

# Pac-10

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bragging rights," Stanford head coach Tyrone Willingham said.

Whether or not Stanford is able to outlast the Spartans, the Cardinal will be heading to the newly formed Seattle Bowl, as they accepted an invitation to the Emerald City earlier this week. Georgia Tech is lining up to be their opponent, and with George Godsey taking the snaps for the Yellow Jackets, the first Seattle Bowl could be a good one.

## Fiesta Bowl

Barring another amazing week of upsets in college football, the No. 4 Ducks (9-1, 6-1) look to Tempe, Ariz., on New Year's Day. Oregon's opponent is still to be determined, but with the Big 12 Championship game lining up to be one for the ages this weekend, the winner will most likely travel to the desert.

A rematch of last year's Holiday Bowl could be on the horizon, assuming Texas does not slip into the national championship game at the Rose Bowl. Texas already trounced Colorado earlier this season, but bets are that Colorado will come out of the grudge match alive and well enough to take on the Ducks.

No players stand out for the Buffaloes, but as a group, they are about as solid as any team in the nation, which they showed against previously top-ranked Nebraska. Regardless of the outcome of the Big 12 Championship — which will be broadcast prior to the Civil War on ABC — Joey Harrington and Co. need to look out.

## Sun Bowl

Pac-10 surprise Washington State represents the conference in this one, and looks to take on Iowa in El Paso, Texas, on New Year's Eve. With an Oregon loss against Oregon State, the Cougars can lock up a tie for the conference championship. But they are still destined for Texas because the Ducks have the tiebreaker after their 24-17 win in Pullman, Wash.

Iowa should feel lucky to be heading south after their loss to Iowa State but nonetheless should

## Pac-10 Standings

1. Oregon (9-1 overall, 6-1 Pac-10)
2. Washington State (9-2, 6-2)
3. Stanford (8-2, 6-2)
4. Washington (8-3, 6-2)
5. USC (6-5, 5-3)
6. UCLA (6-4, 3-4)
7. Oregon State (5-5, 3-4)
8. Arizona (5-6, 2-6)
9. Arizona State (4-6, 1-6)
10. California (1-10, 0-8)

make it a game. If Washington State can get their running game going and keep quarterback Jason Gesser healthy, the Cougars should come out on top.

## Holiday Bowl

Washington, say hello to San Diego. It's hoped they can do a lot better than their 65-7 drubbing at Miami. And they'll have to do it against a tough Oklahoma squad, the Huskies' likely opponent. The Sooners will be hungry after their tough loss to Oklahoma State last weekend that knocked them out of the national championship race.

If Colorado beats Texas in the Big 12 Championship game, leaving Texas No. 2 in the conference, Nebraska would receive a BCS bowl bid, leaving Oklahoma in the guaranteed No. 3 slot for San Diego. If Colorado loses, the Buffaloes will likely play in the Holiday Bowl.

## Las Vegas Bowl

Southern California, who would have thought you'd have made it to a bowl game? Those Pete Carroll doubters better kiss his feet now, because after a tough first half of the season, he has brought the Trojans back respectability — and a possible bowl win.

Against Utah, the Trojans should have no problem. The Utes are an afterthought in the world of college football, and just getting a bowl invitation is a cause to celebrate in Salt Lake City. USC quarterback Carson Palmer should have a field day against the Utah secondary.

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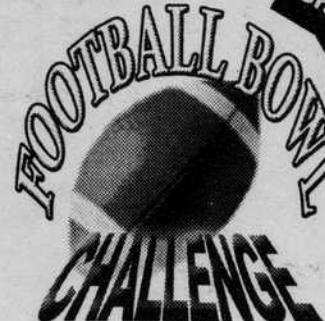
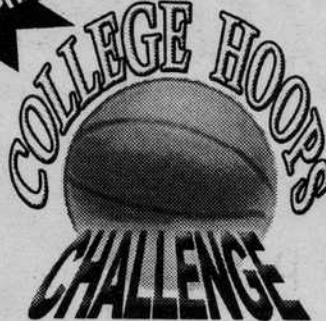


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