



OREGON BIO

National Championships - 0



PAC-12 Championships: 9
(Last: 2020)

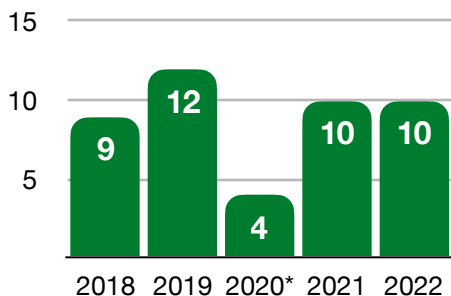
Location: Eugene, OR

All-Time Record: 616-466-34

2022 Results: 10-3
Won Holiday Bowl

Head Coach: Dan Lanning
2nd Year (10-3)

5-YEAR WIN TREND



Autzen Stadium (54,000)

Nix and Ducks to Fly High

Dan Lanning's tenure in Eugene got off to the rockiest of starts with a daunting first opponent: Georgia. In the 49-3 drubbing, starting quarterback **Bo Nix** looked lost and the line of scrimmage was flooded by the Bulldogs. It was easy to write off Oregon's hopes of a successful season right then and there. While the average college football fan wrote them off and the casual fan panicked, Lanning and company held the ship steady. Their quick turnaround was remarkable as the team finished the regular season 9-3, including a victory over Utah, the eventual PAC 12 champs. They eventually capped off the season with a 28-27 thrilling victory over North Carolina in the Holiday Bowl. A big reason for the Ducks' success after that first game of the season was the offensive line. Once upon a time, Nix was thought to be a cast off after transferring from Auburn, seemingly destined to never meet his potential in the college game. Yet, behind an offensive line that protected him and only gave up 13 sacks in conference play he looked like a new man. Nix finished the season with over 4,000 total yards, 43 touchdowns, and just 7 interceptions.

Moving into the 2023 season, expectations are sky high. Oregon begins the season ranked #15 in the AP poll, Nix is in the Heisman conversation, and in perhaps the deepest PAC-12 in recent memory, the Ducks are thought to have a great chance to finish the season on top. To further emphasize the good vibes, Lanning received a 6 year, \$45 million contract extension this off season as well. To meet these lofty expectations, a few things will need to go the Ducks way.

For starters, they will need to replenish the talent on the offensive line. The strength of the offense and team as a whole in the 2022 season was the offensive line. With left guard **Marcus Harper** being the only returning starter, there are large shoes to fill. The Ducks went into the transfer portal to add additional talent in former Texas lineman **Junior Angilua** and Rhode Island tackle **Ajani Cornelius**. Cornelius was highly sought after in the transfer portal this offseason as he chose Oregon over schools like Ohio State and Tennessee. With these transfer additions and the depth they already possessed at the position with players such as **Jackson Powers-Johnson**, there is reason to believe that the offensive line will remain a strength in 2023.

Defensively, the biggest losses are easily Noah Sewell and Christian Gonzalez who were both early draft picks this year. Although Sewell accounted for over 200 tackles during his collegiate career, it is perhaps his leadership that will be missed most. Fatigue was a huge issue for the defense last year. In some of the biggest games when the offense was sputtering and the defense needed a stop, they couldn't do it. This dilemma led to second half collapses against Washington and Oregon State. However, they showed signs of optimism in the Holiday Bowl, holding star quarterback Drake Maye to only six second half points, allowing for a comeback victory. Defensive depth will be critical this season as they face numerous high profile quarterbacks and they will need to make timely stops. The Ducks also need to find a more consistent pass rush after just 18 sacks a season ago. **Brandon Dorlus** is a potential igniter at defensive end.

The Bottom Line: In order for Oregon to accomplish their lofty goals, Bo Nix will need to have a Heisman-worthy season. Behind a strong offensive line and a schedule loaded with high-profile games he'll have every opportunity to make his case. An early road trip to Texas Tech will be the first opportunity to make a statement before the calendar hits October and the PAC-12 schedule begins to heat up. Trips to Seattle and Salt Lake City in that month could determine the entire season. If the Ducks are able to manage those difficult tests on the road, three of the final four games will be at home including USC and Oregon State. Nix has plenty of talent, ability, and now, experience, to meet these lofty season goals, but he will need to stay healthy. Despite his strong offensive line last season he took a lot of punishment scrambling and running the ball. One could argue the losses to Washington and Oregon State at the end of the year had a lot to do with Nix getting banged up and therefore being limited on the field. Assuming he is healthy this is the year, the Ducks soar to new heights.

Projection: 11-1 (1st in PAC-12)

2022 Statistics

Points Scored

38.8

9th in FBS

Rush Yards

215.8

12th in FBS

Pass Yards

284.8

17th in FBS

Turnover Margin

+9

18th in FBS

Points Allowed

27.4

74th in FBS

Rush YDS Allowed

124.8

30th in FBS













Pass YDS Allowed

224.5

65th in FBS



2023 Oregon Schedule

Week	Date	Team
1	Sat, Sept 2	 vs. Portland State
2	Sat, Sept 9	 @ Texas Tech
3	Sat, Sept 16	 vs. Hawaii
4	Sat, Sept 23	 vs. Colorado
5	Sat, Sept 30	 @ Stanford
6	Bye Week	
7	Sat, Oct 14	 @ Washington
8	Sat, Oct 21	 vs. Wash St.
9	Sat, Oct 28	 @ Utah
10	Sat, Nov 4	 vs. California
11	Sat, Nov 11	 vs. USC
12	Sat, Nov 18	 @ Arizona State
13	Fri, Nov 24	 vs. Oregon State

Conference Games in Bold

KEY GAMES

Sat, Sept 9: @ Texas Tech - An early season trip to Lubbock could set the tone for the entire season. The only true challenge for the Ducks until October will come against a young, but talented Red Raiders team eager for national prominence.

Sat, Oct 14: @ Washington - A difficult three-game stretch in October begins with a trip to Seattle for one of the must-see quarter matchups of the entire season.

Fri, Nov 24: vs. Oregon State - It may be the last "Civil War" game for a while and it also may just go down as the biggest meeting ever as both schools are expected to enter this fierce rivalry with their PAC-12 title hopes still alive.

KEY PLAYERS

Ajani Cornelius - OT



Oregon needs to reload their offensive line after losing four starters. The Rhode Island transfer will play an integral part in keeping Nix upright this season. Highly out after in the transfer portal and expected to be one of the best tackles in the PAC-12, he should help prevent a drop off from last year's stout offensive line.

Trikweze Bridges - CB

With the departure of lockdown corner Christian Gonazlez (17th overall to New England), Bridges and the secondary as a whole will need to step up to fill the void. The PAC-12 offers the best quarterback play in the country (and it's probably not close), so teams with championship aspirations will need timely plays made on the back end of the defense. Bridges has the experience and talent to be that guy and hauled in interceptions against Eastern Washington, California, and Washington State last season.



2022 RESULTS (1-11)

Georgia (L 3-49)

E. Washington (W 70-14)

BYU (W 41-20)

@ Washington St. (W 44-41)

Stanford (W 45-27)

@ Arizona (W 49-22)

UCLA (W 45-30)

@ California (W 42-24)

@ Colorado (W 49-10)

Washington (L 34-37)

Utah (W 20-17)

@ Oregon State (L 34-38)

North Carolina (W 28-27)

OREGON

RECRUITING

2023 Class Ranking

9th

(Via 24/7 Sports)