



PAC-10 NEWS

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PAC-10 FOOTBALL AWARDS AND ALL-CONFERENCE TEAM ANNOUNCED

Offensive Player of the Year: Dennis Dixon, QB, Oregon
Pat Tillman Defensive Player of the Year: Sedrick Ellis, NT, USC
Freshman of the Year: Jake Locker, QB, Washington
Coach of the Year: Dennis Erickson, Arizona State

WALNUT CREEK, Calif.--Quarterback **Dennis Dixon** of Oregon has been selected Pac-10 Offensive Player of the Year, nose tackle **Sedrick Ellis** of USC the Pat Tillman Defensive Player of the Year, quarterback **Jake Locker** of Washington the Freshman of the Year and **Dennis Erickson** of Arizona State the Pac-10 Coach of the Year. The award winners are selected by the Pac-10 head football coaches.

Offensive Player of the Year Dennis Dixon, QB, Oregon: Dixon, a senior from San Leandro, Calif., was a unanimous choice for Pac-10 offensive player of the year despite missing the final two games of the regular season with a knee injury. Dixon led the Pac-10 in passing efficiency by completing 172 of 254 passes (67.7%) for 2,136 yards and 20 touchdowns with just four interceptions. He also was dangerous as a runner with 105 rushes for 583 yards (5.6-yard average) and nine touchdowns. Under Dixon's direction, Oregon led the Pac-10 in both scoring offense (36.7) and total offense (462.1). He was named Pac-10 offensive player of the week three times this season following Oregon victories against Michigan, Stanford and Arizona State. Dixon has been named one of three finalists for both the Maxwell Award and the Davey O'Brien National Quarterback Award. In addition, he has been selected as one of 15 National Scholar-Athletes by The National Football Foundation and College Hall of Fame and is a finalist for the Foundation's Draddy Trophy.

Pat Tillman Defensive Player of the Year Sedrick Ellis, NT, USC Ellis, a senior from Chino, Calif. anchored the USC defense that led the Pac-10 in scoring defense (15.9) and total defense (258.8). He led USC linemen in tackles with 56, 28 solo, including 12.5 tackles for loss (-75 yards) and 8.5 quarterback sacks (-67) and had two fumble recoveries. He has posted 28.5 tackles for loss and 17.5 quarterback sacks in his career. The three-year starter has been selected to the All-Pac-10 Team two straight years and in 2006 was named winner of the Morris Trophy as the top defensive lineman in the Conference. He is a semifinalist for the 2007 Bednarik Award and the Lott Trophy.

Freshman of the Year Jake Locker, QB, Washington: Locker, a heralded redshirt freshman from Ferndale, Wash., was named the Huskies' starting quarterback prior to the season and had a spectacular freshman campaign. He ranks fourth in the Pac-10 in total offense at 254.0 yards per game. Locker has passed for 2,062 yards and 14 touchdowns, but it is his rushing combined with those passing totals that has made such a dynamic impact. Locker has established a modern Pac-10 record for most yards rushing in a season by a quarterback with 986 yards. That ranks him fifth overall in rushing in the Pac-10.

Coach of the Year Dennis Erickson, Arizona State: Dennis Erickson took over an Arizona State squad that finished 7-6 last season and was picked to finish in the middle of the pack in the Conference race and directed the Sun Devils to a 10-2 mark, a Pac-10 co-championship and a berth in the Pacific Life Holiday Bowl. Erickson is the only coach to ever be head coach at three different Pac-10 schools and now he has earned coach of the year honors at all three, having previously been named while coaching Washington State in 1988 and Oregon State in 2000. Erickson joins Pete Carroll of USC and Don James of Washington as the only coaches to be named Pac-10 coach of the year three times. In his 19th season as a collegiate head coach, Erickson is 10th on the active career coaching list with a record of 158-67-1 (701).

In addition to individual awards, the Pac-10 coaches selected the 2007 All-Pac-10 Football Team that follows.

NOTES ON THE 2007 ALL-PAC-10 FOOTBALL TEAM

Selection Procedures: The All-Pac-10 Team is selected by the Pac-10 head football coaches.

By School: USC placed the most players on the first team with eight selections, followed by Oregon with five. Arizona and Arizona State were next with four each.

By Class: Of the 29 first-team selections, 15 are seniors, 10 are juniors, one is a sophomore and three are freshmen. Note that the freshmen and sophomore selections were all on special teams. All the first-team offensive and defensive players are seniors or juniors.

Unanimous: Three players were named on the first-team ballot of all 10 head coaches--NT **Sedrick Ellis** of USC, C **Alex Mack** of California and TB **Jonathan Stewart** of Oregon. In addition, QB **Dennis Dixon** of Oregon was a unanimous selection as Offensive Player of the Year.

Three-time Selection: OT **Sam Baker** of USC was named to the first-team for the third consecutive year.

Two-time Selections: In addition to Baker, six other players were named first-team All-Pac-10 for the second time with four of them being Trojans. Repeat first-teamers from last year are CB **Antoine Cason** of Arizona, C **Alex Mack** of California and the USC trio of NT **Sedrick Ellis**, MLB **Rey Maualuga** and OLB **Keith Rivers**. DE **Lawrence Jackson** of USC was a first-team selection in 2005.

Double Dippers: **Jonathan Stewart** of Oregon was named first-team running back and second-team kick returner. Likewise, **DeSean Jackson** of California was a second-team pick as both a wide receiver and punt returner.

