Oregon Daily Emerald Washington vs. No. 23 Oregon

day afternoon

After a year off, the Ducks and Huskies resume their rivalry, though both teams have been quiet after a rough season

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They've said a lot by saying very little. Careful not to provide the other with bulletin board material, the Ducks and Huskies have steered clear of trash talk this week.

But that doesn't mean there won't be any yapping Saturday.

It's been more than two years since the teams have met on the field — Oregon won the last meeting in 2000, a 23-16 win at Autzen Stadium — but the tension between the hated rivals has been present, even from afar.

In February, Washington head coach Rick Neuheisel accused Oregon coach Mike Bellotti of dirty recruiting practices: Ironically, Neuheisel was recently slapped on the wrist by

the NCAA for his recruiting methods while at Colorado. Then, on Monday, Neuheisel called Oregon "a propaganda machine" with its national billboard campaign, which he later said he meant as a compliment.

On the other side of the coin, Oregon Athletic Director Bill Moos apologized for a video that was shown during a game at Autzen last season, which juxtaposed an image of Neuheisel with an image of people vomiting.

And last week, Oregon safety Keith Lewis called UW quarterback Cody Pickett "overrated" during an interview with a Seattle radio station. Subsequently, Lewis became the first player Bellotti banned from media interviews.

Since then, both sides have kept a low profile.

"I think Keith said enough," Oregon linebacker Kevin Mitchell said. "We just want to play ball." "Let's just say we have a

unique relationship. It's a healthy hate," Washington receiver Paul Arnold told reporters earlier this week. Bellotti said that after a break from Turn to **Preview**, page 14B



KICKOFF AT 12:30 P.M. . AUTZEN STADIUM . SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2002 . TV: ABC



Whoa Huskies

Washington has fallen on hard times this season, and needs to at least split its last two to finish at or above .500. Page 2B

Tall tales

Jason Fife is a complex quarterback with many stories that make up who the junior signal-caller really is. Page 3B

