

4/11/01

Copy: Scott Ball

BASEBALL: CAL (21-16, 6-6) HOSTS NO. 9 RANKED USC (24-12, 6-3) IN PAC-10 SERIES

Day	Date	Opponent	Site	Time
Thu.	Apr. 12	vs. USC	Evans Diamond, Berkeley, CA	2:30 p.m.
Fri.	Apr. 13	vs. USC	Evans Diamond, Berkeley, CA	2:30 p.m.
Sat.	Apr. 14	vs. USC	Evans Diamond, Berkeley, CA	1:00 p.m.

RADIO: KALX Radio (90.7 FM) will broadcast the Apr. 12-14 USC-Cal games...**SERIES RECORD:** Cal has a 126-209 overall series record against the USC Trojans...last season, the Bears won two-of-three games (lost 6-5, won 9-5, won 4-3) Apr. 14-16 in Berkeley...

HEAD COACH DAVID ESQUER: The Bears coach is in his second season at Cal and has a career record of 46-44 (.511)...Esquer, 35, became only the 10th coach in the long history of Cal baseball, which began in 1892, when he was hired June 10, 1999...Esquer replaced longtime Bear mentor Bob Milano, who retired May 17, 1999 after 22 years as the Bears head coach and 29 years involved in the Cal baseball program... Esquer came to Berkeley after serving as the top assistant at Pepperdine from 1996-99...prior to working at Pepperdine, he was the No. 2 assistant coach at Stanford under Mark Marquess from 1991-96...a shortstop at Stanford from 1984-87, Esquer was a starter on Stanford's 1987 College World Series championship team, earning All-Tournament honors after hitting .350 with six RBI in Omaha...he also earned All-Pac-10 Southern Division honors as a senior and went on to play professional baseball for four seasons with the Baltimore Orioles, California Angels and Milwaukee Brewers organizations...

BEAR NOTES: The 2001 Cal baseball team is 21-16 overall and 6-6 in the Pac-10 after winning one-of-three games Apr. 6-8 at Oregon State (lost 6-5, lost 10-1, won 12-1) and defeating San Jose State, 9-7, Tuesday night in San Jose...the Bears 12-1 win over the Beavers Apr. 8 was the fourth straight Sunday Cal has exploded offensively, as the Bears won 17-5 Mar. 18 versus Arizona State, 10-1 (scored 10 runs in the first inning on nine hits) Mar. 25 versus Washington State and 16-7 Apr. 1 at Washington...Cal has now outscored its conference opponents, 55-14, on Sundays...the Bears have still been involved in 14 one-run games this season, going 5-9 in those contests, including last weekend's 6-5 loss at OSU...several close games is an indication of Cal's pitching strength and ability to keep the Bears in games (3.60 team ERA, second in the Pac-10, opponents are batting .261 against) and the continued need for improved offensive production (.275 team batting average, ninth in the Pac-10)...Cal is arguably the youngest team in the conference, regularly starting four freshmen (**Brian Horwitz** at left field, **Conor Jackson** at third base, **Jeff Dragicevich** at shortstop and **Spencer Wyman** or **Creighton Kahoalii** at catcher)...The Bears closer, **Matt Brown**, is also a freshman...one player who has helped Cal's offensive production is junior college transfer **Carson White**...White is currently on a six-game hitting streak from Apr. 1 (9-for-24, .375, 3-2B, 4-HR, 14 RBI) and went 3-for-4 with two doubles, a home run and four RBI Tuesday at SJS...he also had the game-winning homer in the bottom of the 10th Apr. 3 versus San Francisco and went 2-for-5 with two home runs and a career-high six RBI Apr. 1 at Washington...White leads the Bears in triples (3), home runs (7) and RBI (30)...senior right-hander **David Cash** continues to pick up wins, earning the victory in relief Apr. 8 at OSU (4.0 innings, two hits, no earned runs, no walks, three strikeouts)...Cash is 7-2 (second in the Pac-10) and now has a career record of 20-6 with five saves at Cal...

