BLEAV Sports with Fred and the Fantastics
SOMEBODY CALL A PLUMBER

It's that time again. Fred and the Fantastics on BLEAV and on PodClips with Art, Laura, Mark, anything and everything in sports. Email us, folks, sportsfred@aol.com, sportsfred@aol.com. So much to talk about, but I want to talk about USC at the Coliseum on Saturday, which is happening this Friday afternoon, USC at the Coliseum, 4:30 on Friday. Two very bad coaches up against one another. Art, you played for the Trojans. Any comments? The Trojans are a six and a half point underdog. And again, Sayin is not playing; Sayin is not playing for the Buckeyes of Ohio State. I don't think either is going to win. No, I'm going to take the six-and-a-half. But your thoughts, Art?

I actually like Ohio State, even though they could probably start Luke Fahey, a freshman from Mission Viejo High School. You know, they spent a lot of money on Tavion St. Clair, and, you know, Julian Sayin gets hurt. I'm kind of figuring that one out. But I do agree with what you said, Fred. I think Ohio State's going to win the game. I don't know if they're going to cover the spread, but I already, I already made my bet, and I took, I took Ohio State and I laid the six and a half. I think they're just, they have more four- or five-star football players than SC. And the game that I watched last week between USC and Wisconsin told me what I already knew. USC is a very, very soft football team. And I don't think, I don't think Ohio State's going to have much trouble.

Mark? Do you agree with that?

I don't think they're going to have much trouble.

You know, there's been a long list of coaches that have left USC that have transformed programs. I like the way Kiffin, I like Sarkisian. And they're going to run Riley out of town, too. And I like Riley. But he's going to probably go to Texas A&M.

How many seasons, Mark? How many seasons has Sarkisian had where he's had at least three or four losses? Look at his record. He's an eight-and-four college football coach.

Well, when they, when they get that thing up to 24, you can roll the dice, and anything can happen, but to get along,

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Lincoln Riley has never had a good defense in 12 years of being a head coach.

Yeah, but he's developed, he's developed, every, every time he's had a quarterback there, he's developed,

He's an offensive coordinator. He's Norval Turner. That's what he is.

Well, okay, here, here's the thing. Ohio State is going to take out, I mean, USC is going to take out Ohio State. You know, it's funny in the polls.

Hang on, hang on.

I feel so much better about my bet now.

Hang on, Mark said, the world's worst sports handicapper is on my side here. He likes the Trojans.

Yeah.

Hang on, I gotta call my bookie. Mr. Bookie, cancel my bet, please. Go ahead, Mark.

But wait a minute. It's funny, Artie and everybody, you know, Laura and Fred, that every time Ohio State or Notre Dame lose, they only drop one ranking in the, in the top 10. I don't understand this. Is there, what's going on with this whole, these programs, man?

Same thing with Texas Tech. Texas Tech lost, lost to Cincinnati last week. They lost one spot in the poll. USC loses to Wisconsin, they go out of the top 25 from 16. Yeah, it's, it's pretty interesting.

If UCLA lost to Wisconsin, they would be out of the top 15.

Laura, you're a Bruin fan. You've seen USC play this year. You think they can beat Ohio State or not?

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I agree with Fred. I don't think they have a good, they don't have a good defense. And Ohio State's going to just tear them up, I think.

Wow.

And who's going to cover that wide receiver? I have no idea. They're going to triple team him?

Ohio State doesn't have a quarterback.

Because the other three receivers are pretty good, too.

Who's quarterback in Ohio State?

Tavion St. Clair.

The French guy.

But again, we talk about, we talk about coaches coming and going. There were articles this week about Bob Chesney leaving UCLA.

Yeah.

Art, any thoughts?

Can we get him at USC?

I don't know.

