

# Oregon wants to be 'greedy'

■ Oregon's Pac-10 schedule revs up with important games against California and Stanford

By Hank Hager  
Oregon Daily Emerald

Don't blame Oregon head coach Bev Smith if she has mixed emotions when the Ducks travel to the Bay Area for tonight's game at California.

For one, the first-year coach will take her squad to Haas Pavilion for a 7 p.m. contest against the Golden Bears, a team searching for its first Pacific-10 Conference victory. Secondly, No. 5 Stanford looms large, with the Ducks heading to the South Bay on Sunday for a game against the conference's top team.

Who could blame Oregon (9-6 overall, 4-2 Pac-10) if they looked ahead to the Cardinal?

Cal hasn't won in conference play and has defeated the Ducks only once since 1993. Stanford, on the other hand, is simply Stanford — its tradition speaks for itself.

But the Ducks can't afford to look ahead to the red and white. The Berkeley blue and gold is all that matters right now.

"Every game in the Pac-10 is huge," senior Ednisha Curry said. "There are a lot of good teams, and we can't overlook anybody. We just

have to find a way to win."

To an outsider, the Bears (5-8, 0-4) don't seem to represent much of a challenge for Oregon. After all, they return only one starter — senior Ami Forney — from last season's squad, which finished 12-16.

But anything can happen when a team is hungry for its first win. It will take a total team effort for the Golden Bears to remain competitive.

"Our goal is that we need to be able to defend teams the last five minutes of the game," California head coach Caren Horstmeyer said. "Our mental toughness needs to be at a level that's tougher than any team that comes to play us in the last five minutes."

Cal's record is deceiving, with five of their eight losses coming within six points. However, their soft non-conference opponent schedule is nowhere near the talent level of the Pac-10, and their 59-56 loss to Bucknell last week gave them eight losses in their last nine games.

The one edge Cal may have is that Oregon has been inconsistent away from McArthur Court. They are 2-3 on the road, with their only wins coming against second-

tier teams Kansas and UCLA. In their three losses, they have been outscored by an average of nine points.

"On the road, you're always looking for the split," Oregon assistant coach Dan Muscatell said. "And the best way to do that is to beat Cal this week."

After their tune-up against California, the Ducks head straight into the lion's den.

Stanford (14-1, 4-0), ranked fifth in the nation in the Associated Press Top 25 poll and sixth in the ESPN/USA Today poll, awaits Oregon at Maples Pavilion, with the game televised on Fox Sports Net at 1 p.m.

The Ducks are only one game back of Stanford for first place in the Pacific-10 Conference.

Oregon is reeling after taking a split last weekend at Mac Court. Oregon controlled the game in a 19-point win over Arizona, but saw Arizona State come in two days later and dominate, winning 86-72.

"ASU was a good wake-up call," Smith said. "They had a mission, and we didn't respond. They came at us with all pistons firing."

"We just need to be greedy defensively."

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## Jude

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Redshirt sophomore Jason Fife served as a backup all season and seems destined to replace the great one, Joey Harrington (who is rumored to be one of the top picks in April's NFL draft). But Bellotti said Kellen Clemens, a super prep from Burns, Ore., who redshirted this season, will compete for the starting job.

Besides Harrington, the Ducks won't suffer a huge drop-off offensively next year. Returning are tailback Onterio Smith, who is coming off a 1,000-yard season, three dependable receivers, tight end George Wrihster and three offensive linemen.

"Winning a bowl game in the offseason motivates the younger guys to get better," senior tight end Justin Peelle said. "There's going to be a lot of pressure and a lot of doubt in a lot of people's minds because of who's leaving, but I think they'll be ready to play and win the Pac-10 title again next year."

Defense was the biggest question mark heading into the 2001 campaign. Holding Colorado to 49 rushing yards in the Fiesta Bowl erased any of those doubts.

Oregon will return five starters defensively next year — including linebackers Kevin Mitchell and David Moretti. The defensive line loses both tackles, but freshman defensive tackle Igor Olshansky, the only Duck to be named to the all-bowl team by Sports Illustrat-

ed, has shown great potential this season in limited action.