TENTATIVE CALIFORNIA LINE-UP

No.	Pos.	Player	2001 stats
2	CF	Ben Conley, So.	.257, 8 RBI, 1 HR
34	3B	Conor Jackson, Fr.	.291, 21 RBI, 1 HR
24	LF	Brian Horwitz, Fr.	.338, 18 RBI, 1 HR
17	1B	Clint Hoover, Sr.	.238, 27 RBI, 5 HR
33	DH	John Baker, So.	.273, 17 RBI, 2 HR
1	2B	Carson White, Jr.	.304, 30 RBI, 7 HR
31	C	Spencer Wyman, Fr.	.246, 8 RBI, 1 HR
26	RF	Rob Meyer, Sr.	.325, 23 RBI, 5 HR
9	SS	Jeff Dragicevich, Fr.	.354, 12 RBI, 3 HR
32	RHP	Trevor Hutchinson, Jr. (Thu.)	2-5, 4.32 ERA
5	LHP	Jason Dennis, Jr. (Fri.)	3-2, 4.02 ERA
41	RHP	Ryan Atkinson, Jr. (Sat.)	0-3, 4.15 ERA

USC: The USC Trojans, coached by Mike Gillespie (15th year at USC, 587-325-2, .643), are 24-12 (6-3) this season...top hitters for the Trojans are sophomore second baseman Anthony Lunetta (.338, 4 HR, 20 RBI), junior center fielder Brian Barre (.317, 6 HR, 30 RBI) and senior shortstop Seth Davidson (.306, 0 HR, 15 RBI)...USC's tentative pitching rotation is junior right-hander Mark Prior (9-1, 1.34 ERA), senior right-hander Rik Currier (6-1, 2.14 ERA) and sophomore right-hander Anthony Reyes (1-2, 5.04 ERA)...in 2000, the Trojans were 44-20 (16-8, 4th Pac-10) and 1-2 in the College World Series...

PAC-10 RACE (as of Apr. 11)

	Conference			GB	Overall			.PCT
	W	L	PCT		W	L	T	
Stanford	7	2	.778	---	28	7		.800
USC	6	3	.667	1.0	24	12		.667
Oregon State	5	4	.556	2.0	21	13		.618
Arizona	6	6	.500	2.5	23	17		.575
CALIFORNIA	6	6	.500	2.5	21	16		.568
UCLA	4	5	.444	3.0	22	11		.667
Washington State	4	5	.444	3.0	12	22		.353
Arizona State	5	7	.417	3.5	22	12	1	.629
Washington	2	7	.222	5.0	18	11		.621

PLAYER NOTES

RYAN ATKINSON: Is 0-3 with a 4.15 ERA...has had six no decisions this season...got no decision last outing Apr. 8 at OSU (3.0 innings, three hits, no runs, three walks, two strikeouts)...got no decision Apr. 1 at UW (1.3 innings, four hits, three runs, two walks, one strikeout)...lost Mar. 24 vs. WSU (4.0 innings, six hits, three earned runs, one walk, one strikeout)...got no decision Mar. 17 vs. ASU (5.0 innings, two hits, one run, four walks, four strikeouts)...suffered loss Mar. 10 vs. UC Santa Barbara (6.0 innings, six hits, four runs, three walks, two strikeouts)...got no decision Mar. 3 at Stanford (4.0 innings, one hit, no runs, one walk, two strikeouts)...Feb. 17 at LMU got no decision (3.3 innings, four hits, three runs, three walks, three strikeouts)...suffered loss vs. BYU Feb. 10 (5.3 innings, five hits, three runs, two walks, four strikeouts)...got no decision Feb. 3 vs. Santa Clara (7.0 innings, two hits, one earned run, no walks, six strikeouts)...Santa Clara game was his first appearance since May 10, 1999 at Washington State, sitting out 2000 season after Tommy John surgery...opponents are batting only .234 against (8th in Pac-10)...is 0-1 with a 6.99 ERA career vs. USC...**is slated to start Saturday...**

JOHN BAKER: Is batting .273 (21-for-77, 8-2B, 2-HR, 17 RBI, .289 vs. Pac-10)...was 3-for-14 with a double last week at OSU...went 4-for-11 with two doubles and three RBI Mar. 31-Apr. 1 at UW...had huge game Mar. 18 vs. ASU, going 4-for-5 with a double, home run and a career-high six RBI...went 2-for-3 Mar. 3 at Stanford and was 1-for-3 with a two-run double Mar. 6 vs. Nevada...went 2-for-2 with a double, a home run (first collegiate homer) and two RBI Feb. 17 at Loyola Marymount...is batting .308 (8-for-26) with runners in scoring position...

