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# STAY SHARP.

OREGON ISN'T PLAYING THIS WEEK, but that doesn't mean all of college football gets to take a break.





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# NCAA '14: THIS SEASON IN THE PAC-12

After simulating the entire season of NCAA '14 here is how the standings look:

**OREGON:**

vs. Nicholls State = W, 62-13  
@ Virginia = W, 52-9  
vs. Tennessee = W, 47-13  
vs. California = W, 54-7  
@ Colorado = W, 48-16  
@ Washington = W, 42-17  
vs. Washington State = W, 23-19  
vs. UCLA = W, 37-14  
@ Stanford = W, 41-10  
vs. Utah = W, 52-21  
@ Arizona = W, 42-10  
vs. Oregon State = W, 35-13  
Pac-12 Championship vs. UCLA = W, 54-21

**WASHINGTON STATE:**

@ Auburn = L, 13-28  
@ USC = W, 20-10  
vs. Southern Utah = W, 38-13  
vs. Idaho = W, 45-17  
vs. Stanford = W, 23-20  
@ California = W, 31-14  
vs. Oregon State = W, 37-6  
@ Oregon = L, 19-23  
vs. Arizona State = W, 24-17  
@ Arizona = L, 16-35  
vs. Utah = L, 6-14  
@ Washington = W, 28-24

**STANFORD:**

vs. San Jose State = W, 45-24  
@ Army = W, 37-3  
vs. Arizona State = W, 27-13  
@ Washington State = L, 20-23  
vs. Washington, L = 17-30  
@ Utah, W = 17-3  
vs. UCLA = W, 28-17  
@ Oregon State = W, 35-16  
vs. Oregon = L, 10-41  
@ USC = L, 28-38  
vs. California = W, 42-38  
vs. Notre Dame = L, 7-20

**WASHINGTON:**

vs. Boise State = W, 45-34  
@ Illinois = L, 27-31  
vs. Idaho State = W, 53-17  
vs. Arizona = W, 31-28  
@ Stanford = W, 30-17  
vs. Oregon = L, 17-42  
@ Arizona State = W, 32-27  
vs. California = L, 13-14  
vs. Colorado = L, 23-35  
@ UCLA = L, 34-35  
@ Oregon State = W, 27-24  
vs. Washington State = L, 24-28

**OREGON STATE:**

vs. Eastern Washington = W, 45-17  
vs. Hawaii = L, 13-23  
@ Utah = L, 24-35  
@ San Diego State = L, 35-38  
vs. Colorado = L, 13-17  
@ Washington State = L, 6-37  
@ California = W, 24-7  
vs. Stanford = L, 16-35  
vs. USC = L, 9-26  
@ Arizona State = W, 16-13  
vs. Washington = L, 24-27  
@ Oregon = L, 13-35

**CALIFORNIA:**

vs. Northwestern = L, 17-35  
vs. Portland State = L, 38-41  
vs. Ohio State = L, 13-52  
@ Oregon = L, 7-54  
vs. Washington State = L, 14-31  
@ UCLA = L, 13-27  
vs. Oregon State = L, 7-24  
@ Washington = W, 14-13  
vs. Arizona = L, 25-42  
vs. USC = L, 13-35  
@ Colorado = L, 21-43  
@ Stanford = L, 38-42

**PAC-12 NORTH**

1. Oregon: 12-1 overall / 10-0 Pac-12 / 5-0 North Division
2. Washington State: 8-4 overall / 6-3 Pac-12 / 4-1 North Division
3. Stanford: 7-5 overall / 5-4 Pac-12 / 2-3 North Division
4. Washington: 6-6 overall / 4-5 Pac-12 / 2-3 North Division
5. Oregon State: 3-9 overall / 2-7 Pac-12 / 1-4 North Division
6. California: 1-11 overall / 1-8 Pac-12 / 1-4 North Division

**PAC-12 SOUTH**

1. UCLA: 8-5 overall / 6-4 Pac-12 / 4-1 South Division
2. USC: 8-5 overall / 6-3 Pac-12 / 3-2 South Division
3. Arizona: 7-5 overall / 4-5 Pac-12 / 2-3 South Division
4. Utah: 7-5 overall / 4-5 Pac-12 / 2-3 South Division
5. Colorado: 6-6 overall / 4-5 Pac-12 / 1-4 South Division
6. Arizona State: 4-8 overall / 3-6 Pac-12 / 3-2 South Division

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**ON THE COVER**

Today's cover photo was captured by Emerald photo editor Michael Arellano.



