Arizona St. Over UCLA; Aggies To Thump Hokies

By Major Amos B. Hoople
Peerless Prophet

Jove, friends, this is the week we’ve all been waiting for as the nation’s major collegiate powers unlimber their heavy artillery!

The cannonading starts on Thursday evening as the UCLA Bruins, still floating on Cloud Nine — heh-heh — following their amazing come-from-behind Rose Bowl triumph over Ohio State last January, will journey to Tempe to engage the Sun Devils of Arizona State in a national TV extravaganza. We look for Frank Kush’s Sun Devils to bring the UCLANS back to earth in a hurry winning by a comfortable 35-14 count.

Then on Saturday the festivities begin in earnest. Here are just a few of the choice tid-bits ready for your enjoyment: Arizona vs. Auburn; Arkansas — Utah State; Florida — No. Carolina; Illinois — Iowa; Michigan — Wisconsin; Minnesota — Indiana; Alabama — Mississippi.

And how about these matchups: Oklahoma — Vanderbilt; Notre Dame — Pittsburgh; Ohio State — Michigan State; Oklahoma — Tulsa; Penn State — Stanford; Purdue — Northwestern; Southern California — Missouri; Tennessee — Duke; Texas Tech — Colorado; Nebraska — Louisiana State; Texas — Boston College and Washington vs. Virginia.

Egad, dear readers, never in our long, long association with the collegiate gridders have we had such a plethora of early season masterpieces. And, in the tradition of Hoople Football Forecasts of years past, we have some astonishing predictions in store for you — har-rumph!

Let's consider first the Big 10 with a full slate on tap. We look for Woody Hayes to open his 26th season as head man at Ohio State with a convincing 28-14 win over the Michigan State Spartans. Meanwhile, at Ann Arbor, host Michigan will show the world why your esteemed prognosticator — hak-kaff — rates them No. 1 by rolling over a fine Wisconsin club, 30-6.

In other Big 10 meetings we make it Illinois 17, Iowa 14; Minnesota 24, Indiana 15, and Northwestern, 36-26, in a shocking conquest of host Purdue!

In a regional telecast feature we see Notre Dame avenging last year's upset at the hands of Pittsburgh by taking the Panthers, 27-12. The Irish defense will be ready for Pitt's Dorsett this time. However, "Talented Tony" will still give a good account of himself.

A trio of Big Eight standouts have too many horses for their opponents and we look for Nebraska, Oklahoma and Oklahoma State to win handily. The Hoople scouting report on these contests reads: Nebraska 35, LSU 21; Oklahoma 28, Vanderbilt 14, and Oklahoma State 38, Tulsa 10.

Two of the South's major independents will stage an old-fashioned donnybrook at Atlanta as South Carolina outlasts the Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets, 16-14. And at Athens, Georgia, the Georgia Bulldogs will startle the betting brethren by jolting favored California and their premier passer Joe Roth. Yes, my friends, it will be Georgia 26, California 24.

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Major Hoople's Football Forecast

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