MATT BROWN: Is 1-3 with a 5.16 ERA and a team-high six saves (1st in Pac-10) and 19 appearances (2nd in Pac-10)...has 34 strikeouts and only seven walks in 29.7 innings...pitched ninth inning Tuesday at SJS (two hits, two runs, one walk, two strikeouts)...picked up two saves Mar. 30-31 at UW, pitching 1.7 innings with one hit, no runs, no walks and five strikeouts...suffered loss Mar. 17 vs. ASU after being one out away from win (3.0 innings, four hits, two earned runs, two walks, three strikeouts)...picked up save Mar. 14 vs. Columbia (1.0 inning, one hit, no runs, two strikeouts)...suffered loss Mar. 7 at Stanford (2.3 innings, one hit, one run, no walks, two strikeouts), but was outstanding in series against the Cardinal, pitching all three games, earning a save Mar. 3 (0.7 inning, one strikeout with bases loaded) and not giving up a hit until a solo home run...had five strikeouts and no walks in his 5.0 innings against Stanford...earned save Feb. 9 vs. BYU (3.0 innings, two hits, no runs, no walks, season-high five strikeouts)...picked up win Feb. 13 at Pacific (1.0 inning, two hits, two runs, no walks, one strikeout)...was the MVP of this past summer's American Legion World Series, leading his Danville, CA team to the national title...

DAVID CASH: Is 7-2 with a 3.11 ERA and three saves...is third in Pac-10 with seven wins, fourth with 17 appearances and has a team-high 60 strikeouts (7th in Pac-10) in 55.0 innings...opponents are batting .230 against (7th in Pac-10)...earned win in relief Apr. 8 at OSU (4.0 innings, two hits, unearned run, no walks, three strikeouts)...suffered loss Apr. 6 at OSU (1.7 innings, three hits, one run, no walks, four strikeouts)...earned save Apr. 1 at UW (4.7 innings, three hits, one run, three walks, one strikeout)...was outstanding Mar. 27 vs. Pacific (6.0 innings, three hits, one run, two walks, career-high 11 strikeouts)...earned win in relief Mar. 18 vs. ASU (3.3 innings, one hit, no runs, two walks, five strikeouts)...won in relief Mar. 11 vs. UC Santa Barbara (4.0 innings, two hits, two runs, one walk, two strikeouts)...started Mar. 7 at Stanford (no decision, 5.0 innings, two hits, one run, three walks, four strikeouts)...picked up win Mar. 3 at Stanford (1.7 innings, four hits, one run, three walks, two strikeouts)...earned save Feb. 27 vs. San Jose State (1.3 innings, one hit, unearned run, one walk, three strikeouts)...earned win Feb. 18 at LMU (career-high 8.0 innings, seven hits, five runs, one walk, nine strikeouts)...earned save Feb. 13 at Pacific (1.0 inning, one strikeout)...picked up win Feb. 9 vs. BYU (6.0 innings, seven hits, three runs, four walks, nine strikeouts) and Feb. 3 vs. Santa Clara (1.0 innings, two hits, one run, one strikeout)...has a 20-6 Cal career mark (.769) with five saves...is 1-0 with a 4.19 career ERA (three strikeouts in 4.3 innings) vs. USC...

BEN CONLEY: Is batting .257 (18-for-70, .275 vs. Pac-10, .391 on-base percentage) with a double, home run and eight RBI...was 2-for-5 with first collegiate home run Apr. 6 at OSU...went 3-for-9 with three RBI Mar. 30-Apr. 1 at UW...was 3-for-13 with four runs scored Mar. 23-25 vs. WSU...went 3-for-8 with a double, an RBI and four runs Mar. 16-18 vs. ASU...got first collegiate hit Mar. 7 at Stanford and went 3-for-5 with an RBI against the Cardinal...saw action on the mound Mar. 6 vs. Nevada (1.0 inning, one walk)...is batting .400 (8-for-20) with runners in scoring position...

