

## **Offensive Fireworks set to Highlight 13<sup>th</sup> Annual BCS Championship Game**

*By Tex Noel/SEC SportsFans.com StatHistorian*

Explosive teams; outstanding players will be featured in the 13<sup>th</sup> annual BCS Championship Game, Jan. 10, 2011; this year's game is sponsored by Tostitos and will be played in Glendale, Ariz.

Both Oregon and Auburn are making their initial appearances in the BCS fray with thrilling wins or comeback triumphs; outstanding players who have provided the not only their own fans—but also ones from across the country—a season full of highlights and memorable moments.

Two undefeated teams; each from a conference known for its domination of teams week in and week out; also known for winning titles.

Auburn's appearance in the title-tilt further extends the SEC's string of a five in-a-row and seven total of the 26 teams has played in the BCS National Championship Game since it began in 1998—all came home as National Champions.

Should the team out on the Plains raise the crystal football, it would mark its second title. The 1957 eleven, despite being on probation, was awarded the AP title; while Ohio State claimed the UPI and FWAA championships.

In addition, a Tiger victory would also give the state of Alabama back-to-back national champions. (The only state to have previous was Texas in 1938 and 1939, when TCU and Texas A&M, respectively, of the old SWC were named AP #1s.)

Oregon is making a bid to become the last Pac-Ten Conference; before it becomes the Pac-12 in 2011.

The previously mentioned OSU Buckeyes' 1957 Rose Bowl foe was Oregon; with the Big 10 school winning, 10-7.

Oregon leads the nation in scoring with an average of 49.3 over its 12-game schedule. The Tigers allow 24.5, 54<sup>th</sup> in the nation.

While Auburn is also capable of putting points on the scoreboard, sixth—42.7; while the Ducks are capable keeping teams out of the end zone: surrendering 18.4 per outing—14<sup>th</sup> in Bowl Subdivision stats.

Each team can really pick-up yards and in bunches; as both are in the Top 10 in running the ball and total offense.

**Rushing:** Oregon 4<sup>th</sup>—303.8; Auburn 6<sup>th</sup>—287.2. Total **Offense:** 2<sup>nd</sup> 537.5 and 7<sup>th</sup> 497.7, respectively.

The focus has been on offense this fall; as the two teams have a single entry on the defensive side of the ball.

A statistical comparison for both teams will show their ranking among the 120 teams in BSD and per game averages.

Also, following that will be where each team ranks with other teams that have participated in the 12 previous BCS Championship Games.

<b>OREGON</b>		<b>Category</b>	<b>AUBU RN</b>	
4	303.8	<a href="#"><u>Rushing Offense</u></a>	6	287.2
48	233.7	<a href="#"><u>Passing Offense</u></a>	69	210.5
2	537.5	<a href="#"><u>Total Offense</u></a>	7	497.7
1	49.33	<a href="#"><u>Scoring Offense</u></a>	6	42.69
16	117.6	<a href="#"><u>Rushing Defense</u></a>	11	111.7
6	101.7	<a href="#"><u>Pass Efficiency Defense</u></a>	75	132.2
25	331.6	<a href="#"><u>Total Defense</u></a>	54	362.2
14	18.42	<a href="#"><u>Scoring Defense</u></a>	54	24.46
20	38.55	<a href="#"><u>Net Punting</u></a>	92	34.7

1	18.19	<a href="#">Punt Returns</a>	91	6.18
62	21.88	<a href="#">Kickoff Returns</a>	23	23.97
7	1.08	<a href="#">Turnover Margin</a>	33	0.38
56	214	<a href="#">Pass Defense</a>	105	250.5
18	151.7	<a href="#">Passing Efficiency</a>	1	186.9
19	2.58	<a href="#">Sacks</a>	22	2.54
8	7.5	<a href="#">Tackles For Loss</a>	26	6.77
5	0.67	<a href="#">Sacks Allowed</a>	41	1.62
76	0.470	<a href="#">Opponent's Combined Winning Pct.</a>	4	0.628

**TEAM STAT RANKING OF BCS CHAMPIONSHIP GAME OPPONENTS vs the StatHistory of every team that has played in the game, 1998-2011.**

- **(OFFENSE)**

**SCORING:** (2008-Oklahoma, 51.4): 3-Oregon, 49.3; 8-Auburn, 42.7.

**RUSHING:** (2001-Nebraska, 305.6): 2-Oregon, 303.8; 3-Auburn, 287.2.

**PASSING:** (2000-Florida State, 375.5): 13-Oregon, 233.7; 18-Auburn, 210.5.

**TOTAL:** (2005-USC, 579.8): 3-Oregon, 537.5; 6-Auburn, 497.7.

- **(DEFENSE)**

**SCORING:** (2001-Miami FL, 9.7): 19-Oregon, 18.4; 25-Auburn, 24.5 [tied 2008 Oklahoma].

**RUSHING:** (2003-LSU, 67.0): 16-Auburn, 111.7; 20-Oregon, 117.6.

**PASSING:** (2002-Miami FL, 119.7): 22-Oregon, 214.0; 25-Auburn, 250.5.

**TOTAL:** (2007-Ohio State, 236.2): 23-Oregon, 331.6; 25-Auburn, 362.2.

- **(SPECIAL TEAMS)**

**NET PUNTING:** (2002-Ohio State, 44.2): 12-Oregon; 38.6; 21-Auburn, 34.7 [tied 2009 Alabama].

**PUNT RETURNS:** (2010-Oregon, 18.2): 24-Auburn, 6.2.

**KICK-OFF RETURNS:** (2005-Texas, 26.9): 6-Auburn, 24.0; 11-Oregon, 21.9 [tied 2003 Oklahoma].

- **(VITAL STATISTICS)**

**TURNOVER MARGIN:** (2001-Miami FL, 2.36): 10-Oregon, 1.08; 18-Auburn, 0.38.

**TOUGHEST SCHEDULE, (Opponent's combined Winning percent):** (2006-Florida, 0.671); 8-Auburn, 0.628; 26-Oregon, 0.470.