No, the guy's, the guy's, the guy's a good football coach. And I'm telling you, you know, it's been five years for this Lincoln Riley plan to try to work, yet Cignetti went into Indiana and turned it around instantly. Now you've got Chesney, a team that's 7-0, that last year was probably, they have talent. UCLA's always had talent. I watched them play against Penn State last year, and

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they put, they put a nice performance on the field out there against a good Penn State team. But I will say this: it's, it's changing. Now, with the NIL and all the money involved, can UCLA cobble up the money to afford to keep Bob Chesney? That's what it's going to come down to.

And his dad.

Oh, his dad's, his dad is like, I told you what he does with his dad. His dad actually scouts the UCLA team like the coach that he was, and lets us know what the other, from a different perspective, what their weaknesses are and your weaknesses are, which I think is,

All right, so I think, okay, on Saturday, if they beat Nevada, they're 8-0. And they've got Minnesota, Michigan, USC, and Illinois. Can they win all four? I don't think so. I mean, I don't see that.

I see, I see potentially two losses. The thing that scares me about Michigan is they're going to have to go to Michigan. It's going to be late in the season, and weather could be, weather could be something that is a problem. I mean, but we'll see what happens. But, you know, right now, to see them ranked number seven, you know, that's got to make a lot of Bruin fans real happy.

Here's the problem.

Their backup quarterback.

Here's the problem I have.

Yeah, Dieffenbach.

Why is Nevada even on the schedule late in the season at this point in time?

At this point in time. Somebody must have dropped out.

Mark, what?

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Why, you know, here I'm getting excited a little about USC and Chestnut and everything, and then you get Nevada on the schedule, eight games in. Why is Nevada on the schedule?

Well, because they have to play so many Big Ten games, and they, they have played them all after they play the final three games. So they, you know, they played the rest of them already.

It's just, it's weird; weird spot in the schedule.

Yeah.

The Bruins got an advantage this year in that they don't have to play at Ohio State. And so that's a major, they don't have to play Indiana. That's a major advantage. Next year they do. They alternate from year to year. This year they played Oregon; next year, it'll be Washington. I mean, so they do have to rotate, something like that. But you mentioned Michigan. Tim Carr, excuse me, Tommy Carr, the freshman, brother of C.J. Carr.

Yeah.

Art, have you seen enough of Tommy Carr to make a decision? I think he's pretty good.

I think he's going to be really, really good. I'm a little concerned right now for Coach Whittingham, because, you know, Michigan, Michigan doesn't have a lot of patience. They're one of those blue-blood programs. But I'll tell you, the thing that blows my mind is Underwood, who is being replaced by Carr. You know, what do you do with him? I would, I would still put some packages in for him on rollouts, on, you know, the fake down the line and running a little bit. The kid's a great athlete. Do you just give up on him and go with the, with the young freshman now at this point? I mean, that's, that's a really, go ahead.

$3 million a year, apparently, times four. They have a contract of $12 million. So the whole thing is,

That's why my Oracle stock went down.

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All right, we'll take a break and come back with more. Fred and the Fantastics on BLEAV and on PodClips. Email us, sportsfred@aol.com. Back right after this.

Hey, we're back on Fred and the Fantastics on BLEAV and on PodClips. And Laura? Your Raiders, three and four, at the Jets, Sunday morning. Any comment? Jets are a one-point favorite. I like the Raiders. I think they're better than the Jets. I think Aaron Glenn is one of the worst coaches in the league. And he won't be in the league much longer. Laura, your thoughts about your Las Vegas Raiders?

Yeah, I agree with you, Fred. I don't see how the Jets are a one-point favorite. I mean, the Raiders have been playing pretty well. They've played some really tough opponents in their losses. I'm happy they're playing the Jets this weekend. It should be a little bit of a reprieve. Yeah, I think the Raiders are going to win on, on Sunday, for sure. I don't know about the spread, but I think they're going to win.

Art, comment: the Jets against the Raiders. People are writing some articles that Mendoza should start. It's not Cousins' fault. He's playing well. You know, I'm not a big Cousins guy usually. But I don't think you'll pull the quarterback at this point. Next week, at San Francisco, the 49ers against the Raiders. But anyways, Art, do you think they'd make a switch if he has one bad game and Kirk Cousins? I don't think it'll be against the Jets, but your comments?

