

Steelers want into Cowboys' house

■ **NFL:** Despite doubt, Pittsburgh is confident they will contend with heavily-favored Dallas

PITTSBURGH (AP) — The Pittsburgh Steelers greeted the Dallas Cowboys' initial bombast of Super Bowl braggadocio Monday with smiles and snickers — and a warning.

Their message to Cowboys wide receiver Michael Irvin was: Don't take out a mortgage on that Super Bowl house just yet.

The Cowboys began talking trash as soon as they beat Green Bay 38-27 Sunday in the NFC championship game, dismissing the Steelers as just another AFC pretender to a title won by the NFC for 11 consecutive seasons.

"We're not going to the Super Bowl, we're going home," Irvin said, after making two touchdown catches. "It's our house. Last year we just let somebody borrow it. Now we're going to go check it out, see if it's dirty. We're going home."

"And you know what we're going to do when we get there [the Super Bowl]," Deion Sanders said.

Cowboys owner Jerry Jones also was in a talking mood.

"Nothing against the Steelers," Jones said, "but we are the better team."

The Steelers, by contrast, talked respectfully of the Cowboys, but showed no outward trepidation in playing the team that will be making a record eighth Super Bowl appearance.

"I don't know if they're in their home," running back Eric Pegrum said. "They have to earn

that right."

"We don't get caught up in all of that [talk]," receiver Andre Hastings said. "That's why Michael says all that stuff, so [the media] will put it on TV. That's the way it is, we're entertainers."

The Steelers have an enviable Super Bowl record of their own: 4-0, with two victories over Dallas. But those 1970s-era games came when most of the current Steelers were in grade school.

"This team won't be intimidated by anybody," coach Bill Cowher said. "The Cowboys are [confident], and they have every reason to be. They've backed up their talk in recent years. But, at the same time, we've played good football for the last three months, and we want to finish it off right. It's like I told the team, people don't remember the losing team."

The Steelers don't have any trouble remembering the last time they played the Cowboys, a 26-9 loss last season in coach Barry Switzer's Dallas debut. Emmitt Smith ran for 171 yards and a touchdown in Three Rivers Stadium and the Blitzburgh defense didn't record a single sack.

But that game was an afterthought Monday as the Steelers' front office staff scurried about making its Super Bowl plans, and the players admired a 500-pound cake that a bakery whipped up to celebrate the team's AFC championship. The cake was displayed prominently in the Steelers' lobby, and Cowher playfully told several of his oversized linemen not to dare sample it.

The Steelers also began learn-

"

This team won't be intimidated by anybody. The Cowboys are [confident], and they have every reason to be. But, at the same time, we've played good football for the last three months, and we want to finish it off right. It's like I told the team, people don't remember the losing team.

— Bill Cowher
Pittsburgh Steelers Coach

"

ing just how few people, even outside of Dallas, consider them a legitimate threat to the Cowboys' third Super Bowl championship in four seasons.

The latest line: the Steelers are 11 1/2-12 point underdogs.

"Twelve points? Already?" Pegrum said. "That's just another challenge to us. The truth is, it's the best team on game day that wins. It's the Super Bowl, but it's still a game."

It's also a game that, for the first time in their five trips there, the Steelers aren't favored to win.

Still, they talked as if that would be to their advantage, as the nation focuses its attention again on Deion, Troy, Emmitt and the Jimmy Johnson-less Cowboys and basically ignores the Steelers.

"We haven't played our best game yet," Cowher said. "If we ever put our best game together, it will be a show. We have one game left to do it."

Men's B-Ball: Block in final second beats the Ducks

■ **Continued from Page 1A**

Green also said the 25 turnovers the Ducks committed helped decide the outcome. Junior guard Kenya Wilkins agreed that Oregon beat itself.

"I think we hurt ourselves," Wilkins said. "We didn't get a lot of movement, we were just standing around. We weren't prepared; we just didn't execute at times. We just stood around on offense."

Wilkins had the chance to tie the game with five seconds to go. After an Oregon timeout, the ball was passed immediately down the court to Wilkins, who attempted to set up behind the three-point arch.

But the Huskies double-teamed him with forward Jamie Booker and center Todd MacCulloch, and Wilkins was forced to throw up a desperate attempt as time ran out. The shot was blocked by the seven-foot MacCulloch, and the game was over.

Wilkins said he was unable to get the open shot he was looking for.

"I started one way," Wilkins said, "but I kind of fumbled the ball as I tried to pick it up. I lost my concentration and didn't get the ball up high enough, and the big guy swatted it."

Wilkins, who had been averaging over 16 points this season, was held to only eight points. The leading scorer for the Ducks was junior forward Kyle Milling, who had 16 points.

Junior center Rob Ramaker recorded a double-double with 11 points and 13 rebounds. But despite an impressive showing in the box score, Ramaker was upset with the way he played, especially missing a clutch free-throw with a minute and a half to go on the clock, and the Ducks down by four points.

"I'm not mentally strong enough," Ramaker said. "That is my main weakness, and I need to work on it. I let 14 guys down tonight. I want to be in that situation again, and next time I'll do better."

The Ducks had to deal with losing Lawrence with over nine minutes to go in the game after he fouled out.

"We really needed him at the end," sophomore forward Jamar Curry said. "He's a scorer, a driver, a penetrator. There are people that can shoot, but people weren't really trying to penetrate. Jamal likes to do that a lot."

Green said the game was a difficult one to lose.

"It was a big disappointment for me, and it was a big disappointment for the team," Green said.

Oregon will look to get back on the winning track as it travels to the Bay Area to play the Stanford Cardinal on Thursday and the California Golden Bears on Saturday.



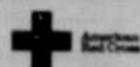
to your HEALTH

CPR Workshops

JANUARY			
16 Tuesday	5:30-9:30	Adult	
17 Wednesday	5:00-9:00	1st Aid	
22 Monday	5:00-9:00	Adult	
24 Wednesday	5:00-9:00	Infant/Child	
25 Thursday	5:00-9:00	Adult	
30 Tuesday	5:30-9:30	Infant/Child	
31 Wednesday	5:00-9:00	Adult	
FEBRUARY			
5 Monday	5:00-9:00	Infant/Child	
7 Wednesday	5:00-9:00	Adult	
13 Tuesday	5:30-9:30	1st Aid	
15 Thursday	5:00-9:00	Adult	
19 Monday	5:00-9:00	Adult	
21 Wednesday	5:00-9:00	1st Aid	
22 Thursday	5:00-9:00	Infant/Child	
27 Tuesday	5:00-9:00	Adult	
28 Wednesday	5:00-9:00	Adult	

- For registered UO students only
- Cancellations must be 24 hours in advance or student will be charged for workshop
- Students signing up for First Aid must have current CPR Card prior to classtime
- Classes held in Student Health Center Cafeteria

Register Early
346-2770



The Health Education Program

is available to organize and make presentations, addressing the following topics of interest:

**Healthy Eating
Stress Reduction
Substance Abuse
STD Prevention
Many others**

If you are a student group (club, dormitory, co-op, fraternity, or sorority), call us at 346-4456 by February 9 to discuss how we can meet your needs!



The Quilt Is coming to the University of Oregon

May 12-14th

Volunteers are now needed to help coordinate:

- Publicity
- Logistics
- Fundraising
- Related events
- Outreach to schools
- Making a local quilt square

Numerous volunteers will also be needed during the three-day quilt display.

This is a powerful opportunity to be involved with a community-wide AIDS awareness and prevention event.

Call the Health Education Program at the U of O Student Health center at 346-2728 to become involved.



STUDENT HEALTH CENTER • 13TH & AGATE • 346-2770