

SPORTS

FRIDAY, JANUARY 2, 2015 :: LATIMES.COM/SPORTS



ALAMO BOWL
14 UCLA vs.
11 Kansas State
 AT SAN ANTONIO
 Today, 3:45 p.m. PST
TV: ESPN

Bruins see this bowl as a start

UCLA would love to remember an Alamo win as the springboard to a successful 2015.

BY CHRIS FOSTER

SAN ANTONIO — This, UCLA players say, is the jumping-off point.

A victory over Kansas State in the Valero Alamo Bowl on Friday could take the Bruins into a prosperous new year. They might even beat Stanford, which ruined UCLA's Pac-12 championship plans with a 31-10 victory in the regular-season finale.

UCLA has 18 starters returning. There are 50 players on the roster who are either sophomores or freshmen. The Bruins' 2015 recruiting class is ranked 15th by ESPN.

What won't be back is the hype because of the one player who is leaving, quarterback Brett Hundley.

This is where he jumps off.

The sun pretty much rose and set in Westwood with Hundley the last three seasons. When he played well, or was allowed to play well, the Bruins were a handful. On days when he struggled, or was running for his football life, UCLA labored.

Hundley has set numerous UCLA passing records and can cap a prolific career with a second consecutive bowl victory and 10-win season.

"It's bittersweet," said Hundley, who has said he will declare for the NFL draft. "All the memories I made here will stay with me [See Alamo, C6]"



LM OTERO Associated Press

JEREMY LANGFORD and Michigan State won by erasing a 41-21 deficit.

THURSDAY'S OTHER SCORES

OUTBACK BOWL
 18 WISCONSIN (OT) 34
 19 AUBURN 31

COTTON BOWL
 8 MICHIGAN STATE 42
 5 BAYLOR 41

CITRUS BOWL
 16 MISSOURI 33
 25 MINNESOTA 17

■ COVERAGE, C7

Kings rally to beat Canucks

Stoll scores the winner with 1:14 to play as Kings score the last three goals in a 3-2 victory. **c2**

Boozer pulling things together

Veteran forward took over the huddle to help the Lakers hold the lead in victory over Nuggets. **c3**

ROSE BOWL :: NO. 2 OREGON 59, NO. 3 FLORIDA STATE 20

NATIONAL TITLE GAME: NO. 2 OREGON VS. NO. 4 OHIO STATE
 AT ARLINGTON, TEXAS | JAN. 12, 5:30 P.M. PST, ESPN



WALLY SKALIJ Los Angeles Times

IN FULL FLIGHT, Oregon's Charles Nelson dives for the goal line, and over Florida State's Nate Andrews, in the first quarter. Nelson came up short but the Ducks scored from the one-yard line two plays later to take the lead. The Seminoles would never catch up.

GREEN GOBBLIN'

Oregon, neither soft nor slow, strongly demands respect in tour de force

BILL PLASCHKE



Everyone duck. Dancing through stereotypes on shiny green shoes, plowing through perceptions with boxy yellow numbers, a funky West Coast football team has stuck a fist in the Southern jowls of the college football elite.

Those daffy Ducks from Oregon are racing into the inaugural College Football Playoff national championship game with pieces of good ol' Southern pigskin splattered across their soles. On a chilly Thursday afternoon filled with shadows and streaks, the defending champs from Florida State were stunned silly in a Rose Bowl that roared with Oregon fans, blazed with Oregon speed, shook with Oregon toughness, and rocked even after Oregon had completed a 59-20 whipping in the national semifinals.

Appropriately hurrying into their postgame celebration, the laughing and hooting Ducks players rushed a makeshift stage under a shower of confetti while the mass of green-clad faithful — they filled [See Plaschke, C5]



ROBERT GAUTHIER Los Angeles Times

FLORIDA STATE hopes went from slim to none when Jameis Winston slipped and fumbled in third quarter. Tony Washington (91) took it 58 yards for a touchdown.

Ducks chew up yardage and spit out Seminoles and their 29-game streak

BY CHRIS DUFRESNE

Florida State rallied from 21 points down to beat Louisville this season, burrowed back to take out Clemson and survived close calls against Miami, Notre Dame and Boston College.

Florida State, it was said, written and reiterated, was the cockroach you could not kill. Well, the boot heel came down Thursday, in the Rose Bowl, where the Seminoles got squished.

Florida State's 29-game winning streak was turned over to a green streak of Ducks.

Oregon ended Tallahassee's two-year tailgater on a crisp, clear day, in bright sunshine, before a crowd of 91,322.

The follow-up investigation on Oregon's 59-20 win over Florida State will not require CSI Pasadena.

The case was open and shut-up-up.

You simply do not get away with the things Florida State got away with all season. Not against this gaggle of points carnivores.

Florida State, which checks out at 13-1, had been asking for this, [See Rose Bowl, C4]

SUGAR BOWL :: NO. 4 OHIO STATE 42, NO. 1 ALABAMA 35

Buckeyes not your father's plodders



EAMON QUEENEY Columbus Dispatch

OHIO STATE'S EZEKIEL ELLIOTT bursts through a hole for a 54-yard gain in the first quarter. Elliott finished with 230 yards rushing, including an 85-yard touchdown.

Meyer's SEC-like team rallies from big early deficit to stun Tide

BY GARY KLEIN

NEW ORLEANS — So much for that maxim that Big Ten Conference teams are too slow to keep pace with the speed of the Southeastern Conference.

Ohio State Coach Urban Meyer won two national titles at Florida and knows a little bit about building something fast.

That was evident in the Buckeyes' resurrection since Meyer returned to Columbus, and it was apparent throughout Thursday night's Sugar Bowl against Alabama.

No more so than when Buckeyes' running back Ezekiel Elliott jettied through Alabama's vaunted defense for an 85-yard touchdown in the fourth quarter that provided the difference in Ohio State's 42-35 victory at the Superdome.

"Maybe the Big Ten's not that bad," Meyer said. "Maybe the Big Ten is pretty damn good."

Ohio State's victory in the College Football Playoff semifinal puts it in a matchup with another speedy outfit, this time from the Pac-12 Conference.

The Buckeyes will [See Sugar, C6]