# HEISMAN HYPE: THOMAS AND MARIOTA

BY BETH MAIMAN, @BETHAMAIMAN

Although it's early in the season, standout performances from Oregon quarterback Marcus Mariota and running back De'Anthony Thomas have created Heisman hype.

In Oregon's first three games both players have easily made the highlight reel and have finished games with pretty stellar stat lines.

Mariota, the redshirt sophomore, looks to be the Heisman frontrunner after his performance in the Ducks 59-14 win over Tennessee.

In that game, Mariota completed 23 of 33 passes, throwing for 456 yards and four touchdowns. For the season so far, the Hawaii native has thrown for almost 900 yards and seven touchdowns while completing almost 60 percent of his passes. To add to those numbers, Mariota has thrown no interceptions.

But what Mariota has done on the run has been equally noticeable, picking up 262 rushing yards on 15 carries and four touchdowns.

His quarterback rating stands now at 97.4, the second highest achieved by any player in the last 10 seasons. Russell Wilson holds the top spot at 98.6.

In order to win the Heisman, Mariota will need to continue to prove why he's the best quarterback in the conference and the country. Proving that will not be a clear-cut victory for Mariota, who will most likely have to compete with last year's Heisman winner, Johnny Manziel, and Clemson quarterback Tajh Boyd, who have both put up big numbers in the first three weeks of the season.

Mariota says his focus still lies on winning games.

"For me that's (the Heisman) individual accolade," Mariota said. "Especially around here we don't even really talk about it. That's not something that my focus is on. I am just going to continue to do what I need to do to make this team work and to make this team be successful."

Lining up behind Mariota in the backfield, Thomas has also

been thrown around as a Heisman candidate.

Thomas has 42 touches for 338 yards in the first three games, averaging eight yards per attempt, and has managed to reach the end zone six times. Thomas is also a threat in the return game and averages about 22 yards per kick return. For Duck fans, it's hard to forget his 94-yard opening kick-off return in the Fiesta Bowl last year. Thomas is definitely capable of providing that spark in any game.

Thomas appears more steady this season and looks more certain about where he is going with the ball. Thomas had a career-high for carries with 18 in the Ducks' season opener against Nicholls State. He also rushed for over 100-yards in his first two games this season.

Although it will be difficult for Thomas to outshine Mariota in the race for the Heisman, Thomas could cause some heads to turn if he continues to carry the ball as much as he has without losing steam.

The Heisman hype surrounding Mariota and Thomas is similar to when Reggie Bush and Matt Leinart were at USC. In 2004, Leinart threw for 3,322 yards and 33 touchdowns, completing 65.3 percent of his passes. Bush technically won the Heisman in 2005, although Bush returned his Heisman in 2012 following the following the NCAA sanctions. In his 2005 season, Bush rushed for 1,740 yards and 16 touchdowns. Bush averaged 8.7 yards per carry at the conclusion of the season.

**"I AM JUST GOING TO CONTINUE TO DO WHAT I NEED TO MAKE THIS TEAM WORK."**

*Quarterback Marcus Mariota on his teamwork philosophy.*

## Historical Heisman winners

*With Heisman hype surrounding Marcus Mariota and De'Anthony Thomas here is a list of previous Pac-12 Heisman winners.*

**1962** Terry Baker  
quarterback Oregon State

**1965** Mike Garrett  
halfback USC

**1967** Gary Beban  
quarterback UCLA

**1968** O.J. Simpson  
halfback USC

**1970** Jim Plunkett  
quarterback Stanford

**1979** Charles White  
running back USC

**1981** Marcus Allen  
running back USC

**1994** Rashaan Salaam  
running back Colorado

**2002** Carson Palmer  
quarterback USC

**2004** Matt Leinart  
quarterback USC

**2005** Reggie Bush  
running back USC  
(forfeit)



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# DUCKS PAST: WHERE ARE THEY TODAY?

Ever wonder where your favorite Oregon football players ended up after finishing their careers at the University? Here are six guys who were standouts during their time in Eugene:

**JOHN BOYETT**

After an extremely successful career at Oregon was cut short due to an injury, safety John Boyett was drafted in the sixth round by the Indianapolis Colts. He led the Ducks in total tackles in his freshman and junior seasons and was a starter until he suffered an injury week one of 2012. Boyett ran into legal trouble and was waived by the Colts, making him a free agent.



