

PAC-12 PREVIEW



AP Photo/Eric Gay, File
Stanford running back Bryce Love (20) is pursued by TCU cornerback Jeff Gladney (12) as he runs for a touchdown during the Alamo Bowl in San Antonio on Dec. 28, 2017. Love bucked popular opinion by sticking with the Cardinal rather than declaring early for the NFL draft.

Year of the return

Chip Kelly is back, Bryce Love, too, in the Pac-12 for the 2018 season

By ANNE M. PETERSON
Associated Press

Chip Kelly, who haunted opposing teams with his blur offense for the Oregon Ducks a few years ago, returns to the Pac-12 this season as head coach at UCLA. He'll make his season debut with the Bruins this Saturday at home against Cincinnati.

But Kelly is not the only one who is back this season. Stanford's Bryce Love bucked popular opinion by sticking with the Cardinal rather than declaring early for the NFL draft. Quarterback Jake Browning similarly decided to play out his final year of eligibility at Washington.

And of course Jonathan Smith has returned to Oregon State as coach after a stellar playing career for the Beavers.

So perhaps it's the Year of the Return in the Pac-12.

Kelly, who left the league four years ago to try his hand at the NFL, joked about the changes since his tenure with the Ducks.

"I think when I first came into this league there weren't many spread offenses and we were the only team that had shiny helmets, and now everybody runs the spread offense and everybody has shiny helmets," he said at the league's annual media day.



AP Photo/Jae C. Hong, File
UCLA head coach Chip Kelly speaks at the Pac-12 Conference NCAA college football Media Day in Los Angeles.

Kelly was in charge of the Ducks from 2009-12, during which Oregon went 46-7, won three conference titles and reached four major bowl games — including the BCS championship game following the 2010 season.

He took over a UCLA program that hasn't won a conference title since 1998. But his addition, along with the Bruins' new \$65 million training center, has Westwood excited.

Kelly was given a five-year, \$23.3 million deal to replace Jim Mora, who went 46-30 and twice tied UCLA's single-season wins record. But the Bruins had slumped in recent years, winning just 10 of their last 27 games.

Away from the college game, Kelly went 28-35 with the Philadelphia Eagles and the San Francisco 49ers from 2013-16, getting fired from both teams after losing seasons. He was an ESPN football analyst last fall.

Since opposing teams have pretty much adapted to the up-tempo spread offense that Kelly popularized, he's no doubt looking for a new way to stump the league.

See PAC-12/3B

PREP FOOTBALL



Pendleton
Buckaroos
(0-0)



La Grande
Tigers
(0-0)

Thursday, 7 p.m., at
Pendleton High School

Bucks ready for Tigers

With lofty goals, Pendleton aims to start 1-0

By ERIC SINGER
East Oregonian

PENDLETON — In 2017, La Grande snapped a three-game losing streak against Pendleton as the Tigers came away with a 36-29 victory in Week 1. The game spoiled Pendleton's highly anticipated home opener under the brand-new lights, and dashed any dreams of an undefeated season right from the start.

The Buckaroos and Tigers are scheduled to meet once again in the season opener at 7 p.m. Thursday night at Pendleton High School, though the Buckaroos aren't looking for any sort of revenge, per se.

"I don't know if I'd use the word revenge," Pendleton head coach Erik Davis said during Tuesday's practice. "I think if you go into a game with that idea of 'Gotta get them back for something that happened last year,' it takes you out of the game plan and our kids aren't doing that. They're focused on simple things and trying to come out with the W."

The Buckaroos will see a much-different La Grande team on Thursday night. The Tigers graduated their stud quarterback Andrew Peasley, who fleeced Pendleton's defense for 335 total yards and four touchdowns last season, as well as running back Isaac Chamberlain, receiver GT Blackman, and five offensive linemen. But that doesn't mean that the Buckaroos won't be facing a talented team, led by a new starting quarterback in Parker Robinson.

"La Grande's always a really good team, and they're going to be a good opponent," said Pendleton senior and former La Grande Tiger, Willie Camp. "But we're going to treat it like every other opponent and try to be 1-0 at the end of the day."

On the other sideline, Pendleton returns much of the same team that took the field against La Grande last season, though now those Buckaroos bring more experience to the field. The only uncertainty, really, is at quarterback, where

See BUCKS/3B

Prep roundup

Vikings thump East Linn Christian to win opener

Alanis, Castro each net two goals for Umatilla

East Oregonian

UMATILLA — Jose Alanis scored two goals and netted two assists and Luis Castro netted two goals and one assist as Umatilla thumped East Linn Christian Academy, 6-2, on Tuesday in its season opener.

The Vikings (1-0 overall) took a

1-0 lead just five minutes into the game when Alexis Ruiz buried a goal off of a pass from Jefri Coria. After East Linn Christian tied it in the 10th minute, the Vikings took the lead back in the 14th minute when Coria netted his second assist of the game with a pass to Alanis who buried the goal for a 2-1 lead.

From there, the Vikings cruised to the win. Coria finished with a goal and two assists, while Ruiz had one goal and one assist and

Emmanuel Arredondo had one assist.

The Vikings will go for two wins in a row on Thursday when they host Mac-Hi for a 4:30 p.m. kick.

VOLLEYBALL

WESTON-MCEWEN JAMBOREE — At Athena, Irrigon, Helix, Enterprise and Weston-McEwen had a busy day of volleyball, competing in a one-

set pool play format before ending the day with traditional matches.

Weston-McEwen was perfect in pool play, defeating Helix 25-13, Irrigon 25-18 and Enterprise 25-12. Helix also lost to Enterprise 26-24 and lost to Irrigon 25-7.

In the best-of-five matches, the TigerScots (6-0) defeated Irrigon 3-1, winning 25-18, 25-20, 18-25 and 25-18. Haley White led the Knights (2-1) in the match with 10 kills and Brianna Rice had six kills, while Myka Davis led with

eight blocks.

Team leaders for Weston-McEwen for the day included Hailley Weaver with 21 kills, Tyree Burke with 18 kills, 12 blocks and seven aces, Emma Olso and Keree Graves with 35 digs, and Bryce Thul with 42 assists.

For the Grizzlies (2-1), they lost to Enterprise in their best-of-five match 3-0, losing 25-17, 25-18 and 25-17. Arianna Krol led the team with five kills and three aces and Annie Wood had 17 digs.

Sports shorts

Players face brutal conditions at steamy US Open

NEW YORK (AP) — Players scrambled for relief from the heat and some retired from their matches when they couldn't find it at an overheated second day of the U.S. Open.

Novak Djokovic said he felt sick during a changeover in his match on a day when conditions were so difficult because of the heat that U.S. Open officials extended to men an extreme heat rule that only exists on the women's tour.

The WTA rule allows women to leave the

court for 10 minutes between the second and third sets, and on Tuesday men were allowed to take similar breaks between the third and fourth sets.

Even that wasn't enough on a day when a heat advisory in New York went into effect at 11 a.m., the same time play began, and was to remain until 9 p.m. Wednesday, with temperatures in the mid-90s and heat index values in excess of 100 degrees (38 Celsius).

"Ten minutes? I would have needed an hour and a half," said Leonardo Mayer, an



THIS DATE IN SPORTS

1974 — Nineteen-year-old high school basketball star Moses Malone, signs a contract with the Utah Stars of the ABA to become the first player to go directly from high school into major professional basketball.

1998 — Toms River, N.J., wins its first Little League World Series with a 12-9 victory over Kashima, Japan. Chris Cardone hits home runs in consecutive at-bats — including the game-deciding two-run shot.

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