Robinson, Trojans await UCLA

LOS ANGELES (AP) - John Robinson has had a wonderful time in his first year back as Southern Cal's head coach. That won't change, even if the Trojans lose to crosstown rival UCLA on Saturday

Of course, he'd rather win when the No. 22 Trojans and No. 16 Bruins meet in the Rose Bowl decider at the Los Angeles Coliseum.

'I've had as much fun with this team as any team I've had." Robinson said Tuesday. "I like this team. And that goes without any equivocation, win or

"We respond to challenges well. We are playing the intan-gible part of the game really well. We've lost four games, all have been on the road to good teams. Every time we lost, we came back with a good game the following week, every time."

USC (7-4 overall, 6-1 in the Pac-10) holds a one-game lead or UCLA (7-3, 5-2) and No. 13 A zona (8-2, 5-2) in the conference standings. But Arizona is out of contention because of a loss to UCLA last month

A tie would have the same value as a victory for the Tro jans as far as the Rose Bowl race is concerned, but not to Robin-

"We're not playing for the Rose Bowl, we're playing to win the game," he said. "The Rose Bowl is involved, but you play to win the game.'

Robinson was asked whether he'd go for a tie with a pointafter attempt late in the game.

"If I told you, then attendance would drop and no one would go to the game," he said. "We'll just wait and see."

The USC sports information office announced that all 94,159 seats at the Coliseum have been sold for the 63rd meeting of the Bruins and Trojans.

Robinson will be involved in a UCLA-USC game for the first time in 11 years.

"It's the best of times," he said. "There can't be anything better than to be in this game. You never know how they're going to turn out. That's not the point right now, I'm happy to be a part of it.

Cook returns to Bruins

LOS ANGELES (AP) — UCLA quarterback Wayne Cook will return to action on Saturday when the Bruins face crosstown rival Southern Cal in a game that will decide which team plays in the Rose

Cook, who sat out UCLA's 9-3 loss to Arizona State last weekend because of a bruised right kidney, took a urine test Monday night after participating in a non-contact practice and no blood was detected, the school said Tues-

Cook will wear a flak jacket with an additional pad to protect his kidney. He was the only player in pads at Monday's practice.

Rob Walker replaced Cook against Arizona State and struggled, completing 14 of 25 passes for 120 yards with three interceptions, one returned 31 yards by unebacker Dan Lucas early in the fourth quarter for the game's only touchdown.

Cook has completed 120 of

"I remember what I felt. It's

Robinson coached the Trojans

from 1976-82 before coaching

the Los Angeles Rams for nine

He was hired to succeed Larry

Smith shortly after the Trojans

lost to Fresno State 24-7 in last

Robinson has a 5-2 record

against the Bruins. His first year

on the job in his first tenure as

USC's coach was Terry Don-

ahue's first year as UCLA's

has a 7-9-1 record against the

Trojans, including two straight

The Trojans have won five of

their six games since losing to

Arizona 38-7 on Oct. 2. They

lost to No. 1 Notre Dame, 31-13.

Cal, Stanford and Washington

Since then, USC has beaten

Donahue is still around and

years and taking a season off.

them all. I remembe the fun of

lidn't win

the same for me. W

year's Freedom Bowl.

this thing.

coach.

219 passes for 1,601 yards and 16 touchdowns while being intercepted only three times this season. With Cook doing most of the quarterbacking. UCLA scored 322 points in its first nine games before getting only a field goal from Bjorn Merten against Arizona State.

Cook was injured in the first quarter of UCLA's 40-27 victory at Washington State on Nov. 6. Walker fared much better in that game than he did against Arizona State, completing 14 of 33 passes for 181 yards and two touchdowns.

No. 22 USC (7-4) leads the Pac-10 with a 6-1 record. UCLA (7-3) is 5-2 and tied for second place with No. 19 Arizona. Because the Bruins beat the Wildcats last month, they will earn the Rose Bowl berth by beating USC.

If the UCLA-USC game ends

in a tie, the Trojans will play the Big Ten champion either No. 5 Ohio State or No. 12 Wisconsin - at Pasadena on New Year's Day.

our football team has increased dramatically.'

John Robinson USC Coach

to take over first place in the

"The confidence in our football team has increased dramatically," Robinson said. "They never gave up. I think they gradually came together.

"I can remember when we went to Arizona, people saying that the schedule from that point on was terrible. But they hung in there. They just came back Monday and said, 'Beat the next guy.

"I think we're tenacious. We hang in there pretty well."

'The confidence in

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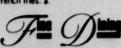
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1861 Franklin Blvd., 343-8888. Open Tue -Fri. 11:30a.m.-10p.m., Sat.-Mon.-4p.m.-10p.m. Ele-gant and fine dining Cantonese, Szechwan, Man-darin style, sea food. V.MC.D.AE,SS.

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Football Fans' Restaurant Guide

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nino's Pizza

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Campus Sub Shop 1225 Alder (on campus), 345-2434. Open Mon. Sat. 10a m - 11p m., Sun. 11a m - 11p m. Submarine sandwiches, soups, and yogurts.

/egetarian

270 W. 8th, 686-3531. Open Mon.-Fri. 11-30a.m.-2:30p.m. & 5p.m.-8p.m. International vegetarian cuisine. \$.

Heisman Trophy still up for grabs

(AP) - Charlie Ward remains the favorite. David Palmer is coming on strong. And don't count out Georgia's Eric Zeier, San Diego State's Marshall Faulk and UCLA's J.J. Stokes.

The Heisman Trophy race is into the homestretch, with Florida State quarterback Ward remaining the odd claim college football's top individual honor.

Ward had another fine game Saturday against Notre Dame, completing 31 of 50 passes for 297 yards and three touchdowns. But the Seminoles took their first loss and fell from No. 1 to No. 2, possibly opening a slight crack in the door for the other contenders.

Palmer is Mr. Everything for No. 11 Alabama. Mainly a receiver and kick returner, he has drawn attention in recent weeks with his play at quarter-

Overall, Palmer has set an Alabama record with 918

'(Ward) ranks 10th in the nation in total offense and is the 12th-rated passer.'

receiving yards on 54 receptions, including seven touchdowns, in addition to rushing for 185 yards, returning punts for 189 and kickoffs for 315. That's 160.7 all-purpose yards per game - not to mention 7for-13 passing for 170 yards and two touchdowns.

But Ward will be tough to beat. He ranks 10th in the nation in total offense (287.5 yards per game) and is the 12thrated passer, completing 199-of-291 (68 percent) for 2,308 yards and 19 touchdowns. Plus, his team had been at the top of rankings all season before Sat-

For sheer production, Zeier, Georgia's junior quarterback, has become a Heisman contender since the Bulldogs abandoned their running game at midseason. He completed 34 of 53 passes for 426 yards and three touchdowns against Auburn, giving him 3,1 and 23 touchdowns on the year.

Stokes is having an outstanding year at receiver for UCLA. catching 62 passes for 952 yards better stats than Palmer's and scoring 16 touchdowns to rank fifth nationally in that most important of categories.

Faulk, San Diego State's All-American running back, entered the season as a solid favorite to win the award. Faulk is the nation's fourth-leading rusher (1,317 yards) and has scored 18 touchdowns. Plus, some voters may feel sympathetic toward him after denying him the trophy last year.

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