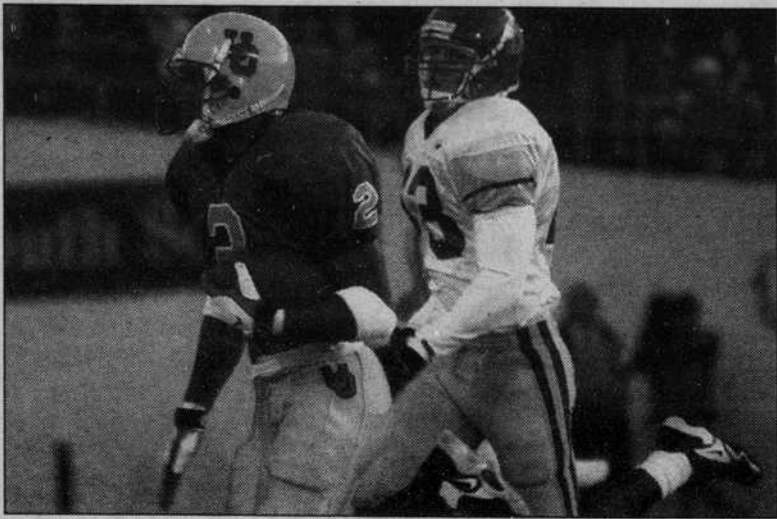




Emerald

Former Oregon receiver Tony Hartley (2) helped the Ducks defeat USC, 17-13, in the 1998 homecoming game. Oregon has won four straight over USC.

Teams revamp storied history

The Ducks and Trojans meet for the 51st time Saturday

Adam Jude
Senior Sports Reporter

More than any other opponent Oregon has ever faced, Carson Palmer knows Autzen Stadium.

And better than any Oregon opponent, Palmer knows what it's like to lose to the Ducks.

USC's fifth-year quarterback will make his fourth appearance on the Ducks' pond Saturday in search of his first victory against Oregon.

"We're a different team than we've ever been before when we played (Oregon)," Palmer told the Los Angeles Times. "We've gotten so many penalties at that stadium and have had so many dumb things happen to us. We've just got to do our stuff and win the game."

Those wins at Autzen have been hard to come by lately for the Trojans. Despite owning a commanding 33-15-2 all-time record against the Ducks, Mike Bellotti's teams have won four straight meetings.

USC's last win in Eugene was in 1993.

None of the teams' recent meet-

ings have been predictable, though. In fact, four of the last five meetings have been decided by four points or less — which has created some bad blood.

That, in part, likely has to do with the fact that Oregon has so many players from Southern California who want to beat their home school.

Prior to this season, Oregon added fuel to the rivalry when it posted a \$40,000 billboard — of receivers Keenan Howry, Jason Willis and Samie Parker, all of whom are from Southern California — just a few blocks from the USC campus.

Suffice it to say, the Trojans were not exactly pleased about the billboard.

And last year at Autzen, several Ducks and Trojans were involved in a pregame scuffle during warm-ups.

Like the off-field jabs, the play on the field has also been exciting and memorable in recent years.

Jared Siegel, then a freshman, drilled a 32-yard field goal with 14 seconds left to cap off Oregon's 24-22 fourth-quarter rally last season.

The Ducks were able to start that drive, which started at the Oregon

Turn to **History**, page 13B

Hoping for Heisman

Byron Leftwich
Senior QB • Marshall

Season: 168-of-254 passing for 2,314 yards and 17 touchdowns; has rushed for 11 yards on 28 attempts.

This Week: The Thundering Herd travels to Central Michigan.

Maurice Clarett
Freshman RB • Ohio State

Season: 980 yards on 161 rushing attempts and 13 touchdowns; has caught nine

passes for 70 yards.

This Week: The Buckeyes host Penn State.

Willis McGahee
Junior RB • Miami

Season: 735 yards on 105 rushing attempts and 11 touchdowns; has caught 12 passes for 217 yards.

This Week: The Hurricanes travel to West Virginia.

Onterio Smith
Junior RB • Oregon

Season: Has rushed for 936 yards on 182 attempts and recorded 12 touchdowns; has 11 receptions for 77 yards.

This Week: The Ducks host USC.

Jason Gesser
Senior QB • Washington State

Season: 132-of-215 passing for 1,894 yards and 16 touchdowns; has rushed for minus-50 yards on 23 attempts.

This Week: The Cougars travel to Arizona.

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Oct. 25: Olem Alves Quartet
Oct. 26: Gus Russel Quartet

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