



97th ROSE BOWL GAME

JANUARY 1, 2011

PRE-GAME ACTIVITIES 1:30 P.M. (PT) / 4:30 P.M. (ET) · KICKOFF 2:10 P.M. (PT) / 5:10 P.M. (ET)
ROSE BOWL STADIUM (CAPACITY: 91,000)

“Home of the Big Ten and Pac-10 Conference Champions”

Sixth Edition, 10/7/10

Big Ten Game of the Week: Michigan State at Michigan, Saturday, 12:30 p.m./3:30 p.m. (ABC/ESPN)

It's a state rivalry at its finest as the Spartans head to the Wolverines den in Ann Arbor this weekend. The college football world has been fairly quiet about the successes of both these teams, despite their impressive rankings and creative wins. Identical records both overall and in conference (5-0, 1-0) each shares an equally 'big' win over the Notre Dame Irish. Michigan State head coach Mark Dantonio returns after a two week absence and a serious health scare – certainly on the mind of the entire team of Spartans and fan faithful. This will be the first week Michigan faces a team currently ranked in the Top 25 and sophomore sensation Denard Robinson is armed...and ready. Robinson's stats through five games: passing yards: 1,008 (201.6 yards/game), rushing yards: 905 (181 yards/game), touchdowns: 15 (yes...that's 90 points) and interceptions: 1. The Wolverines are second in the country gaining over 560 yards of offense a game. And while this is a team sport, it's pretty safe to say their future success relies on this Heisman hopeful's arms and legs. So far this season Robinson has faced little challenge on the defensive front with an average ranking of 87. Michigan State is a fairly balanced team with quarterback Kirk Cousins leading the charge with 1,132 yards and nine touchdowns this season. In 2007 Michigan won its 30th game over Michigan State in their last 38 meetings. Since then, the Spartans have won two in a row. Will Sparty find a way to pull off the triple threat? Tune in and find out!

Pac-10 Game of the Week: USC at Stanford, Saturday, 5 p.m./8 p.m. (ABC/ESPN-GP)

What happens when you add two losses together by 4-1 teams who think they should have won? You get the Trojans on the road against the Cardinal. A visit to the Farm is hardly what Lane Kiffin had in mind after a stunning last second loss in SoCal last weekend. The road, unfortunately, gets no easier for USC. Rather than look ahead, Kiffin needs his team to focus in the now – and not look in the past either (which isn't pretty). USC currently ranks 116th in the nation in pass defense (288 yards allowed per game), 99th in total defense (419) and is tied for 64th in scoring defense (24 points allowed per game). On any other Saturday, Trojan quarterback Matt Barkley would enter this game with impressive stats – No. 1 in the Pac-10 and 14th in the nation in passing efficiency. But just because Andrew Luck ran out of luck last weekend in Eugene, don't think for a minute this offensive work horse isn't armed and ready to get back on top. Head coach Jim Harbaugh is really downplaying the infamous episode after last year's game and exchange between former Trojan coach Pete Carroll after Stanford defeated USC 55-21 at the Coliseum. But it was famous enough for the marketing group in Palo Alto to whip up a campaign known as the “What's Your Deal” ticket package. Stanford's old school appeal and USC brash flashiness hit the dichotomy apex of college football in NoCal. The tree is already stretching and looking to make it three out of four years for a new kid in town to rule the Pac-10 Conference. Watch out Trojans.

National Game of the Week: LSU at Florida, Saturday, 4:30 p.m./7:30 p.m. (ESPN)

