

Coach Lambright leads Washington into Lincoln

Three Pac-10 teams go on the road to battle national powerhouses

By Tim Pyle
Oregon Daily Emerald

No. 18 Southern California (3-0 overall, 1-0 Pacific-10 conference) at No. 10 Florida State (2-1)

The Trojans have their work cut out for them against the Seminoles in Tallahassee, Fla.

Florida State is used to having an unblemished record at this point in the season and is probably still steaming from its 24-7 loss to North Carolina State on Sept. 12.

Last season, the then-No. 23 Trojans played the then-No. 5 Seminoles close in Los Angeles, losing 14-7 in a defensive battle. Two of the most explosive wide receivers in the country, R. Jay Soward of USC and Peter Warrick of Florida State, should provide more fireworks this season.

To get to 4-0, USC will need to have defensive success like the Wolfpack against the Seminoles. But the offensive speed and talent Florida State possess makes that unlikely.

Oregon State (2-1, 0-1) at Arizona State (1-2, 0-1)

Who would have thought that the Beavers would have a better record than the Sun Devils heading into this game?

Arizona State was being hyped as a possible national-title contender, not to mention conference champion, before the season began. Now, the Sun Devils are simply trying to right the ship after losses to Washington and Brigham Young to start the season.

Oregon State is usually a cure-all for most any opponent, but the Beavers think they have improved behind new quarterback Terrance Bryant and second-year head coach Mike Riley. Redshirt freshman tailback Ken Simonton leads the Pac-10 in rushing at 100.7 yards per game.

J.R. Redmond, Arizona State's multi-purpose threat, will be looking to find the end zone with regularity again after scoring three rushing touchdowns in the Sun Devils' 34-15 defeat of North Texas last week.

The teams combined for six interceptions and seven sacks last season in the Sun Devils' 13-10 win in Corvallis.

Washington State (3-0) at California (2-1)

Following three mediocre wins against poor competition, the

Cougars will begin defense of their 1997 co-conference title against the Golden Bears.

A game like last season's offensive explosion, when Washington State cruised to a 42-6 halftime lead and 63-37 win on the strength of Ryan Leaf's right arm, is not likely. Now, both these teams rank in the top half of the Pac-10 defensively and in the bottom half on offense.

Cougar defensive backs Lamont Thompson and Chris Martin, who each have three interceptions, will try to corral California wideout Dameane Douglas, who is tied for the Pac-10 lead with seven receptions per game.

No. 16 Arizona (3-0, 1-0) at San Diego State (0-2)

The Wildcats figure to win their eighth straight game, a streak that dates back to last season.

However, the Aztecs gave Arizona a scare in 1997, when the

Wildcats recovered from a 21-0 deficit to win 31-28 in Tucson, Ariz.

Suddenly offensive-minded Arizona will have its quarterback duo of Keith Smith and Ortege Jenkins throwing deep to wide receivers Dennis Northcutt and Jeremy McDaniel, who both average six catches per game at more than 14 yards a pop.

No. 3 UCLA (0-0, 2-0) at Miami (Fla.) (0-1, 2-1)

MIAMI — The approach of Hurricane Georges on Thursday led Miami to cancel Saturday's game against No. 3 UCLA, although the door was left open for a makeup date at the end of the season.

School officials had held firm to the belief that the game could be played as scheduled, but the posting of hurricane warnings in the Miami area Thursday morning led them to reconsider. The decision was made during a call between Miami president Tad Foote and UCLA chancellor Al Carnesale.

"After a general discussion with Chancellor Carnesale and the athletic directors regarding the safety of students, fans and everyone concerned, it was mutually decided that it would be a mistake to play the game," Foote said.

The announcement came hours before UCLA was to leave for Miami, where their arrival was scheduled shortly before the area was to begin feeling the effects of Georges.

— The Associated Press



The No. 8 Huskies try to avenge last season's 27-14 loss to the Nebraska Cornhuskers in Seattle.

MARK MCTYRE/Emerald

Pac-10 Standings

	Conference	Overall
1. Arizona	1 0	3 0
USC	1 0	3 0
Wash.	1 0	2 0
4. Oregon	0 0	3 0
Wash. St.	0 0	3 0
UCLA	0 0	2 0
California	0 0	2 1
8. Oregon St.	0 1	2 1
Arizona St.	0 1	1 2
Stanford	0 1	1 2

Top 25 Football Schedule

No. 2 Nebraska vs. No. 9 Washington	No. 15 Colorado vs. Baylor
No. 3 UCLA at Miami	No. 16 Arizona at San Diego State
No. 4 Tennessee vs. Houston	No. 17 Texas A&Ms vs. North Texas
No. 5 Kansas State vs. N.E. Louisiana	No. 19 West Virginia vs. Tulsa
No. 6 LSU vs. Idaho	No. 20 Oregon vs. Stanford
No. 8 Florida vs. Kentucky	No. 21 Virginia Tech vs. Pittsburgh
No. 10 Florida State vs. No. 18 USC	No. 22 Alabama at Arkansas
No. 11 Virginia at Duke	No. 23 Air Force at TCU
No. 14 Wisconsin vs. Northwestern	

Game of the week

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No. 9 Washington (2-0, 1-0) at No. 2 Nebraska (3-0)

The Huskies will be trying to do precisely what the Cornhuskers did to them last season in Seattle — upset the higher-ranked home team.

A talented Washington team, which was ranked No. 2 going into the game against the Huskers a season ago, was expected to contend for the national title. Instead, then-No. 7 Nebraska rolled over the Huskies 27-14 on its way to a co-national championship with Michigan.

The Huskers ran all over Washington to the tune of 384 yards rushing and knocked

quarterback Brock Huard out of the game in the first quarter.

Coming off a sloppy 20-10 defeat of Brigham Young, Washington will need a near-perfect effort to become the first team to beat the Huskers in Lincoln, Neb., in seven years. But history is on the Huskies side — they were the last team to emerge victorious from the Sea of Red with a 36-21 win in 1991.

New Nebraska head coach Frank Solich has picked up where Tom Osborne left off, using much the same systems on both offense and defense that Osborne rode to success.

Quarterback Bobby Newcombe is listed as probable (sore knee) for the game, as is tailback DeAngelo Evans (knee). Full-

back Joel Makovicka, who plowed through the Washington defense for 129 yards on 12 carries last season, will also lead the Huskers' ground attack.

Washington's offensive line, which has permitted just one sack on 81 pass attempts, needs to sustain its near-flawless protection of Huard in the new, wide-open Husky offense.

If the Huskies are able to keep the game close, Huard will have to direct his second miracle of the young season for Washington to prevail.

However, a miracle in the cornfields looks to be even less likely than the 42-38 win, dubbed the "miracle in the desert," that Huard engineered at Arizona State in the season opener.

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