**DION JORDAN**

Oregon's standout defensive player was the third overall pick in the 2013 NFL draft by the Miami Dolphins and already registered his first career sack in week one against the Cleveland Browns. Dion Jordan suffered a mild shoulder injury, which has yet to keep him out of any games. He's also helped the Dolphins to their first 2-0 start since 2011 along with fellow Oregon alum Josh Kaddu (2008-2011).

**KYLE LONG**

Transferring to Oregon for his senior season, Kyle Long was relatively unknown due to the short duration of his stay and his position as an offensive lineman. Long was selected 20th overall by the Chicago Bears and is their starting right guard. His father, Howie, was a well-known NFL defensive end for 13 seasons and is a member of the Pro Football Hall of Fame. Kyle's brother Chris currently plays defensive end for the St. Louis Rams. Long's journey to the NFL is a rare feat. He played at Saddleback Community College for two seasons despite being a two sport All-American in high school and originally accepting a baseball scholarship to Florida State.



**KENJON BARNER**

Fan favorite and one of the greatest running backs in Ducks history, Kenjon Barner plays for the Carolina Panthers after being selected in the sixth round of the NFL draft. An ankle injury has held him out of the team's first two games. With fellow running back and Oregon alum Jonathan Stewart set to miss the next four weeks with an ankle injury of his own, Barner is listed second on the depth chart behind DeAngelo Williams and should make his NFL debut when healthy.

**CARSON YORK**

An offensive lineman with NFL potential, Carson York suffered multiple knee injuries and was forced to end his football career. York is currently a graduate student at the University of Oregon's School of Journalism and Communication.



**KIKO ALONSO**

Former Oregon linebacker Kiko Alonso was selected in the second round by the Buffalo Bills and hasn't missed a beat, doing a little bit of everything at middle linebacker. Alonso has started each of Buffalo's first two games so far this season and has already racked up 19 combined tackles, a sack, an interception and he's forced and recovered a fumble. With a rookie quarterback in E.J. Manuel, the Bills have been and will continue to be an exciting team to watch. Alonso is joined by former Oregon defensive back and two-time Pro Bowl selection Jairus Byrd (2005-2008).

BY MADISON GUERSNEY, @GUERNS\_M\_D

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By Beth Maiman

# What can Mark Helfrich learn from Lane Kiffin?

**THE DUCKS WERE LUCKY TO HAVE HELFRICH WAITING IN THE WINGS.** Can he keep up the winning streak Oregon fans are used to?

USC fans aren't happy.

⊕ The boos have been echoed in Memorial Coliseum and with some spray paint, the fire lanes in Los Angeles have been re-labeled "Fire Lane Kiffin."

The Trojans, who began this season ranked in AP's top 25, vanished from the list after their 10-7 home loss against a much less talented Washington State team. That loss came after their 30-13 win over Hawaii, where Kiffin received criticism for his team's pathetic offensive performance and the fact that he wouldn't name a starting quarterback.

Although things started looking up for the Trojans this past week, with their 35-7 win over Boston College, it's safe to say that Kiffin is on thin ice.

Trojans fans watched some of the program's most exciting and successful football from 2002-2008, under then-head coach Pete Carroll. Having grown up in Los Angeles, I can attest that trends fuel the city's people, and USC football was the hottest thing around. Every year was a trip to a BCS bowl game, top recruits were signing their letters of intent, ticket sales were through the roof and the fans were content.

Fast-forward to when Kiffin took over – it's just not the same. Yes, Kiffin came in at a time when USC was on NCAA probation, but with the Trojans' performance in the Sun Bowl last year and the disapproval that is already brewing this season, it seems that the coach may have already worn out his welcome.

The disappointment at USC is

proving that a coach's new reign can easily change the "mojo" of a program. If a coach's style or mentality is somewhat different or if a coach makes any changes, that could easily alter a team.

It's an old and clichéd piece of advice: "If it ain't broke, don't fix it." And apparently it applies to coaching college football.

With Chip Kelly's departure to the NFL earlier this year, a new head coaching spot opened up for Oregon. Although Mark Helfrich always appeared to be the front runner for the job, where would the Ducks be if they had taken a similar approach and hired a big name from a big-time school?

Hiring Helfrich seems to have been a smart decision, at least so far. The head coach has stuck to his statement that not much will change even with Kelly gone. As the offensive coordinator last year, Helfrich was familiar with the program and the "Win the Day" mentality that Kelly ingrained.