JASON DENNIS: Is 3-2 with a 4.02 ERA...lost Apr. 7 at OSU (4.7 innings, 10 hits, four earned runs, two walks, two strikeouts)...earned win Mar. 31 at UW (7.0 innings, six hits, two runs, no walks, four strikeouts)...won Mar. 25 vs. WSU (6.0 innings, four hits, no earned runs, no walks, four strikeouts)...got no decision Mar. 18 vs. ASU (4.7 innings, nine hits, four earned runs, four walks, three strikeouts)...got no decision Mar. 11 vs. UC Santa Barbara (4.0 innings, five hits, two runs, no walks, five strikeouts)...earned win Feb. 27 vs. San Jose State, making first appearance since 1999 after Tommy John surgery (3.0 innings, two hits, no runs, no walks, two strikeouts)...is 0-2 with a 8.12 career ERA vs. USC (12 strikeouts in 13.3 innings)...**is slated to start Friday...**

JEFF DRAGICEVICH: Is batting a team-high .354 (34-for-96, 4-2B, 3-HR, 12 RBI, .442 vs. Pac-10)...went 6-for-10 with a double and a home run last week at OSU...was 5-for-12 with an RBI Mar. 30-Apr. 1 at UW...went 4-for-10 with a double and two RBI Mar. 23-25 vs. WSU and was 3-for-6 with an RBI Mar. 27 vs. Pacific...was 4-for-11 with a home run and four RBI Mar. 16-18 vs. ASU, including hitting a three-run homer Mar. 18 vs. the Sun Devils...went 3-for-10 with two RBI Mar. 9-11 vs. UC Santa Barbara...was 2-for-3 and hit his first collegiate home run Mar. 9 vs. UCSB...went 2-for-5 with a double Feb. 18 at LMU...brother, Scott, is the starting shortstop for Stanford...has a team-high .415 on-base percentage and is batting .364 (12-for-33) with runners in scoring position...

CHRIS GROSSMAN: Is batting .268 (15-for-56, 4-2B, HR, seven RBI), getting a hit in his first five at bats of the season...believed to be first Bear to start career with five consecutive hits...started year on seven-game hitting streak (11-for-23, .478, 2-2B, HR, five RBI) from Feb. 4-18...went 1-for-3 with RBI double Mar. 24 vs. WSU...was 1-for-3 with a double Mar. 11 vs. UCSB...went 4-for-12 with a double and three RBI Feb. 16-18 at LMU...had the game-winning RBI Feb. 20 vs. Saint Mary's...went 2-for-5 with first collegiate home run Feb. 13 at Pacific...in first collegiate game Feb. 4 at Santa Clara, went 2-for-2 with a double and an RBI...

CLINT HOOVER: Is batting .238 (35-for-147) with seven doubles, five home runs and 27 RBI...went 2-for-4 with two doubles and three RBI Apr. 8 at OSU...was 4-for-12 with an RBI Mar. 30-Apr. 1 at UW...went 3-for-13 with a double, grand slam (third career) and seven RBI Mar. 23-25 vs. WSU...was 2-for-9 with a double, home run and three RBI Mar. 9-11 vs. UCSB...went 8-for-15 with a double, home run and four RBI Feb. 16-18 at LMU...was 2-for-4 with a two-run homer Feb. 20 vs. Saint Mary's...went a career-high 4-for-5 with a double Feb. 17 at LMU...had two hits in each game Feb. 2-4 vs. Santa Clara...**is fourth on the Cal all-time career home run list (33)**...is a two-time Pac-10 honorable mention selection...is batting .350 (14-for-40, 4-2B, 3-HR, 8 RBI) career vs. USC...

BRIAN HORWITZ: Is batting .338 (50-for-148, .327 vs. Pac-10) with a team-best 12 doubles (2nd in Pac-10), a triple, a home run and 18 RBI...also has a team-leading eighth stolen bases (7th in Pac-10) and 15 multiple hit games...**had a school record 23-game hitting streak from Feb. 9-Mar. 25 (37-for-96, .385, 12-2B, 3B, HR, 12 RBI) ...has gotten a hit in 31 of 34 games he has started this season**...was 3-for-14 with an RBI last week at OSU and 3-for-5 with two RBI Tuesday at SJS...went 6-for-13 with two doubles and five RBI Mar. 23-25 vs. WSU...was 5-for-12 with two doubles and an RBI Mar. 16-18 vs. ASU...went 3-for-4 with first collegiate home run Mar. 14 vs. Columbia...was 6-for-13 and hit a double in each game Mar. 9-11 vs. UCSB...had game winning RBI single Mar. 3 at Stanford...was 2-for-4 with an RBI double Feb. 27 vs. San Jose State...was 5-for-15 with three doubles and a triple Feb. 16-18 at LMU...had pinch-hit double and scored winning run Feb. 13 at Pacific...has four outfield assists...is batting .357 (15-for-42) with runners in scoring position...

