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Will Bowl Loss Kill USC?
 NEW YORK (AP)—Top-ranked Southern California is taking a ho-hum approach to playing Ohio State in the Rose Bowl and Coach John McKay thinks the Trojans are No. 1 win or lose.
 "Losing to Ohio State certainly won't make us No. 2," McKay said Wednesday. "We're 11-0 now. If we lose and are 11-1, now who is going to be better even then?"
 USC's silver-haired coach came to New York for a joint news conference with Ohio State bossman Woody Hayes. Only Woody didn't show up.
 "It's tough to get a flight here from Columbus," joked McKay. The Trojan-Buckeye matchup in Pasadena gives the Big Ten champions, 9-1, a shot — with a victory — at convincing voters in The Associated Press poll that Ohio State is No. 1.
 Final voting comes after the bowls.
 "Now, if we were playing an undefeated Ohio State or Michigan team in the Rose Bowl," McKay said, "I would be in favor of putting the chips on the table. But not against teams that can't be better than you anyway."
 McKay said the 1972 USC team is superior to his national champions of 1962 and 1967. "Those other teams had off days now and then, but this one never has," he said.
 The polls, McKay said, are the "greatest things that ever happened to college football. They turn it from a regional game to a national. It makes people in Alabama or Nebraska root like hell against us. Without the polls, they wouldn't care."
 Still, puffing on a cigar at New York's fashionable "21" restaurant, McKay said, "Being No. 1 isn't the ultimate thing for us at USC. Going to the Rose Bowl is the biggest goal of all."
 While not planning to overwork his squad, McKay said, "We still want to win against Ohio State and plan on winning. But, we're not going to ask our kids to win, win, win and then ask them to bust their hides a month later and win one more for us."
 McKay said the cross-Los Angeles trip to the Rose Bowl is "a reward for a great season. Since we don't practice as hard for the bowl, we often don't play as well as we have in the regular season. But, that's my approach."

Bill Henry

 Last Friday night's crowd in G. Rollie White was the largest ever to watch a non-conference A&M basketball game. The crowd, nearly 4,000 students, was highly praised by coach Shelby Metcalf and his players.
 After the contest, the players couldn't believe that so many people were interested and excited over their team. It was just a great night for basketball.
 Everyone got involved. The fans, yell leaders and the team got caught up in what turned out to be a fine contest.
 Only one game remains at home for this semester when George Washington University comes to town on Monday but beginning Jan. 13th, Southwest Conference action begins which should really prove interesting.
 SMU and Texas have been picked to cop the crown this year with A&M and Arkansas tied for third. So far this year the Aggies stand in at 4-0 while SMU and Texas stand in at 1-2.
 Only other league teams standing unblemished are Baylor and Arkansas. Arkansas has defeated Rockhurst and Missouri Western while Baylor has defeated St. Mary's and Abilene Christian.
 A&M's first SWC tilt will be in Arkansas on Jan. 13 and it may turn out to be a much bigger game than it now stands.
 Maybe next semester we can get the band at some games and not have to play "The Aggie War Hymn" over the public address system from a cassette recorder.

Speaking of preseason picks, this year's football prognostications were quite a blunder.
 Arkansas was a unanimous choice for the crown followed by Texas, A&M, TCU, SMU, Tech, Rice and Baylor.
 It ended up with Texas winning an unprecedented fifth straight crown while Arkansas finished as the cellar runner-up. A&M and TCU tied for last, while SMU and Tech tied for second. Baylor and Rice tied with Arkansas.
 Speaking of blunders. SMU made a pretty big one dismissing coach Hayden Fry. Mustang boosters should have been pretty excited with their second place finish considering that they have only given Fry 24 full scholarships to work with compared to 40 by most schools.
 His recruiting prowess has enabled him to pick some of the most exciting players ever to hit SWC football ranks. Remember Jerry Levias, Gary Hammond, Chuck Hixson and Mike Richardson? He never had a wealth of talent but his teams were always enjoyable to watch.
 Johnny Majors, Iowa State's young coach, is today interviewing for the job and has the inside track as he does for head jobs at Michigan State and Kentucky.
 In all, ten jobs are open in collegiate football so don't be surprised if some of the top SWC assistants are mentioned.
 For the first time in SWC history, three players picked up over 1,000 yards rushing in one season. Along with Texas' Roosevelt Leaks are Dickey Morton of Arkansas and Alvin Maxson (again) from SMU.
 Also for the first time, the conference has had five clubs with over 3,000 yards total offense in one season as well as only the third time that five teams have scored more than 200 points in a campaign.

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