



Adam Amato Emerald

Stanford senior center Bethany Donaphin grabs a rebound over Oregon's Nndidi Unaka in the Cardinal's 77-72 victory at McArthur Court on Feb. 7. Although Stanford has not lost a Pac-10 game this season, Oregon guard Shaquala Williams said, "Nobody's afraid of Stanford."

Stanford

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starting anew, though, nobody, as Williams said, is backing down from Stanford.

"Everybody is beatable," Arizona State head coach Charli Thurner Thorne said. "There were certainly some teams that played (Stanford) well."

USC had a chance to upset the Cardinal on Feb. 21. The Trojans led Stanford at halftime, 36-28, but Powell torched the Trojans for 24

points in the second half to lead the Cardinal to a 78-60 win.

"There is nothing we'd like more than to see them again," said USC head coach Chris Gobretch. "We are kicking ourselves for letting a great opportunity slip away. We really want to play them again."

USC must get by Oregon State, its first opponent Saturday, to get another shot at Stanford in the semifinals on Sunday. The Trojans have already defeated the Beavers twice this season.

But that's assuming Stanford gets

past the winner of the UCLA-Cal matchup on Saturday.

Oregon has played the Cardinal well this season. The Ducks led by as much as six in the second half on Feb. 7 before falling 77-72, Stanford's closest win of the season.

"It's going to be probably the most intense conference tournament in the country," Gobretch said. "Probably the most exciting and unpredictable."

E-mail sports editor Adam Jude at adamjude@dailyemerald.com.

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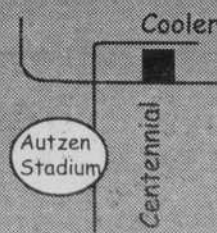


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