I mean, I got to tell you, I haven't seen Cousins do anything wrong basically all season.

Yeah.

I mean, he's been, he's been exemplary. I'm sure he's helping the young guy come along and teach him the things he knows. I mean, you've got Brady there. You got, I mean, you've got a lot of people there who are, who are going to work with Mendoza. But I think Mendoza, maybe late in the year, you know, if the Raiders have no shot at a playoff, that's when you work him in for a couple of games, get his feet wet. He looked good, the one, the one game he came in. I mean, he didn't get to play a whole lot. But yeah, I like the Raiders in New York to up, to upset the Jets, even though that's a picking game in my book; that's how I see it.

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All right, Mark, this question's going to be for you. Vikings at the Lions. Vikings 6-0, Lions 4-2. Lions about a three and a half point favorite in this one. All right, we've got thousands of listeners right now on Fred and the Fantastics. I'm willing to bet you that if you tell me you had Minnesota being the final undefeated team in the NFL, you'd be a liar.

Yeah.

Mark, do you think anybody- there are thousands of listeners out there on Fred and the Fantastics- actually would have had Minnesota as the final undefeated team in the NFL?

No, but I'm still, I'm still doing the Dirty Bird Dance after the Falcons knocked out the 'Niners. Because I think the 'Niners are the most overhyped team in the NFL. And the Rams will still figure out a way to win that division.

Can I ask you guys a question real quick?

Yeah.

Do you think Brian Flores will ever get another head coaching job? Because he's done a heck of a job,

Yeah.

With that defense.

Kyler Murray, look at Kyler Murray.

Kevin O'Connell is for real, too. You look at his all-time record,

But Art, you would think that they'd have been the last, the final undefeated team in the league?

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No, I didn't think so, unless Fran Tarkenton and Chuck Foreman and Sammy White were playing for them.

And Alan Page.

All right, who do you like in this one? Who do you like in this one? Detroit Three and a Half?

I like, I like the Purple People Eaters. Because the other guy, Dan Campbell, doesn't seem like a stable guy. And if he gets fired, he's gonna get a job as a heel in the WWE.

Jared Goff hitting 75% of his passes. Laura, what do you like? Vikings at the Lions; Lions three-and-a-half-point favorite; Jared Goff hitting 75. I don't think he has an interception this year either.

No, he does 14 touchdowns.

It should be a good game. It'll be a good game. I think Detroit; I like Detroit in that game.

I do too.

Art, who do you like?

I like Detroit as well. And their offense is prolific. I mean, you know, you look at Jahmyr Gibbs, you look at Jamerson, you look at the tight end, you know, Amon St. Roa. It comes down to, you know, the real bet in that game might be the over, you guys.

Let me, let me tell you something. The teams that are gonna probably end up, well, one team that's gonna give the Rams some fits down the stretch, and people might say it could be Seattle, and I'm not sold on them, even though they're defending champs of the 49ers, the team you gotta watch out for in the NFC is the Chicago Bears. They have just,

Well, I mean, they're gonna score a lot of points. Can they stop anybody?

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They just brought in Simmons there.

All right, finally, in our last couple of minutes right here.

They brought in Jeffrey Simmons, though. That's huge, Fred.

Okay, I'm losing you guys, so let's finish very quickly. Chargers, do they get a win against the Rams? Art, Rams, a little bit more than a seven-point favorite.

Rams by 21.

Laura, who do you like? Chargers, Rams?

Rams.

Mark, who do you like? I'm afraid to hear this. Go ahead.

I like, you know, I like McVay, Garrett, you know, Donald. I like the Rams to win the division.

Oh, my God. All right, for Laura, for Mark, for Artie, for Mario. Thank you, guys and gals, for listening to Fred and the Fantastics on BLEAV and on PodClips. More down the road. Bye, everybody.

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