Recap: Duck turnovers do not factor in the outcome

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The other Williams

Senior wide receiver Demetrius Williams is Oregon's all-time leader with 100-plus receiving yards in a game, something he has done 10 times. He is also climbing the record charts with receiving yardage and receptions in a career, where he ranks fifth in both categories.

Then there is Jaison Williams, a 6-foot-5, 237-pound redshirt freshman. He followed in the shoes of his mentor and namesake with a breakout performance against the Huskies, catching five passes for 55 yards and one touchdown.

Prior to the game, he had four catches for 52 yards and a touchdown.

"Once I got that first ... hit, I just knew from this point on you've got to start ballin," Williams said. "All I need is Kellen's (Clemens) trust and to keep catching the ball and I can do some good things here."

Williams caught an eight-yard touchdown with 23 seconds remaining in the first quarter to give Oregon the lead for good. He also came up with a 12-yard reception inside the one-yard line on a third down and nine. One play later, the elder Williams caught a touchdown to get the Ducks on the scoreboard.

"Jaison Williams is gaining confidence," Clemens said. "If you just look at him physically, he's got all the potential in the world. When he

plays with confidence he is unstoppable."

Confidence is one of the most important intangibles for a young receiver and that is what both the quarterback and the receiver have gained in each other after Saturday's performances.

"I can go for negative four (yards) or I can go for 25," Williams said. "As long as I catch the ball I feel like my confidence will keep going up."

Dropping the ball

Oregon put the ball on the turf on each of its first two touches. Wide receiver James Finley caught a two-yard pass on the first play of the game, but fumbled it at the Oregon 40-yard line. On the ensuing possession, running back Terrence White-head fumbled the handoff from Clemens on the first play of the second series. Washington recovered both and the latter was converted into a touchdown.

On the flip side, Oregon rover Patrick Chung intercepted a Washington pass on the first play of the second half. He returned it 26 yards to the Washington 34-yard line. Seven plays later, Clemens hit Whitehead for an 11-yard touchdown pass to give the Ducks a 28-7 lead.

The Ducks are plus three on turnover margin this season, ranking fourth-best in the conference before the game.

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Notes: With win, Oregon becomes bowl eligible

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Bellotti said. "We give them the ball twice right at the beginning of the game, turning it over twice. That's not the way you want to start out a big game, especially a rivalry game. I thought our defense really played well."

After two Washington punts and with the score tied at seven, the Ducks took the lead for good when the other Williams — freshman wideout Jaison Williams — caught an eight-yard strike from Clemens to give Oregon a 14-7 lead.

Clemens finished a record-setting day by completing 36 of 48 passes for 425 yards and four touchdowns. The 36 completions marked an Autzen Stadium record and his four touchdown passes moved him into a tie for second all-time on Oregon's touchdown list with Bill Musgrave (60).

"Kellen Clemens deserves whatever records he earned today, but he probably owes the offensive line dinner because they had great protection," Bellotti said, referring to an offensive line that did not allow a sack for the second consecutive game.

Oregon took a 21-7 lead into the half after Demetrius Williams hauled in a 30-yard touchdown pass midway through the second quarter.

With Clemens guiding the Oregon offense, the defense held Stanback and the Huskies in check, allowing only 79 yards in the first half.

"Oregon is a good team," Stanback said. "We knew that coming in."

The defense continued its domination in the second half, intercepting Stanback on the first play of the third quarter, setting up Clemens' fourth and final touchdown pass — an 11-yard toss to running back Terrence Whitehead — to give the Ducks a commanding 28-7 lead.

Oregon tacked on a Matt Evensen 30-yard field goal and a 17-yard touchdown run by Jonathan Stewart to take a 38-7 lead in the third quarter.

The Huskies managed two touchdowns late in the game before Oregon wide receiver Brian Paysinger added the final touches for the Ducks with a five-yard touchdown run to cap the scoring.

For the second consecutive week, Oregon's spread offense accumulated over 500 yards of total offense.



Oregon wide receiver Demetrius Williams (6) caught five passes for 92 yards and two touchdowns Saturday during a 45-21 victory over Washington. Williams had to leave the game with bruised ribs, but is expected to play next Saturday at Arizona.

Clemens accounted for 447 total yards and Whitehead gained 103 yards combined receiving and rushing. With his 59 yards receiving, Whitehead's career total is now 1,022, making him just the third player in Oregon history to accumulate 1,000 career yards rushing and receiving.

"We were in a rhythm," Clemens said. "We made great halftime adjustments and we have match-up advantages all over. We have some guys that stepped up, and you can't single out one guy to take away."

Louis Rankin rushed for 72 yards, while Stanback threw for 111 yards and two touchdowns for the Huskies.

and two touchdowns for the Huskies.

Defensively, four different players recorded tackles for losses, including defensive end Devan Long, who recorded a game-high four.

Long continually pressured Stanback and the Washington offense, accounting for 2.5 sacks, which moves him to third all-time on Oregon's career sacks list. The Anacortes, Wash., native also moved into a tie for fifth place in career tackles for a loss with 40.

Freshman Patrick Chung led the Ducks with a team-high 11 tackles and one interception.

"We feel great, we were able to get the job done," said linebacker Anthony Trucks, who finished with eight total tackles and two tackles for losses.

Washington lost its third straight conference game. The Ducks are now bowl-eligible and will turn their sights to the Arizona Wildcats and next Saturday's showdown in Tucson, Ariz.

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Notre Dame: Weis pulls out all stops to motivate team

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of people. Irish players always say they expect to win. But heading into the game against USC, it was clear they believed it. Tailback Darius Walker talked about hoping for a blowout — this from a team that lost three straight to USC by 31. Tight end Anthony Fasano talked about "when" the Irish beat USC.

Weis also has made believers out of fans. Five years ago, when Nebraska came to town, about a third of the stadium appeared to be wearing red and the Nebraska fans chanted "Husker home game!" It was easy to spot the Trojans fans in the stands Saturday, but the raucous crowd was clearly behind the Irish and Weis, flooding the field at the end when they thought the Irish had won.

Weis worked the crowd into a frenzy all week. He encouraged fans, not-so-subtly, to be at Notre Dame Stadium on Friday to harass the Trojans at their walkthrough, and hundreds of them obliged. He moved the pep rally to the stadium so 45,000 people could attend, then brought Joe Montana, Tim Brown, Chris Zorich and Daniel "Rudy" Ruettiger back to stir them.

Then he pulled out the famed green jerseys, the same way Dan Devine did in inspiring the Irish to a 49-19 victory over USC on Notre Dame's way to the national championship in 1977.

The only thing Weis didn't pull out to try to win was Knute Rockne's "Win one for the Gipper" speech.

The loss probably cost the Irish a shot at a national championship, but it kept a lot of other hopes alive.

pt a lot of other hopes alive.

Notre Dame still has a chance for a

Bowl Championship Series berth. If the Irish win the rest of their games, and they likely will be favored in those games — probably heavily favored against everyone except No. 17 Tennessee — they likely will play in a BCS game.

So people weren't talking after the game about how the Irish have tied a school record by losing four straight home games or that Weis became the first rookie Notre Dame coach since 1900 to lose his first two home games. They were looking at what the Irish had shown.

"That we can compete with the best team in the country and that we belong in the top of the rankings," Fasano said.

It's been a while since many people outside South Bend believed that.