TREVOR HUTCHINSON: Is 2-5 with a 4.32 ERA, 58 strikeouts (8th in Pac-10) and a team-high 66.7 innings pitched (9th in Pac-10)...got no decision Apr. 6 at OSU (7.0 innings, 13 hits, five runs, one walk, six strikeouts)...got no decision Mar. 30 at UW (5.0 innings, eight hits, four earned runs, two walks, three strikeouts)...lost Mar. 23 vs. WSU (8.0 innings, 16 hits, three earned runs, no walks, three strikeouts)...lost Mar. 16 vs. ASU (4.7 innings, seven hits, four earned runs, four walks, two strikeouts)...lost Mar. 9 vs. UC Santa Barbara (7.0 innings, eight hits, five runs, one walk, four strikeouts)...lost Mar. 2 at Stanford (6.0 innings, five hits, three runs, five walks, five strikeouts)...got no decision Feb. 23 at Long Beach State (8.0 innings, 10 hits, four runs, four walks, eight strikeouts)...earned win Feb. 16 at LMU (6.0 innings, seven hits, three earned runs, one walk, **career-high 12 strikeouts**)...threw well, but lost Feb. 8 vs. BYU (**first collegiate complete game**, six hits, no earned runs, one walk, 10 strikeouts)...earned win Feb. 2 at Santa Clara (6.0 innings, six hits, one run, no walks, five strikeouts)...is 0-1 with a 8.57 career ERA vs. USC (three strikeouts in 6.3 innings)...**is slated to start Thursday...**

CONOR JACKSON: Is batting .291 (41-for-141, .356 vs. Pac-10) with six doubles, a triple, a home run, 21 RBI and a team-high 24 walks (3rd in Pac-10)...had a 14-game hitting streak from Mar. 10-Apr. 1 (19-for-52, .365, 3-2B, 3B, seven RBI)...was 7-for-12 with two RBI Mar. 30-Apr. 1 at Washington...went 4-for-10 with a double, triple and RBI Mar. 23-25 vs. WSU...was 1-for-2 with a double Mar. 2 at Stanford and went 2-for-2 with an RBI Mar. 6 vs. Nevada...had a seven-game hitting streak Feb. 18-Mar. 6 (10-for-26, .385, 2B, HR, six RBI)...went 2-for-4 with a three-run homer (first collegiate HR) Feb. 27 vs. San Jose State...went 2-for-6 Feb. 23 at Long Beach State...in season-opener Feb. 2 vs. Santa Clara went 3-for-5 with a double and two RBI...was the Los Angeles 4A City Player of the Year last season at El Camino Real High School...

RYAN LUBNER: Is 1-0 with a 3.06 ERA and one save...has 12 strikeouts in 17.7 innings...picked up win in relief Apr. 3 vs. San Francisco (3.0 innings, one hit, no runs, no walks, two strikeouts)...went 2.0 innings with one hit, no runs, no walks and three strikeouts Mar. 16 vs. ASU...pitched 3.0 innings (three hits, one run, no walks, one strikeout) Mar. 14 vs. Columbia...earned save Feb. 20 vs. Saint Mary's (0.7 innings, no hits, no runs)...opponents are batting .194 against...

ROB MEYER: Is batting .325 (40-for-123, .342 vs. Pac-10) with five home runs and 23 RBI...also has five outfield assists...is currently on a seven-game hitting streak from Mar. 31 (15-for-27, .556, 3-HR, eight RBI)...was 5-for-11 with two home runs last week at OSU and was 2-for-3 with two RBI Tuesday at SJS...went 6-for-12 with a home run and four RBI Mar. 30-Apr. 1 at UW...was 2-for-3 Apr. 3 vs. San Francisco...was 2-for-4 with two RBI Mar. 13 vs. Sacramento State...went 2-for-3 with an RBI Mar. 3 at Stanford...was 2-for-5 with three RBI Feb. 23 at Long Beach State...went 1-for-2 and threw a runner out at home Feb. 27 vs. San Jose State...was 3-for-5 with a two-run homer Feb. 13 at Pacific...had key lead-off homer in the seventh inning and threw a runner out at first base from right field in the ninth inning Feb. 3 vs. Santa Clara...is batting .366 (15-for-41) with runners in scoring position...is batting .231 (6-for-26, 2B, RBI) career vs. USC...

