



Emerald

Senior tailback Delvon Flowers and the Arizona State Sun Devils host the Oregon State Beavers in a battle to stay afloat in the Pac-10.

OSU, ASU set to tangle in Tempe

■ Oregon State and Arizona State square off in Tempe, hoping to re-establish themselves in the Pac-10

By Chris Cabot
Oregon Daily Emerald

Oregon State (2-3 overall, 1-2 Pacific-10 Conference) at Arizona State (3-2, 0-2)

The game of the week pits two teams that are evenly matched and hungry for wins. It may not hold monumental results for the winner, with both teams remaining miles from the top of the Pac-10 Confer-

ence standings, but fans are almost guaranteed a good contest.

Oregon State comes into the game with the worst ranked offense in the Pac-10, but is coming off a sound 38-8 win over Arizona. Against the Wildcats, senior tailback Ken Simonton, who is averaging 72 yards rushing per game, became the leading non-kicker on the Pac-10 scoring list with 336 career points.

Head coach Dirk Koetter's Sun Devils are coming off a 48-17 loss to Southern California, a game in which quarterback Jeff Krohn injured his right foot, but should be ready to go against the Beavers.

"All we can do is continue working hard and realize that we have to fight through this, we have to make plays, and we have to be a lot more consistent for the full four quarters," Koetter said.

Despite surrendering 47 points to the Trojans, the Sun Devils' defense could be what prevents Oregon State from moving to .500 in the Pac-10 this season. Defensive end Terrell Suggs leads the conference in sacks with eight, and forced fumbles with three.

"He's a guy you've got to account for — you've got to find out where he is," Oregon State head coach Dennis Erickson said.

Pac-10

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Cal's trend of allowing opponents to score will also continue because of UCLA's tailback and Heisman Trophy hopeful DeShaun Foster. In the Bruins' win over Washington last Saturday, Foster ran for a school record of 301 yards. He is leading the nation in rushing yards per game with 162.6.

The Bruins' quarterback, Cory Paus, is approaching the Pac-10 record in passes thrown without an interception. His mark of 173 consecutive throws is 43 away from USC's Brad Otten (1994-95).

This game marks Tom Holmoe's

50th game as Cal's head coach and he knows that it is going to be a tough win to acquire.

"They're experienced; they don't make mistakes; they play hard; and they're talented," Holmoe said.

Southern California (2-4, 1-3) at Notre Dame (2-3 overall)

The 73rd meeting between Southern California and the legendary Notre Dame will be a dandy.

The Fighting Irish lost their first three games of the season to Nebraska, Michigan State and Texas A&M, but have rallied with two straight wins against Pittsburgh and West Virginia.

Notre Dame's head coach Bob

Davie is fully aware of the rivalry and may also be aware that his job is on thin ice.

"This, to me, is the best game and the biggest game that I've been involved with in my coaching career," he said. "I think the Notre Dame-USC game is something that everyone looks forward to the challenge of being in."

As is true for most Notre Dame football teams, this year's Irish focus on defense and the running game. Tailbacks Julius Jones and Tony Fisher combine in the backfield for the Irish and are accompanied by quarterback Carlyle Holiday, who is averaging 126 yards rushing on 19 carries over the last two games.

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