LSU is 5-0. Start rubbing your eyes. LSU is ranked 12th in the country. Are you still rubbing them? LSU goes into The Swamp leading the SEC in total defense (246.6 yards per game), rushing defense (79.0 yards per game) and sacks (16). LSU is second to only Alabama in scoring defense in the conference with 12.4 points a contest, which ranks No. 5 nationally. So why the heck are they so bad? In a total meltdown last weekend and a victory on a prayer the bayou fans were squirming with alternating quarterbacks and terrible clock management. Les Miles had become a human sacrificial ornament in Louisiana. On paper, they look good. To watch is nothing less than painful. The stats of these two teams are impressive. They have combined to win the last three of four BCS National Championships – Florida in 2006, LSU in 2007 and Florida again in 2008. In an off/down year for the Gators, this one has the potential to get ugly...for either team. Saturday marks the 57th meeting between these two teams. Florida has won three of the last four match-ups and LSU's last win in Gainesville came in 2005. Miles is 2-3 vs. Florida. Opponents are posting 12.4 points per game against LSU, which is one of the best defensive teams in the nation. On the flip side, opponents are posting 17.6 points per game against the Gators. It might be one of the more even match-ups in recent years between these two SEC foes. Will Urban Meyer's team be looking for the ultimate revenge after a spanking by the Crimson Tide last weekend? Turnovers will be a key in this battle and whoever can control the ball just might control a 'W' at the end of the day.

RANKINGS

(As of Oct. 7, 2010)

USA Today Coaches

1. Alabama
2. Ohio State
3. Oregon
4. Boise State
5. TCU
6. Nebraska
7. Oklahoma
8. Auburn
9. LSU
10. Utah
11. Arizona
12. Florida
13. Arkansas
14. Miami (FL)
15. Iowa
16. Michigan State
17. Michigan
18. Stanford
19. Wisconsin
20. South Carolina
21. Oklahoma State
22. Missouri
23. Nevada
24. Florida State
25. Northwestern

Associated Press

1. Alabama
2. Ohio State
3. Oregon
4. Boise State
5. TCU
6. Oklahoma
7. Nebraska
8. Auburn
9. Arizona
10. Utah
11. Arkansas
12. LSU
13. Miami (FL)
14. Florida
15. Iowa
16. Stanford
17. Michigan State
18. Michigan
19. South Carolina
20. Wisconsin
21. Nevada
22. Oklahoma State
23. Florida State
24. Missouri
25. Air Force

Final BCS Standings (2009)

1. Alabama
2. Texas
3. Cincinnati
4. TCU
5. Florida
6. Boise State
7. Oregon
8. Ohio State
9. Georgia Tech
10. Iowa
11. Virginia Tech
12. LSU
13. Penn State
14. BYU
15. Miami (FL)
16. West Virginia
17. Pittsburgh
18. Oregon State
19. Oklahoma State
20. Arizona
21. Stanford
22. Nebraska
23. Utah
24. USC
25. Wisconsin

THE TINY GIANTS

There are 18 undefeated teams remaining on the leader board this season. Among the current Top 25 in the AP poll, Kansas State and Northwestern are the only ones remaining unranked. One might speculate a reason for that – there are five non-AQ teams who are. Despite the ones near the bottom having a long road to BCS bowl eligibility, it's the ones at the top that have the rest of the college football world shaking in their cleats!

A look ahead at this weekend's docket:

Boise State – hosts the Toledo Rockets at the Smurf Turf; TCU – has struggling Wyoming at home; Utah – tough contest on the road at Iowa State who just took down the offensive powered Texas Tech Raiders last weekend; Nevada – welcomes San Jose State to the desert; and Air Force – new to this week's AP line up, the Falcons have a long road to climb after a mid-September loss to Oklahoma. Still, there is much to cheer for in their AP debut of the 2010 season.

MASCOT CRAZE

The possibility of Admiral Ackbar on campus in Oxford, Mississippi stirred national attention to those curiously clothed 'creatures' we see on the sidelines each week. Although the admiral wasn't able to legally join the mascot forces at Ole Miss, yesterday the voting process officially was underway for the final three options to represent the Rebels for the first time in more than seven years.

In an American Idol-esc fashion, even a website was created <http://mascot.olemiss.edu/> inclusive of artistic renderings, videos and an outline of the selection process. Voting ends next Tuesday and the candidates are: The Rebel Land Shark, The Rebel Black Bear and Hotty Toddy.

Mascots serve many purposes; for home teams – cheers, fan excitement and participation in game day pageantry. For visiting teams they are targets for ridicule and constant jeer. The irony behind those masks (at least the human ones) is many are awarded scholarships. Which begs us to ask...do they count a win/loss record like the team? Hmm...food for thought.

A look at some of the more bizarre and puzzling mascots across the country in the FBS...