From what the Ducks' offense has done on the field, that seems to be accurate. In its first three games, Oregon has dominated on both sides of the ball.

Stanford head coach David Shaw, who was hired after Jim Harbaugh left for the NFL, is in a similar situation as Helfrich. Shaw has helped the Cardinal to winning records and BCS bowl game appearances in his first two years leading the program. Most would not be surprised if Helfrich could do the same for Oregon, or even better.

If the Ducks earn the Pac-12 title and find their way to the national championship, Helfrich's first season will undoubtedly be a success. However, as seen in the past and today, a winning football program is only one coaching change away from a complete 360.

*Beth Maiman is the sports editor at the Emerald.*

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# HOW WILL IT ALL PLAY OUT? PAC-12 SEASON PREDICTIONS

With an out-of-conference record of 22-5, including records of 4-2 and 1-1 against the Big-10 and SEC, respectively, the Pac-12 has the body of work to be considered one of the top conferences in the nation.

BY RYAN KOSTECKA  
@RYAN\_KOSTECKA

While only two conference games have taken place through the first three weeks of the season and another on its way this week, the conference season officially gets underway in week five.

No. 2 Oregon and No. 5 Stanford are the top two teams in the Pac-12, combining to win the last four Pac-12 conference championships. UCLA, No. 17 Washington and No. 23 Arizona State are the other nationally ranked teams while USC and Arizona are both receiving votes in the polls.

Here's a breakdown of the teams' play so far and sports reporter Ryan Kostecka's predictions of their likely end of the season record (not including the postseason) and where they will land in postseason play.

## PAC-12 NORTH DIVISION

**1. OREGON** – 3-0 overall / Prediction: 13-0 overall record (10-0 Pac-12) – BCS national championship game: Alabama vs. Oregon – With wins over ACC and SEC opponents, the Ducks have proven that they can travel and beat any team in the country. Oregon tops the country with 25 touchdowns while ranking second with 61.3 points per game and 672 yards of total offense. Heisman hopeful quarterback Marcus Mariota has thrown for 889 yards and seven touchdowns while rushing for 262 yards and four touchdowns. De'Anthony Thomas is averaging 113 yards and two touchdowns per game on the ground while wide receiver Josh Huff averages five catches for 100 yards per game.

**2. STANFORD** – 2-0 overall / Prediction: 11-1 record (8-1 Pac-12) – Rose Bowl: Ohio State vs. Stanford – The Cardinal return eight starters from last year's defense that was one of the nation's best according to ESPN. All-American candidates Shayne Skov, Trent Murphy and Ed Reynolds highlight the defense. Stanford had questions at running back entering the season but running behind a massive offensive line is Tyler Gaffney with 40 rushes for 236 yards and three touchdowns.

**3. WASHINGTON** – 2-0 overall / Prediction: 9-3 record (6-3 Pac-12) – Valero Alamo Bowl: Oklahoma State vs. Washington – Washington already has a signature win on the season,



Oregon senior wide receiver Josh Huff hurdles Tennessee junior defensive back Justin Coleman as Huff makes his way down the sideline.

defeating then No.19 Boise State 38-6 in the season opener. Quarterback Keith Price is looking like the 2011 version of himself, passing 51-for-66 with 666 yards and four touchdowns. Bishop Sankey is quickly becoming one of the top running backs in the country, rushing 60 times for 369 yards and three touchdowns, an average 184.5 yards per game, tops in the country.

**4. OREGON STATE** – 2-1 overall / Prediction: 7-5 record (5-4 Pac-12) – Gildan New Mexico Bowl: Oregon State vs. Fresno State – The Beavers have the conference's worst loss, a 49-46 defeat to FCS opponent Eastern Washington in the season opener, but they've rebounded with two nice wins against Hawaii and Utah. Quarterback Sean Mannion is 95-for-130 for 1,237 yards and 12 touchdowns throwing to wide receiver Brandin Cooks. Cooks is the team's biggest offensive threat, having caught 29 passes for 498 yards and 7 touchdowns (No. 1 in the country) on

the year.

**5. CALIFORNIA** – 1-2 overall / Prediction: 6-6 record (4-5 Pac-12) – PinStripe Bowl: Houston vs. California – True freshman Jared Goff has been a revelation for Cal this year, throwing for 1,306 yards on the season, the most of any quarterback in the country. His top targets have been Chris Harper and Bryce Treggs who have combined for 49 catches, 641 yards and four touchdowns. Cal has played the toughest schedule of any Pac-12 team thus far, losing to Northwestern and Ohio State. Both teams are ranked in the top 20 of the country.

