harrington's first comeback of the season capped off by two-yard touchdown dive.

**Sept. 8: Oregon 24, Utah 10**

Oregon defense shuts down Utes in second half.

**Sept. 22: Oregon 24, USC 22**

Last-minute drive leads to Jared Siegel's 32-yard game-winning field goal. Steve Smith picks off three passes and returns one for a TD.

**Sept. 29: Oregon 38, Utah State 21**

Maurice Morris rushes for 175 yards. Defense comes up with three interceptions in fourth quarter.

**Oct. 6: Oregon 63, Arizona 28**

Ducks score 49 unanswered points as Morris and Onterio Smith both pass 100-yard mark. Harrington tallies six total TDs.

**Oct. 13: Oregon 48, Cal 7**

Ducks march to 28-0 halftime lead while forcing five turnovers in the game.

**Oct. 20: Oregon 42, Stanford 49**

Cardinal erase 14-point fourth-quarter deficit with consecutive blocked punts to snap Oregon's 23-game home win streak.

**Oct. 27: Oregon 24, WSU 17**

Smith rushes for school-record 285 yards and returns a kickoff for a TD. Linebacker Wesly Mallard breaks up potential game-tying pass to end game.

**Nov. 3: Oregon 42, Arizona State 24**

Harrington racks up six TD passes, four to Keenan Howry.

**Nov. 10: Oregon 21, UCLA 20**

Harrington finds Josh Line for a go-ahead one-yard TD in fourth. Bruins miss last-second, 50-yard field goal attempt.

**Dec. 1: Oregon 17, Oregon State 14**

In wet conditions, Ducks score twice in fourth and seal the victory with a Rashad Bauman interception. Oregon claims outright possession of Pac-10 title.

**Jan. 1: Oregon 38, Colorado 16**

Ducks defense hold Buffs to 49 yards rushing. Harrington throws for 350 yards and four TDs. Ducks finish season at No. 2 and a school-record 11 wins.

Bellotti said. "It's like a proud parent seeing his child develop and reach his potential."

And just because household names like Harrington, Bauman, Morris and Justin Peelle depart, that doesn't mean Oregon will stop thinking big.

"We'll continue to stay initiative," Oregon Athletic Director Bill Moos said. "We'll continue to invest in our

success. We won't rest on our laurels.

"We'll have some new surprises."

The immediate question to ponder is how Oregon can possibly top a season like this in terms of the play on the field and the marketing off of it?

But as Oregon football has shown lately, it's wise to wait and see first, and ask questions later.

E-mail assistant sports editor Jeff Smith at jeffsmith@dailymerald.com.

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