

PAC-10 teams touchdown in top 25

Robert Morrison
Sports Editor

Pacific 10 National Athletic Association conference or PAC-10, was formed in 1979. The conference has also been nicknamed the "Conference of Champions" because the PAC-10 has more NCAA titles than any other conference.

The PAC-10 consists of the following schools: University of California, University of Southern California, University of Arizona, University of Washington, Washington State University, UCLA, Stanford University, Oregon State University, University of Oregon. Joining the conference the PAC-10 will be Colorado and meaning the PAC-10 will be expanded to 12.

The PAC-10 turning into the Big 12 makes a lot more competitive competition makes the conference "better," stated Taylor Aungst in an e-mail. Aungst is a student at Arizona, which holds two national titles.

For this year the PAC-10 is well, with three of the teams ranked in the Bowl Championship Series standings. USC leads all the PAC-10 teams with a No. 12 at 5-1, Stanford is No. 18 at 5-1, Oregon has already been awarded the honorable title of bowl eligi-

ble. They hold a record of 6-0, and half their wins have come in PAC-10 play. After a year that watched the team cut Jeremiah Masoli for stealing and player LeGarrette Blount punch a Boise State player, Oregon has made a comeback to the top of college teams.

"I'm okay with it. They wouldn't be my choice but they are 6-0, so why the heck not? I'd want California to be up there," said Ryan Peterson, a California resident and sports fan.

Southern California was penalized for giving improper benefits to Heisman Trophy-winning running back Reggie Bush. Among the penalties were the team being revoked a 2005 Orange Bowl win, stripped of 12 wins, losing roughly 20 scholarships and finally the team will be unable to play in any bowl game, even the National Championship, for two years. They will also be on probation for four years.

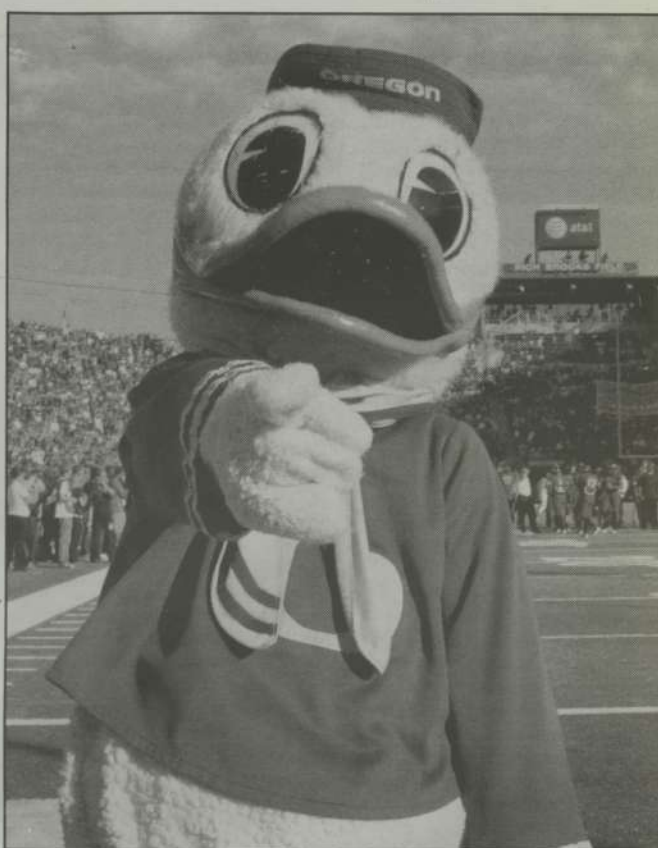
"The USC sanctions are probably too harsh. At the time they were given, I felt like justice was served but now it seems that so many other programs have been implicated in similar situations and I doubt everyone will receive the same scrutiny that USC received. The Trojans were made an example of by the NCAA in hopes it would send a message to other programs. That's not fair to USC," stated Chris Barlow in an e-mail.

Barlow was an undergraduate from University of California and a graduate of the University of Oregon.

The winner of the PAC-10 is invited to play in the Rose Bowl but the way the second-ranked Oregon team is playing, they might want to play for the National Title—the biggest title in college football—rather than play for a not-as-important Rose Bowl trophy. Oregon looks to follow up last year's PAC-10 title with the National Trophy. The last PAC-10 team to win the National Title was USC in 2008.

USC has fallen from its common spot atop the PAC-10 after winning the title for six of the last seven years. They hold a record of 5-2. Former Head Coach Pete Carroll left to accept a head coaching job for the Seattle Seahawks in the offseason. The team also lost a number of its starters from last year to professional teams, as did a lot of the other PAC-10 teams. Oregon gets far more of their starters back than the rest of the PAC-10 teams.

Each PAC-10 team has their own goals for the season. Every team would like to win the PAC-10 title or have a National Championship birth, but not all teams will get that chance. No. 2 Oregon looks ahead to their chances to win "The Big One" as they play the remainder of their season. Oregon will try for another win as they play the UCLA Bruins tomorrow, Oct. 21 at 6 p.m.



Contributed by Eric Evans

Puddles, the Oregon Duck, represents the University of Oregon during their game against fellow PAC-10 team Stanford.

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BCS standings

BCS rankings are based off of three percentages that have been averaged. The Harris Interactive College Football Poll, the USA Today Poll, and the Computer Polls. The final decimal is between .0000 and 1.0000.

1. Oklahoma
2. Oregon
3. Boise State
4. Auburn
5. TCU
6. LSU
7. Michigan State
8. Alabama
9. Utah
10. Ohio State
11. Missouri
12. Stanford
13. Wisconsin
14. Oklahoma State
15. Iowa
16. Nebraska
17. Florida State
18. Arizona
19. Texas
20. West Virginia
21. South Carolina
22. Kansas State
23. Arkansas
24. Mississippi State
25. Virginia Tech

Last week's sudoku answers

Puzzle 1 (Easy, difficulty rating 0.45)

4	5	7	9	6	3	1	8	2
3	2	1	7	8	4	6	5	9
8	9	6	2	1	5	7	3	4
6	8	2	4	7	1	3	9	5
1	7	5	3	2	9	8	4	6
9	4	3	6	5	8	2	1	7
7	3	9	8	4	2	5	6	1
5	6	4	1	3	7	9	2	8
2	1	8	5	9	6	4	7	3