

Pac-10

Veals (6-2, 225) is as good in the Pac-10 as he was at Merritt Junior College in Oakland. He gained 1,363 yards, averaging 5.2 yards per carry, and has 4.4 speed in the 40.

If Veals proves a bust, junior Carl Montgomery (6-1, 205), who has 4.5 speed in the 40, gained 397 rushing yards and caught 15 passes for 141 yards last year, will fill the tailback slot.

Mariet Ford (5-9, 165), second team All-Pac-10 last fall with 45 receptions for 600 yards, will anchor the Bears at flanker. Senior tight end David Lewis (6-4, 235), who didn't see the ball much in the "Run and Shoot," led Pac-10 tight ends in 1980 with 32 catches.

All five starters in the offensive line return, and they are led by All-Pac-10 tackle Harvey Salem (6-7, 270), a pre-season All-American candidate.

If senior Ed Singler (6-0½, 183) shows more consistency than last year, the Beavers could be very solid at quarterback. Singler could compete only eight of 19 attempts — and two interceptions — against Washington State for 57 yards, but turned around the following week and hit 22 of 39 for 260 yards against Oregon.

Only Joe Carnahan (6-5, 264) and Jim Wilson (6-3, 234) saw much playing time on the offensive line last fall, and Wilson has been moved from guard to center.

Avezano calls his offense "finesse oriented," explaining that the Beavers will "run around" or "throw over" their opponents.

But the question remains: Can the Oregon State defense prevent opposing offenses from jamming the ball down their collective throats to the tune of almost 43 points per game, as they did last year?



**10
OSU**

Most coaches would love to make a statement like OSU head coach Joe Avezano did before the '82 season began.

"Most of our experience is on defense," said Avezano.

Depending on how you look at that statement, Oregon State is either in a lot of trouble or on the road to improving their 2½ year record of 1-25.

The Beavers return nine starters on a defense that gave up an average of 42.6 points and 466.4 yards per game in '81. They were last in the conference in passing, rushing, and total defense. Worse yet, over their last six games, they gave up an average of 492 yards and 48.8 points per game.

Life doesn't look much easier this year, as most college football publications predict the Beavers to finish ninth or tenth in the conference. But then, when you haven't had a winning season since 1971, ninth isn't all that bad.

The strength of the Beaver's defense will be at linebacker, where seniors Jerome Boyd (6-2, 221), who had a team-leading 94 unassisted tackles in '81, and Derek Warren (6-1, 230) provide OSU with a couple of outstanding performers at the inside spots.

The Beavers did manage to find a silver lining amid the gray clouds last year, as their offense was ranked eighth in the conference, averaging 288.9 yards per game.

They return seven offensive starters, including tailback Randy Holmes, who bruised his way to 637 yards but is coming off spring knee surgery. He will be joined in the backfield by transfer Lucius High, who rushed for 246 yards in '80 at Vanderbilt and will provide needed speed at running back.

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