**6. WASHINGTON STATE** – 2-1 overall / Prediction: 5-7 record (3-6 Pac-12) – The Cougars already shocked the nation by going down to Southern California and defeating USC 10-7

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

## BCS Top 25

1. Alabama
2. Oregon
3. Clemson
4. Ohio State
5. Stanford
6. LSU
7. Louisville
8. Florida State
9. Georgia
10. Texas A&M
11. Oklahoma State
12. South Carolina
13. UCLA
14. Oklahoma
15. Michigan
16. Miami (FL)
17. Washington
18. Northwestern
19. Florida
20. Baylor
21. Ole Miss
22. Notre Dame
23. Arizona State
24. Wisconsin
25. Texas Tech

## USA Today coaches poll

1. Alabama
2. Oregon
3. Ohio State
4. Clemson
5. Stanford
6. Louisville
7. LSU
8. Florida State
9. Texas A&M
10. Georgia
11. Oklahoma State
12. Oklahoma
13. South Carolina
14. Michigan
15. UCLA
16. Northwestern
17. Miami
18. Florida
19. Baylor
20. Washington
21. Notre Dame
22. Ole Miss
23. Arizona State
24. Michigan State
25. Fresno State



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**GAMEDAY**



Junior tight end Zach Ertz lands on the baseline after catching a pass from freshman quarterback Kevin Hogan.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

in week two. Connor Halliday is the guy leading head coach Mike Leach's "air raid" offense, throwing for 942 yards and six touchdowns. Gabe Marks, Dom Williams and Kristoff Williams are the team's leading targets, accounting for 43 catches, 512 yards and three touchdowns.

**PAC-12 SOUTH DIVISION**

**1. UCLA** - 2-0 overall / Prediction: 10-3 record (7-3 Pac-12) - Holiday Bowl: Baylor vs. **UCLA**- The Bruins, led by quarterback Brett Hundley, have taken over as the kings of Los Angeles. Hundley has thrown for 568 yards and five touchdowns while rushing for 124 yards and two touchdowns. Shaq Evans is the team's leading receiver, catching nine balls for 178 yards (19.8 yards per catch) and two touchdowns and Jordan James is the team's leading rusher, averaging 130 yards and a touchdown every game.

**2. ARIZONA STATE** -2-0 overall/ Prediction: 9-3 record (6-3 Pac-12) - Hyundai Sun Bowl: **Miami** vs. Arizona State - Arizona State picked up a controversial win against Wisconsin in week three, but a win is a win and ASU is still undefeated heading into week four's showdown with Stanford. Taylor Kelly, who is completing 63 percent of his passes for 652 yards and five touchdowns, primarily throws to Jaelen Strong who has 12 catches for 162 yards and a touchdown.

**3. USC** - 2-1 overall /Prediction: 8-4 record (6-3 Pac-12) - Las Vegas Bowl: Boise State vs. **USC** - Head coach Lane Kiffin is on the hot seat after that humiliating defeat to Washington State. After that loss, Kiffin named Cody Kessler the starting quarterback and the Trojans responded with a 35-7 win over Boston College.

Kessler has thrown for 373 yards and three touchdowns while Marqise Lee, the reigning Biletnikoff winner, has been held in check for the most part, catching just 17 balls for 221 yards and a touchdown. Tre Madden has taken over the running back duties, rushing for 362 yards and a touchdown.

**4. ARIZONA** - 3-0 overall / Prediction: 8-4 record (5-4 Pac-12) - Fight Hunger Bowl: Arizona vs. **BYU** - While the Wildcats are undefeated, their schedule has been extremely easy and untested. Ka'Deem Carey, the nation's leading rusher from a year ago, has picked up right where he left off, averaging 150 yards and two touchdowns per game. B.J. Denker is the only Wildcat to throw a pass on the year, going 31-for-55 for 326 yards and two touchdowns.

**5. UTAH** (2-1 overall /Prediction: 5-7 record (3-6 Pac-12) - Heart of Dallas Bowl: Middle Tennessee vs. **Utah** - The Utes could easily have gone undefeated, but an overtime loss to Oregon State at home kept that from happening. Quarterback Tyler Wilson is completing 62.5 percent of his passes for 845 yards and seven touchdowns. He spreads the ball out evenly to his receivers with five guys having at least eight catches or 100 yards receiving on the year. James Poole gets the majority of the carries (40) for Utah while Wilson has rushed for 244 yards and five touchdowns.