The Ducks, however, lose two of their defensive spark-plugs in cornerbacks Rashad Bauman and Steve Smith. The duo combined for 10 interceptions in 2001, leaving the Ducks with big shoes to fill in 2002.

"They have a good core coming back next year," Bauman said. "I'm sure coach Bellotti will have them ready. We're definitely looking forward to good things from the University of Oregon next year."

A three-peat is not out of the question, but it won't be easy. In fact, the Ducks could be rated the fourth-best of the four teams in the Pacific Northwest. Washington comes off an 8-4 season returning several key players, including receiver Reggie Williams. Washington State won 10 games and returns quarterback Jason Gesser. Oregon State has a lot of young talent and could be dangerous.

So is an unprecedented third-straight conference crown feasible? "I certainly hope so," Bellotti said. "It's hard to tell right now.

When you lose Joey Harrington, Maurice Morris and Justin Peelle, you're losing a lot of quality, a lot of talent and a lot of leadership. Those things don't just walk in the door."

Neither do victories.

Oregon will have to work just as hard, if not harder, to maintain its dominance. In essence, next season has already begun.

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### Horoscope by Linda C. Black

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY** (Jan. 10). You have lots of treasures to find this year. It ought to be fun. Start with your own closets and keep digging. This is just one way you'll find to increase your income. There's work involved, but you're no stranger to hard work. Stay busy and amass a fortune.

To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19) - Today is a 7 - Some sort of obligation or nagging doubt is slowing you down. You want to race off, but you're dragging an anchor. Heed that warning, or you'll be in real trouble when you get into shallow water.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20) - Today is a 7 - You may have to hold back on an entertainment option you'd planned, but that doesn't mean you can't have fun. Instead of going out to an expensive movie, how about renting a video? It's more fun, more private, and you get a lot more popcorn for your money.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21) - Today is a 6 - You may have noticed a very interesting person. You sometimes seem to be on the same wavelength, and sometimes you clash. This is fascinating, but one thing is certain: If you flirt on company time, the boss will not be amused.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22) - Today is a 6 - Postpone your outing until the weekend. You'll have something to look forward to while you're slogging through your chores. Follow through on an insider's tip to make or save money.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) - Today is a 7 - Hold off on a major purchase a while longer. Now that you don't have to worry about new payments, maybe you can relax. A person who loves you very much would like to have a word with you in person.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) - Today is a 7 - Are you getting ideas about shifting things around at home? Redecorating? Maybe even moving? Better check with your roommate first. This road is fraught with peril.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct 22) - Today is an 8 - You're a voracious reader, especially now. Indulge that tendency. That may be hard during working hours, but you'll think of something. And after working hours, study. You're an information pi-ranha.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) - Today is a 6 - Don't let a financial disagreement with a loved one get out of hand. Instead of providing funds, provide encouragement. When this person generates more income, you'll both feel a lot better.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) - Today is a 7 - You're full of great ideas. Unfortunately, not everyone will be ready for your brilliance. One person, in particular, may veto your proposal. This is why it's so important for you to have several plans ready. Keep pestering this person for about a week, and you'll finally succeed.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) - Today is a 6 - Carefully reassess your resources. Take those antiques to be appraised. Some are worth more than you thought, and some less, but it'll help you sleep better to know.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) - Today is a 7 - Don't give out any loans, even to someone who seems to need one very much. You can give a gift if you'd like. Food, comfort and a shoulder to cry on would be much appreciated.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20) - Today is a 6 - New information could spur you to take action if you don't like the way things are going. Don't let them push you around. Instead of fighting when you're outnumbered, put together a good team.

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Practice Exam: Jan. 30  
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CH 222	5:00 MW	MATH 111	3:00 MW
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PSY 302	4:00 UH	MATH 111	4:00 UH
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FR 202	4:00 UH	MATH 112	4:00 MW
SPAN 102	4:00 MW	MATH 241	4:00 UH
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MATH 095	4:00 MW	MATH 251	3:00 MW
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