

Pac-10 Picks

Last week:
Ernie Kent went 4-4



Ryan Frank
31-23



Chris Hansen
29-25



Joel Hood
27-27



Rob Moseley
26-28



Alex Pond
27-27



Matt Garton
30-24



Sarah Kickler
31-23



Jerry Allen Guest

OREGON	Wsu	Ucla	STANFORD	MICHIGAN	PENN ST.	KENTUCKY	W. Virg
OREGON	Wsu	Ucla	STANFORD	MICHIGAN	Wisconsin	Tennessee	NOTRE D.
OREGON	Wsu	Ucla	STANFORD	MICHIGAN	Wisconsin	KENTUCKY	NOTRE D.
OREGON	Wsu	Ucla	Cal	MICHIGAN	PENN ST.	KENTUCKY	NOTRE D.
OREGON	Wsu	Ucla	Cal	Ohio St.	Wisconsin	Tennessee	NOTRE D.
OREGON	Wsu	Ucla	STANFORD	MICHIGAN	PENN ST.	Tennessee	NOTRE D.
OREGON	Wsu	Ucla	Cal	MICHIGAN	PENN ST.	Tennessee	W. Virg
OREGON	Wsu	Ucla	Cal	MICHIGAN	PENN ST.	KENTUCKY	Notre D.

Pac-10: California and Stanford play for pride

Continued from Page 88
the second quarter until midway through the fourth quarter. Quarterback Cade McNown passed for 320 yards and three touchdowns on the day. He also rushed for one touchdown.

However, the Trojans have had a bit of a resurgence of late, winning two games in a row and four out of five since a lackadaisical 35-7 loss at Arizona State on Oct. 11, which caused head coach John Robinson to challenge his players and question his future with the team.

Last week, the Trojans shut out a fast-fading Oregon State team 23-0 as they held the Beavers to just 152 yards of total offense, and only 29 of those on the ground.

A win Saturday would give the Trojans a 7-4 record and put them in position for a pretty decent bowl.

An interesting key to the game will be whether or not the Bruins can establish a running game against a USC defense which ranks first in the conference against the run. The Trojans are allowing opponents just 2.5 yards per rush.

If the Bruins can get a running game going, that should open up a dangerous passing attack. They rank second in the Pac-10 in pass offense while the Trojans rank last in pass defense.

UCLA has won the past six

games in the series, including last season's remarkable 48-41 double-overtime victory. The Bruins came back from a 38-21 deficit with less than seven minutes remaining to tie the game and force overtime. The teams combined for 757 yards passing and 1,033 yards of total offense.

UCLA is 3-0-1 in the last four games in the Los Angeles Coliseum.

California (3-7, 1-6) at Stanford (4-6, 2-5)

After beginning the season 4-1 amidst talk of a Rose Bowl berth, the Cardinal play for nothing more than pride when it takes on California in the 100th edition of the Big Game.

Stanford's supposed dream season has completely fallen apart, thanks to a five-game losing streak it hopes to snap Saturday.

The Cardinal did look impressive at times during its 38-28 loss at Washington State last week and actually led 28-27 early in the fourth quarter before the Cougars pulled away down the stretch.

Cal hasn't exactly been setting the world on fire, either, losing seven of its past eight games. Its only victory during that span came over Oregon State, which is winless in the Pac-10.

The series between Cal and Stanford is the oldest college football series on the West Coast, dating back 105 years to 1892.

Receiver: Collins frustrated with playing time

Continued from Page 28
his body, and his lower body strength is not what it should be."

But what about all the hype? "Guys who are real heavily recruited have expectations set for them that are way too high," says Oregon wide receivers coach Chris Peterson. "We knew when we were recruiting him that he had a lot of developing to do. That other stuff was created by the media and fans."

Collins admits that he has felt the pressure of people's expectations and that comparisons to players like Stokes and Johnson have been occurring since his high school days.

"When you see two big 6-foot-4 receivers, and here comes a third one out of high school who is having so much success, it's only natural to make comparisons," Collins says. "I was a man among boys in high school, so there were great expectations. I am just trying to live up to them."

"But that's hard. If you listen to all that, then you go out there thinking you have to do this and do that just to live up to the expectations. So I just do what I know I can do and eventually the stats and everything else will be there."

The question is when? The freshman's work ethic has come into question this season by players and coaches. It's not so much that he is lazy or unwilling to work, they say, it's whether or not Collins understands what it takes to be successful at this level.

"He just needs to work harder," quarterback Akili Smith says in a point-blank manner. "And I don't know if he is working as hard as he can. The sky's the limit for LaCorey, but it's going to take discipline and maturity and until he has that, he'll just be regular."

Discipline and maturity are just

Collins file



WHO: Oregon wide receiver LaCorey Collins
SIZE: 6-foot-4, 220 pounds

STATS: Has 15 receptions and two touchdowns in his career

a few of the things that, according to Peterson, Collins needs to improve on.

"It's knowing the system and learning the routes and reacting to the defense," Peterson says. "It's developing competitiveness and getting his mind into it. It's a combination of a lot of little things."

But it's nothing that all great players don't do to be successful. Collins admits that earlier in the season he got so frustrated with lack of playing time, that it affected his performance in practice and on the field.

"I started the season off doing okay in the first couple of games and then I didn't play very much after that. I became so frustrated that I started to slack off," Collins candidly admits. "I came into this year thinking that I had done the things I needed to do to get in the mix of things. But there were some things I did that didn't help the team very much."

He also did some things that didn't help himself.

Collins spent this past off season trying to strengthen his injured leg and increase his speed. In the process, he ignored the weight room. That left him susceptible to injuries in fall camp

where he got dried up.

But again, that is all part of the learning process for younger players, says Peterson.

"I tell LaCorey all the time, 'The ball's in your court, you have the skills we are looking for,' and if he gets it done Monday through Friday, Saturday will take care of itself," Peterson says. "Hey, we love to sign blue-chip recruits, but we play blue-collar players."

Something all involved hope Collins will soon become. With his size and natural athleticism, Collins has the potential to be a dangerous offensive weapon for the Ducks.

"From a quarterback's standpoint, he is the perfect target," Smith says. "You don't have to place the ball as perfectly, you can just lock in and throw."

And, says Collins, if given the chance, he will come down with the ball.

"It's hard for a defensive back to cover a big, tall receiver," Collins says. "But not just being taller, but having the ability to bang and separate from the defensive back. I might not be the fastest guy out there, but I can go up and get the ball."

Collins will get the opportunity to show others what he can do and why there is good reason to still be excited about having a player with his abilities on the Oregon team. After all, Collins is but a redshirt freshman with three years of eligibility ahead of him, a rough road hopefully behind him and way too much talent to keep bottled up.

"This will be a big off season for LaCorey," Bellotti predicts, "preparing for next year and now knowing what he has to do. He will respond to that challenge and become a big receiver for us, which is what we saw in him to start with."

Go Beavers!

Good Luck at the Civil War Game

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