

PAC-10 PICKS

Adam Jude Jeff Smith Peter Hockaday Chris Cabot Hank Hager Russ Weller Jessica Blanchard

■ Favorite Underdog (Spread in parentheses)

Oregon (15.5) @ Utah St.

OREGON OREGON OREGON OREGON OREGON OREGON OREGON

UCLA (4) @ OSU

OSU UCLA OSU OSU UCLA UCLA UCLA

Stanford @ USC (1.5)

STANFORD STANFORD STANFORD STANFORD STANFORD USC USC

Washington (15) @ Cal

CAL CAL WASH. WASH. WASH. CAL WASH.

Wash. St. (2) @ Arizona

ARIZONA WSU WSU WSU WSU ARIZONA ARIZONA

San Jose St. @ Ariz. St. (14.5)

SAN JOSE SAN JOSE SAN JOSE SAN JOSE SAN JOSE ARIZ. ST. ARIZ. ST.

Pac opens conference play

■ UCLA and Oregon State headline a strong week of Pac-10 play, one that could be crucial for many teams

By Hank Hager
Oregon Daily Emerald

Week 2 of Pacific-10 Conference play is here, and boy is it a doozy. Four Pac-10 games are scheduled along with two nonconference tussles, ensuring a strong and enjoyable weekend for Pac-10 followers. With just seven games remaining for most teams after this weekend, each grudge match becomes more and more important.

No. 12 UCLA (3-0 overall, 0-0

Pac-10 Conference) at No. 19 Oregon State (1-1, 0-0)

The ABC game of the week pits two up-and-coming teams, although Oregon State has not looked strong in games against Fresno State and New Mexico State.

UCLA, however, is looking like a Pac-10 title contender and a team with a chance of playing on its home turf Jan. 3. But for them to do so, running back DeShaun Foster and quarterback Cory Paus must have strong performances against the Beaver defense, featuring possibly the best secondary in the conference.

"[Oregon State] has a good football team," said UCLA head coach Bob Toledo. "They will basically have had three weeks to get ready for us, so

they will probably be pretty rested. They will know what we are doing and will have a good plan."

For Oregon State to shine, star running back and Heisman Trophy candidate Ken Simonton has to get out of the funk that has held him to 211 yards rushing on 49 carries. He is still second in the conference with 105.5 yards rushing per game and has scored three touchdowns.

No. 13 Washington (2-0, 0-0) at California (0-3, 0-1)

Those who travel to California's Memorial Stadium may not see much of a game this weekend. The Huskies have not lost to Cal in 18

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Wildcats and Cougars face off in Tucson

■ Arizona and Washington State are surprising everyone at 3-0, but one team will move to 3-1 after this weekend

By Hank Hager
Oregon Daily Emerald

The Pacific-10 Conference game of the week features two teams not commonly associated with the word "powerhouse." Washington State and Arizona, two squads chosen to finish at the bottom of the conference, square off in Tucson, Ariz., Saturday at Arizona Stadium. Both teams are 3-0 after sporting convincing wins

over California and UNLV last week.

The Cougars are led by quarterback Jason Gesser, who threw for 432 yards and four touchdowns against the Golden Bears. Safety Lamont Thompson leads the Washington State defense, and set a Cougar career record for interceptions with his 15th career pick against Cal.

"Gesser is a veteran who knows the system," Arizona head coach John Mackovic said. "He knows where to put the ball, he knows the checks, and he knows what to do. They really have a nice attack."

Two of the last four games between the two teams have ended in

overtime, with the Wildcats winning last year's barnburner, 53-47, in three overtimes. With both teams going to the grudge match with a perfect record, more of the same may be on the way.

"It has been an interesting series for the last several years," Mackovic added. "The games have been high scoring with lots of action. They are going to try to score 35 points or more. They are going to run, pass and do everything that they can do to win the game."

"Knowing that they are going to play that way, we are going to play that way."

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