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Oregon Daily Emerald

GAME DAY

Friday, October 31, 2003

Sports Editor: Hank Hager



Adam Amato Photo Editor

Samie Parker (1) is the Ducks' leading receiver last week with 41 catches for 677 yards and three touchdowns. He had 118 receiving yards.

Huskies, Oregon battle, renew Northwest rivalry in Washington's territory

Oregon's motivation
Saturday comes from
a Washington celebration
at Autzen last year

By Hank Hager
Sports Editor

The Ducks remember it.
They remember Washington coming
back from a 14-point first-quarter
deficit.

They remember Reggie Williams
using the Oregon defense to his own
enjoyment. They remember Cody
Pickett's 316 yards passing and four
touchdowns. They remember a 42-14
loss to their Northwest rivals.

Most of all, they remember the
post-game celebration on the Oregon
"O" that Washington players partici-
pated in.

"Oh yeah, we remember it," Ore-
gon quarterback Kellen Clemens said.
"It definitely brings about a little
more importance and symbolism to
this week's game."

Oregon (5-3 overall, 2-2 Pacific-10
Conference) visits Seattle to take on
their hated rivals. There is no love lost
between the two programs.

The Huskies irritated the Ducks af-
ter last season's blowout. Washington
(4-4, 2-2) players congregated with
Husky fans on the Autzen Stadium
turf and celebrated their first win in
Eugene since 1996.

"I didn't see it, but I've heard about
it," defensive end Devan Long said. "I
guess they came back after about 20
minutes or so. They just started party-
ing on our field. I don't know, that's
kind of weird."

"Anybody who partied on our field,
besides us ... that's not going to hap-
pen. We're going to go up and there
and see if we can't pay them back for
what they did to us last year."

Washington players know the
Ducks will be motivated to make up
for the show on the Autzen turf.

"I don't think it matters now,"
Washington tackle Khalif Barnes told
The Seattle Times. "I wouldn't change

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Williams, Pickett connection must be stopped for UO win



Hank Hager
Behind the dish

Remember last season?

Remember Cody Pickett passing for
more than 300 yards and wide receiver
Reggie Williams catching 14 passes
for just two yards shy of 200?

Remember the Huskies putting 28
points on the board in the second half
at Autzen Stadium?

There's no doubt the Ducks do. The

Oregon secondary sure does.

Come Saturday at Husky Stadium
in Seattle, it's not going to matter what
kind of a running game the Huskies
can establish. Oregon shouldn't con-
cern itself with whether running back
Rich Alexis gets his fair share of car-
ries.

The Ducks shouldn't worry about
the possible return of Charles Freder-
ick to the lineup despite hurt ribs and
a bum shoulder.

Oregon should worry about Pickett
and Williams and the connection
they can make when everything goes
right. Everything went right in last
season's 42-14 romp by Washington.

Everything went wrong for the
Ducks. They couldn't keep up with
one of the Pacific-10 Conference's best
receivers. They couldn't keep Williams

from making acrobatic catches that
were thrown by Pickett, who did his
best impersonation of Joey Harrington
on that cold and soggy day.

Basically, the Ducks' secondary
couldn't do much against the
Huskies.

This year, Pickett and Williams
haven't always been on the same
page. Pickett has thrown for more
than 300 yards just once this year —
337 against Nevada, which was a 28-
17 Washington loss — but has been
consistent in throwing for at least 200
every game.

Williams has been off and on. He
managed just 77 yards receiving on
three catches against the Wolf Pack,
but has nine catches for 115 yards and
one score against the Pac-10's most

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