



Projections

Editor's note: Pac-10 projections is a weekly attempt by the Emerald sportswriters to pick the winners of the upcoming Pac-10 and other games of the week.

This week's games:
•Oregon at Arizona
•Stanford at Arizona State
•Oregon State at UCLA
•USC at Washington
•Montana State at Washington State
•Notre Dame at Penn St.
•Kansas at Nebraska
Emerald Sportswriter's predictions:

Allan Lazo (27-20-0): Oregon, 24-17; Arizona St., 21-10; UCLA, 17-0; Washington State, 23-17;

Penn St., 21-17; Nebraska, 45-0.

Robert Collias (26-21-0): Arizona, 28-14; Arizona State, 31-3; UCLA, 45-7; Washington, 10-7; Washington State, 14-10; Penn State, 21-17; Nebraska, 70-8.

Ron Gullberg (27-20-0): Arizona, 38-20; Arizona State, 27-14; UCLA, 35-7; USC, 21-20; Washington State, 28-21; Penn State, 24-14; Nebraska, 45-10.

Capi Lynn (30-17-0): Arizona, 28-21; Arizona State, 35-10; UCLA, 28-3; USC, 28-24; Washington State, 17-14; Penn State, 21-10; Nebraska, 35-14.

Wanted: The Refrigerator

By Allan Lazo
Of the Emerald

Being of sound mind and body, my super-sensitive reporter's senses were quickly aroused last week when one of the hottest National Football League stories slowly began to emerge in Chicago — I knew I would have to talk to William "the Refrigerator" Perry of the Chicago Bears football team.

The story: a 304-pound defensive lineman who has scored two touchdowns this season. That's right. One rushing against the San Francisco Forty-niners and then a four-yard touchdown reception the following week. The guy was hot; I knew it. The Bears knew it. But hopefully, none of the others had noticed yet.

I knew he was going to be really hot, and I wanted to jump on the story early. Hotter than even the wave last season, you ask? You know it. In a wire story, his agent, Jim Steiner of St. Louis-based Bry and Associates, said "I don't know of any hotter property in the country right now."

Being one who is quick to jump on any quickly moving bandwagon, I decided I had better make some calls to get the inside story on this half-man/half-major appliance.

1-312-555-1212.
"Information."
"Yes, uh, I would like a number in Chicago."

"Okay, go ahead."
"Um, it's William Perry."
"All right. We have a number of listings for a William Perry. I would need more information to give you the number."

"Gee, I'm not sure."
"Do you have an address?"
"Well, not really."

"I need something."
"Okay, is there a listing for William 'The Refrigerator' Perry?"

"No one under that listing."
"All right, thank you."

What was I going to do now? I grabbed a Chicago telephone directory to check William "The Refrigerator" Perry for myself. There was a number of William Perry's, even a Willie Perry or two, but I knew I could rule them out. How could a 300-plus pound man seriously answer to Willie?

The operator was right, nothing there, but I knew there had to be an easy way to get in touch with him without calling "them."

But I was getting nowhere fast so I knew my next step was inevitable: I would have to call the Chicago Bears organization. 1-312-663-5100.

"Thank you for calling the Chicago Bears' ticket office. We are closed for the day, but the remainder of the Bears' home games are sold out..."

Damn, wrong line, but I listened just in case there was going to be any information on The Refrigerator on the recording.

Next, I dialed the number for the Bears' headquarters in Lake Forest, Ill., only to have a receptionist transfer me to another lady in public relations.

"I would like to speak to the person that could help me get in touch with William Perry."

"Well, that would be Brian Harlen, and he is down in the press room right now. Could you call back tomorrow morning?"

"Well, I guess I could, but can you tell me if I would be

able to talk to Perry on the phone or not and what time would be best?"

"Brian can give you that information if you would like to call him at nine tomorrow."

"But...but..."
"Thank you."

What I had wanted to say was that 9 a.m. there was 7 a.m. here. I couldn't call him back then. Damn, I knew I shouldn't have called "them."