2007 ALL-PACIFIC-10 CONFERENCE FOOTBALL TEAM

First Team Offense

QB Dennis Dixon, Sr., Oregon
RB Jonathan Stewart, Jr., Oregon
RB Justin Forsett, Sr., California
WR Mike Thomas, Jr., Arizona
WR Brandon Gibson, Jr., Washington State
TE Fred Davis, Sr., USC
OL Alex Mack, Jr., California
OL Max Unger, Jr., Oregon
OL Chilo Rachel, Jr., USC
OL Roy Schuening, Sr., Oregon State
OL Sam Baker, Sr., USC
OL Mike Pollack, Sr., Arizona State

First Team Defense

DL Sedrick Ellis, Sr., USC
DL Lawrence Jackson, Sr., USC
DL Nick Reed, Jr., Oregon
DL Dorain Smith, Sr., Oregon State
LB Spencer Larsen, Sr., Arizona
LB Keith Rivers, Sr., USC
LB Robert James, Sr., Arizona State
LB Rey Mauualuga, Jr., USC
DB Antoine Cason, Sr., Arizona
DB Patrick Chung, Jr., Oregon
DB Kevin Ellison, Jr., USC
DB Chris Horton, Sr., UCLA

First Team Specialists

PK Thomas Weber, Fr., Arizona State
P Keenyn Crier, Fr., Arizona
KOR Matthew Slater, Sr., UCLA
PR Kyle Williams, So., Arizona State
ST Jahvid Best, Fr., California

Second Team Offense

QB Alex Brink, Sr., Washington State
RB Yvenson Bernard, Sr., Oregon State
RB Louis Rankin, Sr., Washington
WR DeSean Jackson, Jr., California
WR Lavelle Hawkins, Sr., California
TE Jed Collins, Sr., Washington State
OL Geoff Schwartz, Sr., Oregon
OL Juan Garcia, Sr., Washington
OL Andy Levitre, Jr., Oregon State
OL Eben Britton, So., Arizona
OL Alex Fletcher, Jr., Stanford
OL Fenuki Tupou, Jr., Oregon

Second Team Defense

DL Bruce Davis, Sr., UCLA
DL Dexter Davis, So., Arizona State
DL Lionel Dotson, Sr., Arizona
DL Jeff Van Orsow, Sr., Oregon State
LB Joey LaRocque, Sr., Oregon State
LB Alan Darlin, Sr., Oregon State
LB Derrick Doggett, Sr., Oregon State
LB Zack Follett, Jr., California
DB Terrell Thomas, Sr., USC
DB Justin Tryon, Sr., Arizona State
DB Brandon Hughes, Jr., Oregon State
DB Troy Nolan, Jr., Arizona State

Second Team Specialists

PK Alexis Serna, Sr., Oregon State
P Jay Ottovegio, Sr., Stanford
KOR Jonathan Stewart, Jr., Oregon
PR DeSean Jackson, Jr., California
ST Wopamo Osaisai, Jr., Stanford

ST=special teams player (not a kicker or returner)

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Honorable Mention

ARIZONA: PK Jason Bondzio, Jr.; OT Peter Graniello, Sr.; TE Bob Gronkowski, Fr.; DE Jason Parker, Sr.; QB Willie Tuitama, Jr.

ARIZONA STATE: WR/KR Rudy Burgess, Sr.; QB Rudy Carpenter, Jr.; OG Paul Fanaika, Jr.; WR Michael Jones, Jr.; DT Michael Marquardt, Sr.; WR Chris McGaha, So.; OT Brandon Rodd, Sr.; DE Luis Vasquez, Jr.

CALIFORNIA: FS Thomas DeCoud, Sr.; OG Brian De La Puente, Sr.; OLB Anthony Felder, Jr.; OG Mike Gibson, Sr.; WR Robert Jordan, Sr.; TE Craig Stevens, Sr.

OREGON: OLB Jerome Boyd, Jr.; CB Jairus Byrd, So.; P Josh Syria, Jr.; CB Walter Thurmond III, So.; DE Will Tukuafu, So.; WR Jaison Williams, Jr.

OREGON STATE: FS Al Afalava, Jr.; DT Curtis Coker, Sr.; C Kyle DeVan, Sr.; SS Daniel Drayton, SS; CB Gerard Lawson, Sr.; DT Gerard Lee, Sr.

STANFORD: WR Mark Bradford, Sr.; DE Pannel Egboh, Jr.; OT Chris Marinelli, So.; FB Owen Marecic, Fr.; FS Bo McNally, So.; OLB Clinton Snyder, So.

UCLA: DT Kevin Brown, Sr.; CB Trey Brown, Sr.; PK Kai Forbath, Fr.; FS Dennis Keyes, Sr.; P Aaron Perez, Jr.; CB Alterraun Verner, So.

USC: OLB Brian Cushing, Jr.; DE Everson Griffen, Fr.; CB Cary Harris, Jr.; FS Taylor Mays, So.; TB/PR Joe McKnight, Fr.; OT Drew Radovich, Sr.; C Matt Spanos, Sr.; TB Chauncey Washington, Sr.; LB Thomas Williams, Sr.

WASHINGTON: QB Jake Locker, Fr.; DT Jordan Reffett, Sr.; WR Anthony Russo, Sr.

WASHINGTON STATE: FS Husain Abdullah, Sr.; WR Michael Bumpus, Sr.; OLB Andy Mattingly, So.; MLB Greg Trent, Jr.