

■ PAC-10

Stanford to play former coach, Notre Dame

Fighting Irish hope to top Cardinal after ugly loss last Saturday against Purdue left team hurting

BY SCOTT J. ADAMS
FREELANCE REPORTER

Week seven of the 2004-05 football season pits Pacific-10 Conference upstart Stanford against its former head coach, Tyrone Willingham, and Notre Dame.

As the late Rodney Dangerfield of the Pac-10, Stanford is looking for respect after tallying a 3-1 start. Stanford's only loss so far came two weeks ago against undefeated defending National Champion Southern California in a 31-28 nail-biter at Palo Alto, Calif.

Buddy Teevens, now in his second year as Stanford's head coach, leads the Cardinal into South Bend, Ind., this weekend, which marks Stanford's first away game of the season. The Cardinal are coming off of a 27-

14 win against Washington, which saw junior J.R. Lemon rush for 162 yards and three touchdowns.

Stanford's sophomore quarterback Trent Edwards has proven himself to be reliable, regardless of his questionable arm-strength. He is a steady performer who has very accurate throwing in the pocket. Notre Dame defensive coordinator Kent Baer will try to capitalize on Edwards' lack of experience by forcing heavy pressure on him all game.

For Stanford this season, defense wins games, and this Saturday the Cardinal will need another stingy outing by its defense in order to keep the game in its control.

Willingham views Stanford's defense as nothing less than formidable.



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Stanford free safety Oshiomogho Atogwe, seen here against BYU, and the Cardinal visit South Bend, Ind., on Saturday.



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■ Game of the week

Sell-out crowd will watch No. 1 USC take on No. 7 Cal

Co-defending national champ USC seeks to avenge single loss of last season against Cal Bears on Saturday

BY ALEX TAM
FREELANCE REPORTER

History looks to repeat itself in the biggest game to date of the Pacific-10 Conference this weekend.

Two of the nation's elite programs will square off when co-defending national champion USC (4-0 overall, 1-0 Pac-10) hosts No. 7 California (3-0, 1-0) at 12:30 p.m. Saturday in Los Angeles.

In their past 25 games, the No. 1 Trojans have compiled a gaudy 24-1 record. That lone loss, however, came at the hands of California in a thrilling 34-31 triple-overtime game in Berkeley, Calif., last September.

Golden Bears head coach Jeff Tedford said his team believes it can once again translate last season's win over USC into another monumental upset.

"They will take some confidence out of last year's game that we've done this before," said Tedford, a former offensive coordinator at Oregon. "That being said, they have tremendous respect for USC — you'd be foolish not to."

Tedford said his biggest worry heading into the contest is the protection of his junior quarterback Aaron Rodgers. Through three games this season, Rodgers has passed for 614

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