Brut Sun Bowl Selects Oregon State

Contributed by Trenten Hilburn
Tuesday, 28 November 2006
Last Updated Friday, 28 November 2008

Beaver Nation Headed Southbound

EL PASO, Texas (November 28, 2006) – BCS No. 24 Oregon State University has accepted an invitation to participate in the 73rd annual Brut Sun Bowl, announced Sun Bowl Association president John H. Folmer. The game is slated for Friday, Dec. 29 at noon (MT) at Sun Bowl Stadium.

BCS No. 24 Oregon State Headed To El Paso

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“We are extremely happy to have Oregon State in the Brut Sun Bowl,” said Folmer. “They deserve to be here. Oregon State played their way into a trip to El Paso and we are excited about hosting them. They have won six of their last seven, including beating USC. They are truly one of the great stories of college football this season.”

The Beavers, who will close out the regular season at BCS No. 25 Hawai’i on Saturday, are currently 8-4 (6-3 in the Pac-10). Oregon State went 5-2 at home in 2006 before an average of 40,830 fans per game (94.3 percent of capacity) at Reser Stadium, which has a capacity of 43,300. That total includes a record 44,015 fans that watched the Beavers down Oregon, 30-28, in the 110th edition of the Civil War.

“With the addition of Oregon State, the Brut Sun Bowl has now hosted nine of the 10 Pac-10 schools,” said Bernie Olivas, executive director of the Sun Bowl Association. “The Beavers will bring an exciting brand of football to El Paso and to our national television audience on CBS. We are extremely excited to extend El Paso hospitality to another Pac-10 university.”

In all, this season marks the 12th overall bowl appearance by Oregon State. The Beavers last bowl appearance came at the 2004 Insight Bowl, where OSU knocked off Notre Dame, 38-21. This year’s appearance in the Brut Sun Bowl marks the fourth bowl appearance by Oregon State in the last five years.

“We are very proud to be the Pacific-10 Conference representative to a bowl game the stature of the Brut Sun Bowl,” Oregon State University Director of Athletics Bob De Carolis said. “This is another wonderful opportunity to showcase our program and university on the national stage at an event that has a very strong reputation. The Sun Bowl officials have already shown why this is considered a first-class event among college football and I’m convinced ‘Beaver Nation’ will enjoy their visit to El Paso.”

This marks the third bowl appearance in four years under head coach Mike Riley, who led the Beavers to championships at the 2003 Las Vegas Bowl and the 2004 Insight Bowl.

“Our team is very excited to play in the Brut Sun Bowl,” Oregon State head coach Mike Riley said. “I’ve heard many great things about the hospitality of El Paso and the Sun Bowl from my compatriots in the Pac-10, and it’s awesome that the Beavers will get to experience that over the Holidays.”

Oregon State brings in an exciting offense that produces 123.6 yards per game on the ground and another 232.7 yards through the air. On the defensive side, the Beavers rank 30th nationally in total defense and eighth in sacks.

The 73rd Annual Brut Sun Bowl is scheduled for Friday, Dec. 29 at noon (MST). CBS Sports will broadcast the game for the 39th consecutive year, which is the longest running partnership between a network and a bowl game. Ticket prices for the game are $15, $20, $30, $40, $50, and $60. Tickets can be purchased at the Sun Bowl Association office (915-533-4416, 800-915-2695 or e-mail), online at www.ticketmaster.com or at any TicketMaster outlet.