

been a pleasant surprise but OSU will be hard-pressed to avoid the cellar this year.
Ducks in Corvallis: Saturday, January 10 Beavers in Eugene: Saturday, February 7

STANFORD CARDINAL



Matt Lottich
injury. Senior guard, Matt Lottich was named the Pac-10 player-of-the-week for his 18 points against Stanford and on another week Hernandez was honored after scoring 39 points. They are strong both inside and on the perimeter, and if they are able to return to full strength they will be hard to beat. Their first big conference test is soon: January 10th in Tucson.

Stanford in Eugene: Saturday, January 31 Ducks in Palo Alto: Saturday, February 28

UCLA BRUINS

Head Coach: Ben Howland, first year
Gone: Jason Kapon, Ray Young, Andre Patterson
Top Returnees: 6-7 junior forward, Dijon Thompson; 6-9 senior forward, T.J. Cummings; and 6-6 junior guard, Cedric Bozeman.
Top Newcomers: 6-2 junior guard, Brian Morrison; 6-7 freshmen forward, Trevor Ariza.

Top 5 scorers (pre-conference):
Dijon Thompson, 6-7, junior: 15.6
T.J. Cummings, 6-9, senior: 14.0
Cedric Bozeman, 6-6, junior: 13.4
Brian Morrison, 6-2, junior: 12.0
Trevor Ariza, 6-7, freshman: 11.0

Forecast: The good news for the Bruins is that in the preseason they only lost by two points to Kentucky. The bad news is that they got beat by one by UC-Santa Barbara. Under first year head coach Ben Howland, who was very successful at Northern Arizona and Pittsburgh, the Bruins are still showing signs of showing up for the big games, but disappearing in the "less" important ones. Only against UC Riverside have they scored more than 70 points in a game. The impressive thing about the Bruins is their balanced scoring. They have 6 players who are averaging in double figures (7-0 sophomore Michael Fey is the 6th). The main contributors are experienced and talented players. If the Bruins can produce a greater effort each game, they will be contenders for the #3 position in the league.

Ducks at Pauley: Sunday, January 4 Bruins in Eugene: Saturday, March 6

USC TROJANS



Jeff McMillan

Head Coach: Mike Montgomery, 18th year
Gone: Julius Barnes (16.0 ppg)
Top Returnees: 6-8 junior forward, Josh Childress; 6-9 senior forward, Justin Davis; 6-4 senior guard, Matt Lottich, 6-10 junior center, Rob Little, 6-2 sophomore guard, Chris Hernandez.
Top Newcomer: 6-5 freshman forward, Fred Washington (plays sparingly on this veteran team).
Top 5 Scorers (pre-conference):
Chris Hernandez, 6-2 sophomore: 14.0
Matt Lottich, 6-4 senior: 12.2
Rob Little, 6-10 junior: 10.3
Justin Davis, 6-9 senior: 9.8
Nick Robinson, 6-6 junior: 7.8

Forecast: Stanford is not flashy, but they get the job done as they have knocked off #1 Kansas. They have been very impressive despite not having Josh Childress for the preseason and Chris Hernandez missing some games due to an

injury. Senior guard, Matt Lottich was named the Pac-10 player-of-the-week for his 18 points against Stanford and on another week Hernandez was honored after scoring 39 points. They are strong both inside and on the perimeter, and if they are able to return to full strength they will be hard to beat. Their first big conference test is soon: January 10th in Tucson.

Stanford in Eugene: Saturday, January 31 Ducks in Palo Alto: Saturday, February 28



Cedric Bozeman

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Ducks at Pauley: Sunday, January 4 Bruins in Eugene: Saturday, March 6

Head Coach: Henry Bibby, 9th year.
Gone: Robert Hutchinson (5.1 ppg).
Top Returnees: 6-5 senior guard, Desmond Farmer; 6-2 junior guard, Errick Craven, 6-11 junior center, Rory O'Neil, 6-8 junior forward, Nick Curtis, and 6-2 junior guard, Derrick Craven.
Top Newcomers: 6-8 junior forward, Jeff McMillan, 6-4 freshman guards, Lodrick and Rodrick Stewart.
Top 5 scorers (pre-conference):
Desmon Farmer, 6-5 senior: 15.8
Jeff McMillan, 6-8 junior: 14.8
Rory O'Neil, 6-11 junior: 12.0
Errick Craven, 6-2 junior: 10.2
Derrick Craven, 6-2 junior: 8.3
Forecast: The Trojans have to be the Pac-10s most underachieving team to date. They struggled last year without Sam Clancy to