The Akron *Zips* – a kangaroo; Alabama *Crimson Tide* – Big Al, an elephant; Iowa State University *Cyclones* – a Cardinal bird; Stanford *Cardinal* – a decorated and very animated Christmas tree; and Western Kentucky *Hilltoppers* – a red blob.

Really, there is so much material here we could have a special mascot feature in every edition of the Rose Bowletin!

And for some extra trivia; there are 12 FBS schools whose mascot does NOT end in "s." How many can you get? We'll give you the state...you fill in the mascot. No cheating – answers are below upside down. And this isn't a trick...the Rose Bowletin knows there is an "s" after Longhorn!

Alabama
Illinois
West Virginia
Maryland

North Carolina
Nevada
Texas
Indiana

California
New York
Louisiana
Oklahoma

Alabama Crimson Tide; Illinois Fighting Illini; Marshall Thundering Herd; Navy Midshipmen
North Carolina State Wolfpack; Nevada Wolfpack; North Texas Mean Green; Notre Dame Fighting Irish
Stanford Cardinal; Syracuse Orange; Tulane Green Wave; Tulsa Golden Hurricane

STRIKE A POSE

Every December the Heisman Trophy Trust of New York City awards the annual Heisman Memorial Trophy to an individual who deserves designation as the most outstanding college football player in the United States. The Heisman has become a national symbol of collegiate football experience and competitiveness; it has also become the single most celebrated and sought-after award in American collegiate athletics.

While most college football fans have struck the infamous pose at some point in their lucid or inebriated lives, many are unaware of the legacy behind the award and bronze statue lore.

John Heisman developed an early love for the game and though short in stature, played varsity football while at Penn pursuing a law degree. He was struck by lightning in 1892, nearly costing him his eye sight, so he took his final exams orally in order to get his law degree. Immediately after college, he got his first coaching job at Oberlin College and led the team to a 7-0 record in only the second year of the football program. As legend goes, Heisman's career was launched.

With stints at Auburn, Clemson, University of Pennsylvania, Washington & Jefferson and Rice, he spent more than three decades coaching. His journey then took him to New York, where he began to write and had articles published in magazines such as American Liberty and Colliers Magazine. On May 23, 1930, John W. Heisman was named the first Athletic Director of the Downtown Athletic Club of New York City. Serving in this capacity, Heisman organized and founded the Touchdown Club of New York, and later the National Football Coaches Association.

Heisman organized the structure and voting system to determine the best collegiate football player in the country and in 1935 the first Downtown Athletic Club Award was given to Chicago's Jay Berwanger. On October 3, 1936, before the second award could go out, Heisman died of pneumonia. The officers of the DAC unanimously voted to rename the award, the Heisman Memorial Trophy that year.

In his coaching career, Heisman changed the face of the game that became America's passion. The forward pass became legalized in 1906, after three years of writing and pestering Walter Camp and the rules committee. Much of the official rule book in the day adopted Heisman's suggestions word for word.

The bronze statue award depicts a football player side-stepping and straight arming a tackler. Cast in the highly artistic method known as the lost wax process of bronze medal molding, the statue weighs 45 pounds and is 14 inches long, 13 and a half inches in height and six and a half inches in width. It was designed by New York sculptor Frank Eliscu, who was commissioned by the Downtown Athletic Club to create a figure of a football player in imperishable bronze to serve as an annual trophy award. Eliscu used his friend Ed Smith, a starter on the New York University Football team, as the player model for his initial creations.

Jim Crowley, one of the Four Horsemen of Notre Dame and football coach of Fordham University at the time, consented to look over the clay model at the Rose Hill campus of Fordham. The prototype was set up on the field and Crowley had his players take various positions to illustrate the football sidestep. Sculptor Eliscu bent the arms and legs of his model to match the action.

Today, the annual award involves the use of two statues – one which is presented to the recipient (and remains the permanent possession of the winner) and a second awarded to the school represented by the winner.