I got up at 7 a.m. anyway just to re-affirm my suspicions about a conspiracy here.

Hello, Chicago Bears' office. Same receptionist. What was she doing up at 7 a.m.? She connected me with Harlen this time.

"Yes, this is Allan Lazo, and I was calling about an interview with William Perry."

"Oh yeah, I tried to call you the other day." Evidently, this time zone thing had everybody messed up. "At this point, we are limiting interviews with Perry to those who make the effort to come out here to the field."

"Well, I think that would be a little difficult for me." Again, this time zone thing.

"I realize this is unfair, but it's gotten so out of hand that if we gave out all the phone interview requests, he wouldn't have time to practice. Sorry."

"Yeah, well, thanks anyway."

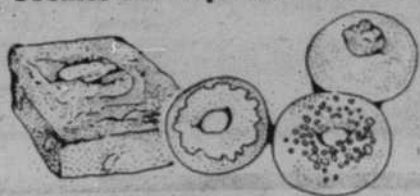
Oh, damn, it was over. It was too late. Here I was stuck in Eugene while the hottest breaking NFL item in years was happening two hours ago somewhere in the Midwest. I thought of the idea; by all rights, The Refrigerator story was mine, not theirs. Blasted time zones.

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Monson

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one of the things I've always told myself. As long as I'm in this Division I job, I've gone to the NCAA finals for years.

But yeah, I watch a lot of games. I don't go out of my way to watch an NBA game. I'll do that more for football...but if I'm home and something's on I'll watch that more than some guy driving a car, squealing his wheels and flying through the air, tumbling over fifteen times.

Q: Who's the best player you have ever coached?

A: Earvin (Magic) Johnson (who Monson coached as an assistant at Michigan State).

Q: Do you stay in contact with your former players?

A: Oh sure, I keep track of all those. I've got a few players that are overseas...Mike Matheson's in Germany. He wrote a bunch of our kids a letter this last week. I noticed Blair played two minutes last night and scored two points.

Q: He's with the Denver Nuggets now. How will Blair fare in the NBA?

A: He'll be fine. You know, faring in the NBA is a monumental situation, even to get there and be signed and be content, and he's very happy. Like any other kid, he'd like to play more, but he understands the situation. One thing about

Blair, he's always been realistic...and he knows that there are guys like (Danny) Schayes and (Wayne) Cooper that have played ahead of him, so he's the third center right now. But when he's played, he's done a good job, and that's why I think he'll make it.

Q: Did you always want to be a basketball coach?

A: Always wanted to be a basketball coach. It's funny, I'll never forget. Out of high school I was being recruited by two or three schools, Washington and Idaho, notably. I remember walking around the campus at Idaho and coach Finley saying, "Well, what do you want to major in?" and I said "I want to be a coach." I knew by my junior year in high school that I wanted to be a coach.

Q: What coaches do you especially admire today?

A: (Jud) Heathcote, who I worked for at Michigan State, and (Bobby) Knight (of Indiana) and (Marv) Harshman (of Washington)...

Q: Do you have any superstitions?

A: Lots of superstitions. (laughing)

Q: Such as?

A: Oh, I don't know. I might go from anything to wearing the same pair of shorts that I've won with in the last two big games, to driving to Mac Court a certain way. At Idaho, we'd won 43 straight at home and so you get into a ritual. Get to the game the same way. Have a certain pen in the same pocket...so, yeah, I've got some superstitions.

Q: How will Don Monson know when it's time to quit coaching?

A: I think when you totally don't enjoy it or the kids or the team or something like that. I still really enjoy coaching.

Q: So you don't foresee that happening?

A: No, you foresee it happening. I think you look at it now and then, but, you know, not right now.

Q: What's your best basketball memory so far at Oregon?
A: Probably the UCLA game here the first year.

Q: And your worst?

A: One of the toughest things was losing to Santa Clara here in the NIT. I think a game like the Arizona State game at Tempe last year was a tough go...and not being able to beat Oregon State has been pretty frustrating.

Wednesday, November 13, 1985