

PAC-10

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ond to last week. You think the Cal players may want some revenge on Snyder?

Predicted Finish: 7-4, 5-3 in Pac-10

Arizona State Sun Devils



Last Year: 6-5, 4-4 in Pac-10 (5th).

Bruce Snyder takes over a team that struggled to find its niche offensively last year. Snyder orchestrated a powerful passing attack at Cal and could be exactly what the Sun Devils need. However, Snyder first needs to find the quarterback to do the trick. Bret Powers has the most experience at the position (1,500 yards passing last season), but he could be challenged by Kurt Lasher.

ASU's top two receivers (Eric Guliford and Bob Brasher), and top two running backs (George Montgomery and Mario Bates) will return to give the QB more than ample support. The Devils' defense was solid last year (second in total defense) and will be led by Shante Carver, who led the conference in sacks last year with 11. If this Snyder thing works out, Arizona State could surprise some teams.

Predicted Finish: 7-4, 4-4 in Pac-10.

UCLA Bruins



Last Year: 9-3, 6-2 in Pac-10 (2nd). Defeated Illinois in John Hancock Bowl.

The most important undergraduate to turn professional in the Pac-10 last season may not be Washington's Steve Emtman, but instead UCLA sophomore quarterback Tommy Maddox. If Maddox had returned to UCLA this season, the Bruins would be considered a national title contender; instead they are just another bowl hopeful.

UCLA's quarterback job is

now up for grabs with sophomore Wayne Cook and freshman Rob Walker the leading contenders for the starting spot. Cook impressed the coaches during the spring and appears to have won the starting job.

"Wayne had a very successful spring practice," Donahue said. "While still untested in a game situation, we received a strong positive answer this spring as to whether Wayne had the talent to be a winning quarterback in the Pac-10."

Whoever emerges as the starter will have lots of help in the form of running back Kevin Williams and wide receiver Sean LaChapelle, last season's conference leaders in rushing and receiving, respectively. Williams ran for 1141 yards and eight touchdowns last season and will be counted on to take the pressure off of the quarterback. LaChapelle set school records last year with 73 catches for 1056 yards and 11 touchdowns.

On defense, the Bruins return seven starters from a defense that ranked eighth in the nation in rushing defense. The secondary should also be strong with the return of cornerback Carlton Gray, who finished second in the nation with 11 interceptions.

If the Bruins can find a quarterback, they should be near the top of the Pac-10 at season's end.

Predicted Finish: 7-4, 4-4 in Pac-10.

Oregon Ducks



Last Year: 3-8, 1-7 in Pac-10 (9th).

After a disastrous 1991 campaign, Oregon head coach Rich Brooks is preaching a return to the "good ol' days" of 1989 and 1990.

"The players are just as frustrated about last season as I am," Brooks said. "They want to get back to the good ol' days of '89 and '90."

Oregon returns a solid cast of characters but most important

is that they are healthy. Brooks was forced to play musical quarterbacks with five different starters last season but has settled on sophomore Danny O'Neil as this season's No. 1 man, followed by junior Doug Musgrave.

The Duck defense was dealt a severe blow when safety Eric Castle was diagnosed with mononucleosis, but Brooks believes his team can overcome the setback.

"Eric is an outstanding player, but we must go on without him," Brooks said. "We will move Chad Cota to free safety and Paul Rodriguez will play strong safety, so we are in good shape, but we would like to have Eric."

With Castle out until the middle of the season, defensive end Jeff Cummins will be looked upon for leadership. Cummins has battled injuries for the past few years but appears to be ready for his senior season. Silia Malepeai and Romeo Bandison will line up next to Cummins. The linebackers and defensive backs also appear to be solid but most important is the depth at each position that was lacking last season.

The team appears to have put the unfavorable pre-season rankings out of their minds but must take advantage of a schedule that includes 7 home games and four of the first five games at Autzen Stadium.

Predicted Finish: 6-5, 3-5 in Pac-10.

Arizona Wildcats



Last Year: 4-7, 3-5 in Pac-10 (6th).

Arizona returns 20 starters from last year, the most in the Pac-10. The problem is, they weren't that good. The offense could muster only 113 yards passing a game, while allowing

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