WEEKLY TELEVISION SCHEDULE

(All times listed below are PT/ET and subject to change)

Thursday, October 7

Nebraska at Kansas State, 4:30 p.m./7:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Prairie View A&M at Arkansas-Pine Bluff, 4:30 p.m./7:30 p.m. (ESPNU)

Friday, October 8

Connecticut at Rutgers, 4:30 p.m./7:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Oklahoma State at Louisiana-Lafayette, 6 p.m./9 p.m. (ESPN2)

Saturday, October 9

COLLEGE GAMEDAY – 7 A.M./10 A.M. – WEEK FIVE: COLUMBIA (ALABAMA AT SOUTH CAROLINA)

Boston College at North Carolina State, 9 a.m./Noon (ESPN-GP)

Baylor vs. Texas Tech, 9 a.m./Noon (FSN)

Central Michigan at Virginia Tech, 9 a.m./Noon (ESPNU)

Illinois at Penn State, 9 a.m./Noon (ESPN2)

Indiana at Ohio State, 9 a.m./Noon (ESPN)

Minnesota at Wisconsin, 9 a.m./Noon (BTN)

Syracuse at South Florida, 9 a.m./Noon (ESPN-GP)

Temple at Northern Illinois, 9 a.m./Noon (ESPN-GP)

Western Michigan at Ball State, 9 a.m./Noon (ESPN-GP)

Tennessee at Georgia, 9:21 a.m./12:21 p.m. (ESPN-GP)

Colorado State at Air Force, 11 a.m./2 p.m. (MTN)

Alabama at South Carolina, 12:30 p.m./3:30 p.m. (CBS)

Arkansas at Texas A&M, 12:30 p.m./3:30 p.m. (ABC/ESPN-GP)

Clemson at North Carolina, 12:30 p.m./3:30 p.m. (ABC/ESPN/ESPN-GP)

Michigan State at Michigan, 12:30 p.m./3:30 p.m. (ABC/ESPN)

Pittsburgh at Notre Dame, 12:30 p.m./3:30 p.m. (NBC)

UCLA at California, 12:30 p.m./3:30 p.m. (FSN)

UNLV at West Virginia, 12:30 p.m./3:30 p.m. (ESPN-GP)

Virginia at Georgia Tech, 12:30 p.m./3:30 p.m. (ESPNU)

Western Kentucky at Florida International, 12:30 p.m./3:30 p.m. (ESPN-GP)

Wyoming at TCU, 12:30 p.m./3:30 p.m. (CBSC)

Utah State at Louisiana Tech, 1 p.m./4 p.m. (ESPN-GP)

San Diego State at BYU, 3 p.m./6 p.m. (MTN)

Colorado at Missouri, 4 p.m./7 p.m. (FSN)

Eastern Michigan at Vanderbilt, 4 p.m./7 p.m. (ESPNU)

Oregon State at Arizona, 4 p.m./7 p.m. (Versus)

Purdue at Northwestern, 4:30 p.m./7:30 p.m. (BTN)

Auburn at Kentucky, 4:30 p.m./7:30 p.m. (ESPN2)

LSU at Florida, 4:30 p.m./7:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Florida State at Miami, 5 p.m./8 p.m. (ABC/ESPN-GP)

Mississippi State at Houston, 5 p.m./8 p.m. (CBSC)

New Mexico at New Mexico State, 5 p.m./8 p.m. (ESPN-GP)

Toledo at Boise State, 5 p.m./8 p.m. (ESPN-GP)

USC at Stanford, 5 p.m./8 p.m. (ABC/ESPN-GP)

Arizona State at Washington, 7 p.m./10 p.m. (FSNW)

San Jose State at Nevada, 7:30 p.m./10:30 p.m. (ESPNU)

Wednesday, October 13

Central Florida at Marshall, 5 p.m./8 p.m. (ESPN)

BIG TEN NEWS

Big Ten Conference Standings in 2010 Could Provide BCS Chaos

By Ryan Christopher DeVault, Associated Content by Yahoo

The 2010 Big Ten Conference standings could be heading right for BCS chaos this season. Four schools are now 5-0 in the Big Ten Conference, and due to the way that the Big Ten schedules games, several of them will never play each other this season. Right now it is Michigan, Michigan State, Northwestern, and Ohio State tied at the top of the Big Ten, and all four teams are looking very good this season.

http://www.associatedcontent.com/article/5868486/big_ten_conference_standings_in_2010.html

Two campuses immersed in rivalry revelry

By Jo-Ann Barnas, Detroit Free Press

They were inspired by a musty old flyer discovered in the basement of the Sigma Nu house, just off campus at Michigan State. It advertised how the fraternity's "football run" had been among the largest Big Ten philanthropy events around.

