

IN BRIEF

It was just four years ago when the Pacific-10 Conference's Northwest contingent had three teams ranked in the top 10 nationally and none of the California or Arizona schools finished with a winning record.

The balance of power shifted.

This season, the schools from Oregon and Washington are struggling to get any wins, while Southern California, California, Arizona State and UCLA are dominating the conference.

Washington, Washington State, Oregon and Oregon State have combined for a 7-13 record, with four of the wins coming against New Mexico and Idaho, and the others against Arizona, San Jose State and in Oregon's win at Washington State.

That's a big change from recent years. One of the Northwest schools won at least a share of the conference title in nine of the 13 years between 1990-2002.

Since that season, nine of the conference's 10 schools have changed coaches, with Oregon's Mike Bellotti the only holdover. The biggest

changes have come at USC and Cal, where Pete Carroll and Jeff Tedford have rebuilt struggling programs.

"Obviously there's been some change," Bellotti said. "There has been a lot of coaching changes in the conference in the past few years, which can affect recruiting."

While Washington plays in Seattle and has been a traditional Pac-10 power, Oregon State (Corvallis), Oregon (Eugene) and Washington State (Pullman) have a much harder task recruiting talented players.

— The Associated Press

No. 2 signal caller waits for his turn as Georgia's QB

D.J. Shockley enters third season still sitting behind David Greene despite marked improvements in play

BY PAUL NEWBERRY
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ATHENS, Ga. — As soon as the game ended, D.J. Shockley knew there was someone from the other team he had to find.

Shockley headed toward the opposite sideline, trying to locate Tennessee's backup quarterback. Brent Schaeffer started the season as the Vols' starter, but he played only one series in a victory over Georgia last weekend.

Shockley could relate to Schaeffer's predicament better than anyone.

Shockley has gone through those sort of feelings at Georgia, where he's in his third season as the No. 2 quarterback. Last week, he took on the Bulldogs' third possession, guided them to their first touchdown, and went straight back to the bench.

"That's always going to be frustrating," Shockley said. "When you do something good, you want to get back out there and perform."

David Greene is the starter at Georgia. Shockley has to wait his turn, which is projected to finally come in 2005 — his senior season.

From time to time, Shockley's thoughts will wander to what might have been. How would things have worked out at another school?

"It's kind of mind-boggling," he said. "You never know. I could have been somewhere else doing nothing. I could have been somewhere else and been successful."

Shockley signed with Georgia before Greene had played a down in college. A year ahead of Shockley, Greene sat out a redshirt year, then became the starter in 2001, Mark Richt's first season as coach.

Shockley was redshirted his first year, as well. By the time he got on the field in 2002, Greene had a firm grasp on the quarterback job.

Still, Richt realized right away that Shockley had enormous potential. The coach went out of his way to appease the backup, playing him in 10

games as a redshirt freshman (Shockley missed the other four contests with a foot injury).

But Greene got most of the playing time, leading the Bulldogs to their first Southeastern Conference championship in 20 years.

Shockley knew what he was up against. He seriously considered transferring to another school that might offer an immediate chance to start.

"It could have gone either way," he said. "I really didn't know what I wanted to do. I talked with my family and they told me to go with my heart. My heart was at Georgia. I didn't want to go anywhere else."

Shockley knew what he had at Georgia — two more years as a backup. Even so, he stayed with the red and black and never looked back.

"I know he had some reservations early in his career about whether to stay or go," Georgia quarterbacks coach Mike Bobo said. "When he decided to come back, he knew Greene was the starter. He had to be happy being a Georgia Bulldog."

Shockley gave another tantalizing sample of his potential against Tennessee.

Richt decided before the game to use his backup quarterback on the third possession. When Shockley trotted on the field, the Bulldogs already were behind 10-0 and had yet to make a first down. He quickly drove them down the field, connecting with Fred Gibson on a 24-yard touchdown.

Apparently it was not enough to keep Shockley in the game. He played one more series in the second half. That was it. Greene went the rest of the way in a 19-14 loss that cost the No. 12 Bulldogs (4-1, 2-1 SEC) nine spots in the Associated Press top 25.

"I never thought my career would come out like this," he conceded. "But now I know I can handle any type of situation. Yes, it's been frustrating at times. But it's also been a great experience."

GO TO WWW.THRASHERPRESENTS.COM
FOR A FULL SCHEDULE AND TO FIND OUT HOW TO GET TICKETS
BEFORE THEY GO ON SALE

THRASHER!
PRESENTS

JOHN HENRY'S 77 W BROADWAY

MON OCT 18
8:00PM DOORS
21 & OVER

THIS MON

EAGLES OF DEATH METAL

BULLETS AND OCTANE SWISS ARMY & ON THE FIRST DAY... THEY WERE KITTENS

FEATURING JESSE 'THE DEVIL' HUGHES, JOEY CASTILLO AND DAVE CATCHING

800-325-SEAT **TicketsWest**

ROCK 97.9 NRQ

NEW ALBUM 'FUTURES' FEATURING 'PAIN'
OUT 10/19
WWW.JIMMYEATWORLD.COM

JIMMY EAT WORLD

recover

& A THORN FOR EVERY HEART

NOW ON SALE

TUES NOV 2
7:00PM DOORS
ALL AGES
BAR WITH ID

TELEPHONE

Col. Claypool's Bucket Of Bernie Brains

Les Claypool, Buckethead, Bernie Worrell and Brain

And Gabby La-la

FRI NOV 5
7:00PM DOORS
ALL AGES
BAR WITH ID

TICKETS GOING FAST

1010 WILLAMETTE STREET

800-325-SEAT **TicketsWest**

Gary

Kelli

Flavio

The Captains of Team Quiznos

13th and Alder
(inside Starbucks)

Let us cater
your next event!
(541) 338-7098

Go Toasty!