

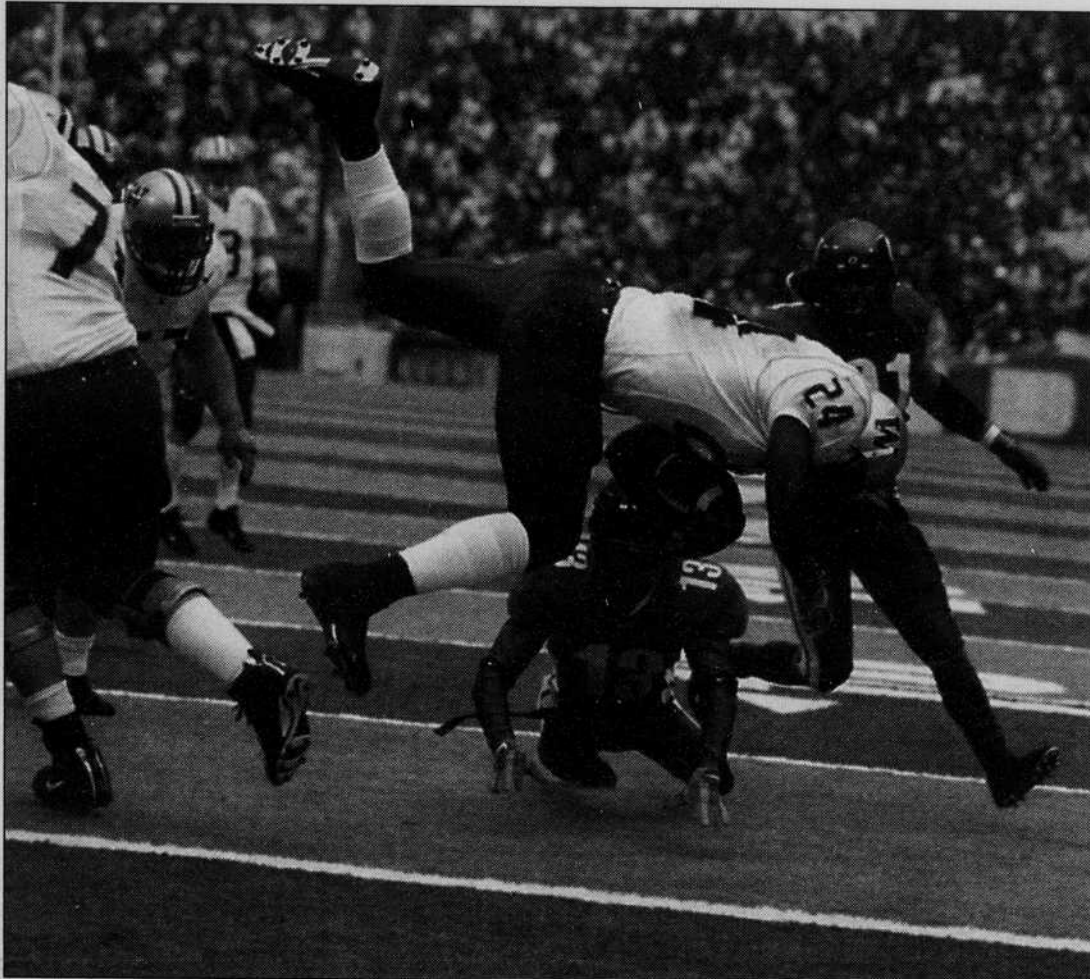
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# SPORTS

**Best bet**  
Monday Night Football:  
Chicago at St. Louis  
6 p.m., ABC

Monday, November 18, 2002

## Passing game leads UW to celebration



Jeremy Forrest Emerald

Washington's Rich Alexis (24) is flipped into the end zone by Marques Binns (13) for the Huskies' first score.

Quarterback Cody Pickett and receiver Reggie Williams torch the Ducks in the win

**Adam Jude**  
Senior Sports Reporter

After scoring 42 unanswered points to win their first game at Autzen Stadium since 1996, the Washington Huskies couldn't help but celebrate.

And celebrate, and celebrate, and then celebrate some more.

"They've been talking so much trash about our coach and our program," Washington tailback Rich Alexis, who had 122 yards, told *The Seattle Times*. "There was a lot of hatred on their side. You could hear the crowd talking about our coach and that struck me personally. I didn't like that at all. We came out with a great win so we deserved (to celebrate)."

In becoming the Pacific-10 Conference single-season passing record holder, Washington's Cody Pickett threw for 316 yards and four touchdowns, three to sophomore receiver Reggie Williams.

In an interview with a Seattle radio station two weeks ago, Oregon safety Keith Lewis called Pickett "overrated."

Pickett said he tried to talk to Lewis after the game, but Lewis "didn't have much to say." Lewis, who has been banned from media interviews for the remainder of the season, had no tackles against the Huskies, though he did have one interception.

"To come in and play with the crowd

talking and the team talking made the win even sweeter," Pickett said.

Williams, meanwhile, continued the onslaught on Oregon's young defensive backs. Six-foot-4-inch, 220-pound Williams tied the Autzen record with 14 receptions, and had 198 receiving yards.