<http://www.freep.com/article/20101005/SPORTS07/10050363/Two-campus-immersed-in-rivalry-revelry>

PAC-10 NEWS

Pac-10 weighs scheduling issues

Associated Press

Oregon coach Chip Kelly liked the idea of moving the start of his team's game against Stanford up three hours because fans in Eugene didn't have to wait all day to see the game and then face a drive home late at night.

<http://sports.espn.go.com/ncf/news/story?id=5655556>

Grandpa Erickson Has Plenty of Fire for Sun

By Scott M. Johnson, Kitsap Sun

It took 63 years, but Dennis Erickson finally added another role to his already-full plate. Over the summer, Erickson became a first-time grandfather. It's a new position for the Everett native and Arizona State University football coach, but also a somewhat familiar one considering his place among Pac-10 coaches.

<http://www.kitsapsun.com/news/2010/oct/05/grandpa-erickson-has-plenty-of-fire-for-sun/>

NATIONAL NEWS

Most college coaches began career on field

By David Fox, Rivals.com

The next time your star defensive back misses an assignment and gets burned by a wide receiver, think twice before booing. The same goes if your quarterback throws an interception. That defensive back or quarterback could be your favorite team's next great head coach.

<http://collegefootball.rivals.com/content.asp?CID=1118500>

Weekly BCS Countdown Program Begins Sunday, Oct. 10

By Michael Humes, ESPN

ESPN's weekly *BCS Countdown* program – featuring the exclusive announcement of the weekly Bowl Championship Series standings each Sunday from Oct. 17 to Dec. 5 – will begin with a special preview edition Sunday, Oct. 10. The 75-minute program will air every week at 8:15 p.m. ET on ESPN and continue on ESPNU at 9 p.m.

<http://www.espnmediazone3.com/us/2010/10/weekly-bcs-countdown-program-begins-sunday-oct-10/>

THIS WEEK IN THE BIG TEN

Saturday, Oct. 9

Illinois at Penn State
Indiana at Ohio State
Michigan State at Michigan
Minnesota at Wisconsin
Purdue at Northwestern

RESULTS FROM LAST WEEK

Ohio State 24, Illinois 13
Michigan 42, Indiana 35
Iowa 24, Penn State 3
Michigan State 34, Wisconsin 24
Northwestern 29, Minnesota 28

THIS WEEK IN THE PAC-10

Saturday, Oct. 9

USC at Stanford
Oregon State at Arizona
Arizona State at Washington
UCLA at California
Oregon at Washington State

RESULTS FROM LAST WEEK

Washington 32, USC 31
Oregon 52, Stanford 31
Oregon State 31, Arizona State 28
UCLA 42, Washington State 28

THIS WEEK IN THE TOP 5

(Based on Current AP Standings)

No. 1 Alabama at No. 19 South Carolina
Indiana at No. 2 Ohio State
No. 3 Oregon at Washington State
Toledo at No. 4 Boise State
Wyoming at No. 5 TCU

RESULTS FROM LAST WEEK

(Based on Last Week's AP Standings)

No. 1 Alabama 31, No. 7 Florida 6
No. 2 Ohio State 24, Illinois 13
No. 3 Boise State 59, New Mexico State 0
No. 4 Oregon 52, No. 9 Stanford 31
No. 5 TCU 27, Colorado State 0

ROSE BOWL GAME PREDICTIONS

Look out! The Ducks have jumped ship and are headed on foot to Arizona. After an impressive victory last Saturday over the Stanford Cardinal, experts are looking to the southwest as the destination this high-powered team will land. Still, strong opinions for a non-traditional game with the Boise State Broncos in most minds as a sure spot to Pasadena. One thing is certain – the Pac-10 Conference came out of the gates in the 2010 season with something to prove. Completely discounted with the disappearance of USC, many were wondering if the conference would even have a rep at one of the BCS bowl games in January. Now...people are predicting them to be in two and a front runner to be in the national championship!