BRIAN MONTALBO: Is 2-0 with a 2.89 ERA (8th in Pac-10) and has 31 strikeouts in 37.3 innings...pitched one inning Tuesday at SJS (three hits, three runs, one walk, two strikeouts)...earned win Mar. 13 vs. Sacramento State (career-high 6.3 innings, four hits, no earned runs, five walks, career-high seven strikeouts)...pitched 6.0 innings Feb. 20 vs. Saint Mary's (no decision, two hits, no earned runs, one walk, six strikeouts)...Feb. 13 at Pacific pitched 4.0 innings with only one hit, one earned run, two walks and a career-high seven strikeouts...picked up win in first collegiate start Feb. 4 at Santa Clara (5.0 innings, six hits, no runs, two walks, three strikeouts)...was a fourth round draft pick by the Atlanta Braves out of Dimond High School in Anchorage, AK...

ANDREW SPROUL: Is 4-0 with a 1.82 ERA and has 22 strikeouts in 24.7 innings...opponents are batting .198 against...earned win in relief Tuesday at SJS (3.0 innings, two hits, unearned run, one walk, four strikeouts)...earned win in relief Apr. 1 at UW (3.0 innings, three hits, one earned run, one walk, four strikeouts)...picked up win in start Mar. 14 vs. Columbia (season-high 5.0 innings, three hits, one run, one walk, four strikeouts)...pitched 4.0 innings in relief Mar. 6 vs. Nevada (two hits, no earned runs, two walks, four strikeouts)...picked up win Feb. 20 vs. Saint Mary's (2.3 innings, three hits, two runs, one walk, two strikeouts)...earned save Feb. 18 at LMU (1.0 inning, no hits, no runs, no walks, one strikeout)...

CARSON WHITE: Is batting .304 (41-for-135, .304 vs. Pac-10) with seven doubles and a team-high three triples (3rd in Pac-10), seven home runs (5th in Pac-10), 30 RBI and .556 slugging percentage...is currently on a six-game hitting streak from Apr. 1 (9-for-24, .375, 3-2B, 4-HR, 14 RBI)...went 3-for-4 with two doubles, a home run and four RBI Tuesday at SJS...had game-winning homer in the 10th inning Apr. 3 vs. San Francisco...went 2-for-5 with two home runs and a career-high six RBI Apr. 1 at Washington...was 4-for-12 with a double, triple and two RBI Mar. 23-25 vs. WSU...went 4-for-11 with a double, two home runs and three RBI Mar. 16-18 vs. ASU...was 3-for-5 with a double and a two-run homer Mar. 18 vs. the Sun Devils...was 2-for-3 with a double Mar. 14 vs. Columbia...went 2-for-6 Feb. 23 at Long Beach State...was 5-for-14 with a double, triple and five RBI Feb. 16-18 at LMU...went 4-for-5 with a triple and three RBI Feb. 17 at LMU...in the season-opener Feb. 2 at Santa Clara, went 3-for-5 with a triple and an RBI...went 2-for-4 Feb. 3 vs. Santa Clara...was a junior college All-American last season at Fresno City College...is batting .341 (15-for-44) with runners in scoring position...

SPENCER WYMAN: Is batting .246 (14-for-57) with three doubles, a home run and eight RBI...was 1-for-4 and hit his first collegiate home run Apr. 8 at OSU...went 4-for-12 with a double Mar. 30-Apr. 1 at Washington...was 2-for-5 Mar. 27 vs. Pacific...went a career-best 3-for-4 with a double and RBI Mar. 23 vs. WSU...was 1-for-3 with a double, two RBI and three runs scored Mar. 18 vs. ASU...went 2-for-4 with an RBI Mar. 13 vs. Sacramento State...got first collegiate hit Feb. 10 vs. Brigham Young...