Williams' two fourth-quarter scores put the game out of reach, and sent Duck fans home in the rain.

"There was no noise, no fans, and everyone was leaving," Williams said.

Oregon freshman defensive back Marques Binns said the Ducks weren't con-

**"There was a lot of hatred on their side."**

**Rich Alexis**  
Washington tailback

centrating their defense on Williams.

"We didn't really look at him and say, 'We gotta stop him,'" Binns said. "We just wanted to stop their offense."

The Huskies (6-5 overall, 3-4 Pac-10) racked up 181 yards on the ground for a total of 479 yards. Oregon (7-4, 3-4) managed 300 yards as it fell into a four-way tie for fifth place.

"I expected less out of Washington, to be completely honest," Oregon quarterback Jason Fife said.

Despite a rough season, in which the Huskies lost three straight Pac-10 games, Washington still could be head-

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## O-woes: Oregon's downfall begins with Onterrio's injury

Seeing his team turn a 14-0 first-quarter lead into a 42-14 loss to Washington, Onterrio Smith could hardly take it from the sidelines.

"What's going on? Why can't we get that fire back?" the hobbled Smith thought to himself Saturday as Oregon dropped its fourth game in five tries.

It had nothing to do with a little rain, as some tried to suggest.



**Adam Jude**  
Out in left field

The answers, quite simply, rested on Smith's left knee, which he will have surgically repaired today.

What's going on?

The Oregon offense, obviously, is struggling. Led by an inconsistent quarterback, Jason Fife — who was replaced, then soon reaffirmed in the third quarter — the Ducks haven't been able to establish anything on offense. After starting off 7-of-9 for 139 yards in the first quarter, Fife finished 10-of-29 for 170 yards (you do the math). His second-half replacement, redshirt freshman Kellen Clemens, had his first pass intercepted and was gone after just two series.

"We tried some new things, we tried to make a statement in the third quarter. But we didn't do it and we paid the price," senior receiver Jason Willis said.

Why can't the Ducks get that fire back?

Quite simply, there's no Onterrio Smith. And, quite frankly, the Ducks are mediocre at best without him.

"We miss Onterrio every time he's not in the game," Fife said. "He's the energizer of the offense. We need a pick-me-up. I don't know what it is, but something's going to happen to give us the spark."

It's definitely not going to be

Smith, who rushed for 1,015 yards prior to injuring his knee against USC on Oct. 26. By having arthroscopic surgery to remove torn cartilage, he will miss this week's Civil War game.

"It's really been bothering me," Smith said of his knee. "We're going to do (surgery) this early so I can be back in time for the bowl game."

Minus Smith, the Ducks will rely on backups Terrence Whitehead and Ryan Shaw, both of whom of offensive coordinator Andy Ludwig said he has great confidence in.

Nothing against Whitehead and Shaw, but they're aren't Onterrio Smith. They can't get a defense to

stack the box and open the passing attack, and they can't be the energizer.

Combined, Whitehead and Shaw put up a respectable 80 yards on 15 carries, though they didn't alter the game.

But apparently, the rain did.

"The weather came and we didn't handle it well," Oregon head coach Mike Bellotti said. "We lost our momentum when the weather hit."

No, the Ducks lost their momentum — their 6-0 start and No. 6 national ranking — when Smith went down with a minor left knee injury

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## Harrier men earn NCAA berth, women wait on at-large picks

The Oregon men finish second in the West region, while the women finish fifth

### Cross country

**Mindi Rice**  
Freelance Sports Reporter

Three top-seven finishers at Saturday's Western Regional Championships helped propel the Oregon men's cross country squad into the Nov. 25 NCAA Championship meet.

Senior Jason Hartmann finished second individually, running the 10,000-meter race in 30 minutes and 18 seconds. Hartmann's second-place finish helped Oregon

take second as a team, automatically qualifying the squad for the national meet.

Shortly behind Hartmann, who finished third in last year's regional meet, were redshirt sophomore Ryan Andrus (sixth, 30:37) and junior Brett Holts (seventh, 30:41). Both Andrus and Holts improved on last year's regional finishes, moving up from 27th and 31st, respectively.

Breaking the top-20 for the first time in their careers, and finishing out the scoring for Oregon, were redshirt sophomore Eric Logsdon and redshirt junior John Lucas. Logsdon improved on last year's 42nd-place finish by placing 12th, while Lucas, who finished 55th last year, came in 16th.

Hartmann's second-place finish matches his second-place finish as a

sophomore, while he finished third individually last year in the regional meet.

In his four years coaching at Oregon, men's head coach Martin Smith has had three teams earn a spot at the national meet. In 1999, the Oregon squad finished sixth nationally, after being ranked 12th in the week prior to the championship meet.

In 2001, the men finished third in the region, and earned a national berth. Ranked 14th nationally, the team finished 13th in national meet, with six of seven runners returning for this season.

Smith coached two national championship teams in his 15-year career as head coach at Wisconsin.

On the women's side, redshirt senior Carrie Zografos finished sixth individual-

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Geoff Turner Oregon Media Services

Ryan Andrus (left) and Jason Hartmann (in background, eyes closed) led the Ducks to a berth in the NCAA Championships Saturday.