tie for 6th with Oregon State and another underachiever, UCLA. They return every major contributor this year and have added a good forward in J.C. transfer Jeff McMillan from New York. Yet the Trojans have lost to Western Michigan and UNLV and struggled to beat St. Mary's and Cal-State Fullerton in overtime games. What's going on in Troy? Maybe coach Bibby gets too confused trying to yell at twins Errick and Derrick and Lodrick and Rodrick. On paper the Trojans should vie for 3rd place, but another lower division finish is more likely for this experienced team.

Ducks in LA: Friday, January 2nd Trojans in Eugene: Thursday, March 4th

WASHINGTON HUSKIES

Head Coach: Lorenzo Romar, 2nd year
Gone: Doug Wrenn (12.4 ppg), C.J. Massingale
Top Returnees: 6-2 junior guard, Will Conroy; 5-9 sophomore guard, Nate Robinson; 6-6 sophomore forward, Bobby Jones; 6-0 senior guard, Curtis Allen, 6-8 sophomore forward Mike Jensen, 6-6 sophomore forward, Brandon Roy.
Top Newcomers: 6-5 junior guard, Tre Simmons, 6-7 junior forward, Hakeem Rollins

Top 5 scorers (pre-conference):
Brandon Roy, 6-6 sophomore: 14.2
Will Conroy, 6-2 junior: 11.0
Bobby Jones, 6-6, sophomore: 10.6
Curtis Allen, 6-0, senior: 9.8
Nate Robinson, 5-9 freshman: 7.0

Forecast: The Huskies have been beaten badly by Gonzaga and Wyoming in their only real preseason tests. With only one senior (Curtis Allen) second year coach can afford to be optimistic with a team that went 5-13 last year. He has added J.C. transfers Tre Simmons and Hakeem Rollins who are both averaging about 7 points per game. The Huskies are one of those teams which has enough talent to pull some upsets but never plays consistently enough to be a winner. Things may change for the better for UW this year but I wouldn't count on it. They will most likely be in competition for 8th or 9th place with their cross-state rivals.

Huskies in Eugene: Thursday, January 15th Ducks in Seattle: Thursday, February 12th

WASHINGTON STATE COUGARS



Marcus Moore

year to avoid the basement. They lost to Rice and Southern Utah in the preseason which doesn't foster much optimism, but did beat TCU and Montana. The Cougars are very athletic and will ride on the success of All Pac-10 performer Marcus Moore who decided not to enter the NBA draft early. The Cougars were plagued with injuries last year and the strength of their team is the backcourt. Their frontcourt is only averaging about 16 points total so far this year. It looks like WSU may have the talent to overcome the Beavers to avoid last place but 8th or 9th appears to be a safe bet.

Cougars in Eugene: Saturday, January 17th Ducks in Pullman: Saturday, February 14th

Editors Predictions:

1. Stanford
2. Arizona
3. UCLA
4. Arizona State
5. Oregon
6. California
7. USC
8. Washington
9. Washington State
10. Oregon State



Nate Robinson

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Ducks at Pauley: Sunday, January 4 Bruins in Eugene: Saturday, March 6

Head Coach: Dick Bennett, first year
Gone: Cedrick Hughey, Justin Lyman, Milton Riley, Jerry McNair who all averaged about 7 points per game.
Top Returnees: 6-6 senior guard, Marcus Moore; 6-5 junior guard, Thomas Kelati, 6-4 sophomore guard, Randy Green; 6-8 senior center, Ezenwa Ukeagu; and 6-6 junior forward, Chris Schlatter.
Top Newcomers: 6-6 freshman guard, Lance Den Boer and 6-1 freshman guard, T.J. Paterick..
Top 5 scorers (pre-conference):
Marcus Moore, 6-6 senior: 13.9
Thomas Kelati, 6-5 junior: 10.9
Randy Green, 6-4 sophomore: 9.0
Ezenwa Ukeagu, 6-8 senior: 6.3
Shami Gill, 6-7 junior: 6.1

Forecast: The Cougars under first year — but 25-year veteran — coach Dick Bennett will have their work cut out again this