**6. COLORADO** (2-0 overall / 4-8 predicted record (2-7 Pac-12) - The undefeated Buffaloes got a huge break with the return of wide receiver Paul Richardson. Richardson averages 209 yards per game, tops in the country, and has four touchdowns on the year. Throwing to Richardson is Connor Wood, going 56-for-82 for 741 yards and six touchdowns.

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## HOROSCOPE by Holiday Mathis

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). When it's not going your way, you may feel like sulking, panicking, throwing a tantrum or making an impulsive move, but you don't because you're not a child. Your restraint will be rewarded.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). Insecurity is only a habit, and habits can be broken. If you feel worry creeping in, have a talk with yourself. Confidence is also a habit, and you'll fall right into it in tonight's social setting.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). As for that thing that was bothering you yesterday, today you'll be feeling a lot smarter about things and more aware of the entire spectrum of possible solutions.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). Control is an illusion, not a solution to life's problems. Needing, craving and seeking control are all things that people do when they lack a deep-seated confidence. You're so attractive when you go the other direction.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). You don't have to know what you're looking for to find a stellar deal. The best part is that when you stumble upon greatness, you recognize it and seize the opportunities therein.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You'll have the urge to create order, so follow through. Taking the time to organize your world will bring stress levels down for you and for everyone you interact with from now through the weekend.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Beware of people who feel the need to describe themselves to you. You'll come to your own conclusion about who someone is by the actions that person takes. Stories and preferences also provide good clues.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Spending time with children, creative people, entertainers and others who lack inhibition will inspire you to freely shed a few layers of self-consciousness and have fun.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You have that "wow" factor now, and people will want to hear more about what's going on in your life and business. Take numbers so you can follow up later when you have more time.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Finally, you'll spend time with a comfortable person you so enjoy. It's refreshing that you don't have to jump through hoops or pretend to be who you're not to get somewhere with this person. **AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Social niceties come easily to you, but you don't always choose to use them. In today's case, you sense it will be more effective to bluntly say what you mean.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). You certainly don't need validation now, and yet it's still thrilling to hear favorable comments. The person who recognizes your uniqueness will also steal your heart.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY** (Sept. 19). As level-headed as you are, you still believe you can create an existence that's entirely different from the one that surrounds you now -- and you're right! The lucky place you land in October is just the beginning. Your concentrated, organized effort will continue through 2014. By July, the transformation is complete. Leo and Scorpio people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 24, 12, 8, 6 and 26.

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## JANRIC CLASSIC SUDOKU

Fill in the blank cells using numbers 1 to 9. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and 3x3 block. Use logic and process elimination to solve the puzzle. The difficulty level ranges from Bronze (easiest) to Silver to Gold (hardest).

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

Rating: BRONZE

Solution to 9/18/13

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

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## The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 0815

- ACROSS**
- Napkin, e.g.
  - Licensing grp.
  - Like Goodwill goods
  - Figure on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel
  - Oil vessel
  - Warm, say
  - Provider of two- and four-yr. scholarships
  - Equalled altogether
  - It may be "aw"-inspiring
  - What the circled letter in this answer represents, homophonically
  - What the circled letter in this answer represents, homophonically
  - Refrigerant inits.
  - Some football linemen: Abbr.
  - Cotillion V.I.P.
  - Traffic control org.
  - Final dramatic notes of the "1812 Overture"
  - Scopolamine and sodium pentothal, e.g.
  - Classic camera
  - Joe
  - Some seizures, for short
  - Typhon was trapped under it, in Greek myth
  - Something a picker picks
  - Table d'\_\_\_
  - What the circled letter in this answer represents, homophonically
  - Relief might follow it
  - Et \_\_\_ (footnote abbr.)
  - What the circled letters in this answer represent, homophonically
  - Bryn \_\_\_
  - Bobby in a 1971 #1 hit
  - Chits
  - One with a pretty strong hunch?
  - Hoops great Baylor
  - Not loopy
  - Liable to clump
  - Taylor who sang "Tell It to My Heart"
  - Prehistoric terror, informally