ESPN.com

Ohio State vs. Boise State

Sports Illustrated

Oregon vs. Boise State

Phil Steele

Oregon vs. Iowa

CollegeFootballNews

Oregon vs. Ohio State

CBS Sports

Oregon vs. Boise State

The Rose Bowletin

Arizona vs. Boise State

WE'RE TRAVELIN' AGAIN

Two big Pac-10 games this weekend as the Rose Bowl Game reps head on the road. Will Stanford bounce back after a devastating blow in Eugene? And will head coach Rick Neuheisel keep the fire going as the Bruins head to NorCal? We shall...and will, see!

USC at Stanford

UCLA at Cal

Connecticut at Rutgers (Annual bowl outing hosted by the Scarlet Knights)

NEWS, NOTES AND QUOTES

BYU is off to its worst start since 1973 and head coach Bronco Mendenhall has taken action firing his defensive coordinator and secondary coach, Jaime Hill, who was in his fifth year on the Cougars coaching staff.

Three Big Ten quarterbacks are currently leading their respective schools in rushing: Denard Robinson (Michigan), Terrelle Pryor (Ohio State) and Dan Persa (Northwestern).

Boise State's strength of schedule remains in computer rating guru Jeff Sagarin's Top 40 at No. 38. That's higher than undefeated Oregon (57), Auburn (72), TCU (78), Ohio State (99), Nebraska (134) and Utah (137).

Texas' AP ranking streak ended this week at 162 straight votes, one poll short of 10 years. The 25 head coaches in that last poll without the Longhorns, which was released on Oct. 15, 2000, included more current ESPN analysts (Mike Bellotti of Oregon, Dennis Franchione of TCU, Lou Holtz of South Carolina and Bob Davie of Notre Dame) than it did coaches still at the same school (Frank Beamer of Virginia Tech, Bob Stoops of Oklahoma and Bill Snyder of Kansas State).

Problems in the east as the Big East is 1-10 against the rest of the AQ's so far this season.

CBS's broadcast of Alabama at Arkansas on Sept. 25 scored the highest afternoon rating for SEC on CBS since 2003. So far this season, SEC on CBS ratings are the highest since 1999.

Media darling and head coach for the Oregon Ducks Chip Kelly has been reprimanded by the Pac-10 for televised comments he made at halftime about the officiating of last weekend's game against Stanford.

Long before the existence of PlayoffPAC, the IRS took a look at bowls' non-profit status in the early 1990's, using the Cotton Bowl as an avenue into questioning the bowls' non-profit nature. Back then, the IRS wanted to generate tax revenue to no avail. Present day: four U.S. House members have written the IRS on the side of the PlayoffPAC urging for a playoff and attempting to expose the structure of three of the major BCS bowl games.

Sign up now to join the official Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/rosebowlgame>) and Twitter (<http://twitter.com/rosebowlgame>) accounts for the Rose Bowl Game. Current standings in the BCS Bowl Twitter Poll: Fiesta Bowl 2,194, Rose Bowl Game 1,422, Orange Bowl 363 and Sugar Bowl 239.

Key date – Sunday; a major component of the BCS rankings will debut this weekend as the first Harris Poll of the season is released.

Quote of the week – “In Satan's lair, there is a lockbox with the words "LES MILES" written on it. Inside is the LSU coach's soul. There is no other possible explanation. The Hat clearly has made a deal with Lucifer that allows him to win nearly 80 percent of his games as coach of the Tigers, capture a national title and make more money than all but a tiny fraction of working Americans. And doing it with a unique flair for coaching lunacy in pressure situations.”

Pat Forde, espn.com

Pasadena Tournament of Roses® offers “land only” tour packages including Rose Parade® and Rose Bowl Game tickets, hotel accommodations, transportation and much more. Visit our web site at www.tournamentofroses.com/events/tour.asp or for additional information contact Wadie Gravely at 626-449-9550 ext. 347 or via e-mail at tofrtours@rosemail.org.