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13			14		15	
16				17				18		
	19		20				21			
									23	
24			25			26			27	28
29		30				31		32		
33			34	35	36		37			
38			39			40		41		
42			43				44			
	45					46				
47	48			49	50	51		52	53	
54				55				56		57
58				59				60		
61				62				63		

PUZZLE BY JEFF CHEN

- Burger's successor
- "Whew!"
- French article
- Dance club figs.
- Big or full follower
- Disgustingly large, as an amount of money
- Bill blocker agcy. created under L.B.J.
- "Star Wars," e.g.
- "Star Wars" critter
- Where Troy Aikman was a QB
- Pop's \_\_\_ Pop
- Foreign refusal
- Big laugh
- Simple number
- 4-Down's item
- Driver's license info

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### ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

C	O	S	T	A	H	E	X	A	D	N	S	A
O	C	T	E	T	A	M	I	C	I	O	E	R
N	E	A	L	E	V	E	N	D	S	D	I	S
J	A	R	L	S	B	E	R	G	C	H	E	E
O	N	T	T	A	T				D	A	M	N
B	I	O	S		G	O	L	F	C	O	U	R
S	A	F	E	R		A	R	O				
	F	L	I	M	S	Y	A	L	I	B	I	
		E	M	I	L			N	O	N	P	C
W	I	F	F	L	E	B	A	L	L	B	A	I
E	P	E	E			O	A	S		S	L	O
T	H	I	N	G	S	W	I	T	H	H	O	L
B	O	G		A	L	I	A	S		I	N	U
A	N	N		B	O	N	G	O		L	E	M
R	E	S		S	P	O	O	F		L	A	P

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BY HAYDEN KIM, @HAYDAYKIM

# THESE ARE THE MATCHUPS TO WATCH

**A**fter grabbing their third win of the year against Tennessee, the Ducks will now have a bye week and will look to prepare for their first conference game against California. But just because the No. 2-ranked Ducks aren't scheduled to play Saturday, doesn't mean week four won't headline another action-packed weekend of college football. Excluding Oregon, every top 10 team is scheduled to play and there are definitely some matchups you don't want to miss.

## THURSDAY, SEPT. 19

**No. 3 Clemson (2-0, 0-0 away) @ NC State (2-0, 2-0 home)**  
 Time: 7:30 p.m. ET  
 Coverage: ESPN/Watch ESPN

The last time a No. 3 ranked team visited Carter-Finley Stadium (Oct. 6) in Raleigh, N.C., the end result was a 17-16 upset over Florida State. NC State will of course be looking to do the same when Clemson visits this Thursday, but they will have their hands full with a high-scoring offense led by Heisman candidate Tajh Boyd. When the two teams met 10 months ago, Boyd set a conference record with eight touchdowns.

The key to the game will involve the battle between the Clemson offense and NC State defense. As the Wolfpack offense continues to rebuild after losing quarterback Mike Glennon to the NFL, their only hope to stick with Clemson will be to force some turnovers on the defensive end. While NC State has only allowed an average of 17.5 points in their first two games, their defense will be put to the test as they go up against a Clemson team that averages 45 points per game this season.

## SATURDAY, SEPT. 21

**No. 23 Arizona State (2-0, 0-0 away) @ No. 5 Stanford (2-0, 1-0 home)**  
 Time: 7 p.m. ET  
 Coverage: Fox

The Sun Devils are coming off of a dramatic win against Wisconsin, which attracted national attention over a bizarre last play and the Cardinal are continuing to buy their time until they presumably meet Oregon in the Pac-12 matchup of the year. These two top 25 teams will meet in one of the first Pac-12 matchups of the season, in a game that could come down to the wire.

The game features a quarterback duel between Kevin Hogan and Taylor Kelly. Both are coming off stellar games against their respective opponents and are already generating some buzz in the Pac-12, especially Kelly. Kelly is currently 48 yards shy of eclipsing the 700-yard mark in passing and is simply putting on a show on the offensive end. This game will feature two complete teams that are fighting to earn a spot in the Pac-12 Championship game and this Saturday will mark a game that could potentially decide their futures.

**Auburn (3-0, 1-0 away) @ No. 6 LSU (3-0, 2-0 home)**  
 Time: 7:45 p.m. ET  
 Coverage: ESPN/Watch ESPN

Three years ago this matchup was a lock-in for College Gameday, but due to the decline of Auburn in the last few years, this will merely be a notable matchup in the SEC. Both teams currently hold three wins under their belts and feature offenses that are averaging over 30 points per game. Auburn may be the clear cut underdogs as the non-ranked visitors, but wilder things have happened in SEC territory.

The question heading into this game will surround the Auburn defense and whether or not they can contain quarterback Zach Mettenberger to any extent. Mettenberger has put up huge numbers in his first three games, posting 797 yards on 45-69 passing along with nine touchdowns and will be looking to roll that over into SEC play. If Auburn wants to stay in this game, they will have to hover around the 17-point average that they have given up in their first three games. Otherwise, this will likely turn into a scoring frenzy for LSU.

## BIG NUMBERS

Here are some Oregon numbers for the first three weeks of the season:

**889**

Yards Marcus Mariota has throw this season.

**42**

Carries De'Anthony Thomas has had so far this season.

**8**

Touchdowns so far from the Oregon receivers.

**10**

Days until Oregon's game against Cal.

# PAC-12 POWER PLAYERS

Oregon football is stacked with talent and its coaching is no different. How does Oregon compete with other Pac-12 members in the running for coach and player of the year awards?

The college football season might only be three weeks old, but it's never too early to project who will win the Pac-12's post-season awards.

While the lists for players and coaches of the year will undoubtedly change as the season goes on, there have been several performers who have separated themselves from the pack as the 12 teams head into conference play.

Below are the top players and coaches to keep an eye on these next few months.

## OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF YEAR

☉ De'Anthony Thomas (RB, Oregon): Thomas leads the Pac-12 in rushing touchdowns and is third in rushing yards, while dabbling in the receiving and return games as well. With his performance so far this season, he's the current front-runner for this award.

☉ Marcus Mariota (QB, Oregon): Mariota has been Heisman-like this season without being entirely consistent from game to game. If Mariota can find consistency, he has a greater potential to be the offensive player of the year.

☉ Sean Mannion (QB, Oregon State): Manion is second only to Cal's Jared Goff in passing yards among quarterbacks in the entire nation, not just the Pac-12. Unlike Goff, though, Mannion has a spectacular TD-to-INT ratio (12 to 1) and completion at 73.1 percent.

☉ Brett Hundley (QB, UCLA): He's an efficient passer who – unlike Mannion – is a threat to run. If not for Mariota, Hundley would easily be the best dual-threat quarterback in the conference.

☉ Other players to watch: Jared Goff (Cal), Paul Richardson (Colorado), Brandin Cooks (OSU), Marqise Lee (USC), Keith Price (Washington), Bishop Sankey (Washington).

## DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

☉ Ifo Ekpre-Olomu (CB, Oregon): The player who wins this award usually has a huge interception and/or sack total, which might cost Ekpre-Olomu the honors. But the cornerback, who is expected to be a high NFL draft pick – absolutely blankets opposing receivers, which should keep him in the discussion even if he never records a pick.

☉ Will Sutton (DT, Arizona State): Sutton is the defending player of the year on his side of the ball but hasn't put up huge individual numbers so far this season (3 tackles, 0 sacks). However, Sutton should never be dismissed because of his ability to plug holes for running backs and open them for his linebackers.

☉ Anthony Barr (LB, UCLA): Barr hasn't recorded a sack yet (he had 13.5 in 2012), but he leads the conference in tackles for loss and forced fumbles. Plus, he provides incredible value simply by occupying blockers.

☉ Trent Murphy (LB, Stanford): Murphy and Barr will be jockeying for the "Best Pass Rusher in the Pac-12" title all season. So far, Murphy has a leg up simply because he's recorded two sacks.

☉ Other players to watch: Tra'Mayne Bondurant (Arizona), Tony Washington (Oregon), Scott Crichton (OSU), Ed Reynolds (Stanford), Shayne Skov (Stanford), Devon Kennard (USC) and Josh Shirley (Washington).

## COACH OF THE YEAR

☉ Mark Helfrich (Oregon) and David Shaw (Stanford): For these two, the formula to win this award is pretty simple: at least 11 wins, conference championship and BCS bowl appearance, (national championship, preferably).

☉ Jim Mora Jr. (UCLA): Mora doesn't need to be quite as successful as Helfrich or Shaw, but UCLA has to at least make it to the Pac-12 championship for him to have a shot.

☉ Mike MacIntyre (Colorado): If Colorado can finish at least 4-5 in the Pac-12 and get to a bowl game, MacIntyre might earn this honor. That's how miserable it's been in Boulder these past seven seasons.

VICTOR FLORES, @VFLORES451

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