

Sports

Jefferson Wins PIL Title With 2-Point Conversion

By TIM SULLIVAN

Julian Littleton and Evan Martin saved Jefferson in the closing minutes and lifted the Democrats to their second straight Portland Interscholastic League football title Friday night with a 23-22 victory over Franklin at Madison High School.

Littleton, a senior tight end, caught a pass from Aaron Miles for a two-point conversion with 1 minute, 58 seconds remaining to give the Democrats the win. Jefferson (6-3, 6-1 PIL) will be the league's No. 1 seed going into next week's playoffs; Franklin (7-2, 6-1) is the No. 2 seed.

Martin, a sophomore defensive lineman, intercepted a pass with 1:04 left to halt a Franklin drive at Jefferson's 30-yard line.

Littleton's conversion catch was caught despite tight defense by a Franklin player.

"I made a cut and came across the field and knew it was a big play and I had to catch it," Littleton said. "It feels great."

Littleton's catch followed a 10-

Jefferson Begins the State Playoffs Against Lakeridge at Jefferson Friday at 7 p.m.

yard touchdown pass from Miles to Isaiah Jackson that cut Franklin's lead to 22-21. Jefferson coach Tim Price did not hesitate in going for the two-point conversion instead of trying for the extra point and possibly sending the game into overtime.

"I believe in these kids; I knew they were going to dig down deep and give it to me," Price said. "I put the ball in my athletes' hands, and they always seem to do something great. I told them to just keep fighting, and the outcome is going to go in our favor."

Until the final minutes, it was a battle of turnovers. Jefferson had five fumbles, including two inside the Franklin 20-yard line in the first half. The Democrats started the second

half by fumbling away their first two possessions, and Franklin appeared to be in control.

When Quakers receiver Matt LaFollette caught a 34-yard touchdown pass from Legedu Naanee with seven minutes left in the third quarter, it appeared Franklin had a 22-7 lead and appeared to be on its way to the city title.

But Jefferson's Michael Lee caught a 62-yard touchdown pass from Miles late in the third quarter to cut the lead to 22-15. During the play, a Jefferson personal foul penalty was waved off when it looked like Lee's score might be called back.

Franklin made its share of mistakes in the second half, hurting itself with two fumbles and two interceptions.



The Benson High School volleyball team pose for a group photo.

Benson 18-0 in League

The Benson tech volleyball team had a great season. After a summer where the lady Techsters placed second in the nation in the Starling National tournament in San Diego, the women of Tech began to focus on the P.I.L. championship. Boy did they ever, win the league in dominating fashion. They finished the season 18 wins to 0 losses, losing only one game in league play.

Coach Dennis Carline is very proud of his team which includes: Mari Nelson,

Lan Evers, Brandy Gales as outside hitters, Courtney Hamilton, Emily Marquez, Suzanne Hanson as middle blockers, Lindsay Smith, Lane Kersey as back side hitters, Esther Taylor, Tram Le Lindsay Louie, Rachel Benton as defensive specialists and Denetia Carline as the setter. They are an excellent team who work very hard and enjoy playing the game.

The Techsters open up the state tournament Friday at the University of Portland at 1:30 p.m. against St. Marys.

Oregon Rolls Over Cougars

Josh Frankel kicked a career-best 47-yard field goal in overtime as No. 7 Oregon beat Washington State 27-24 on Saturday.

It was the third overtime loss this season for the Cougars (3-6, 1-5 Pacific-10 Conference), who also lost starting quarterback Jason Gesser to a broken left leg. After Frankel's kick, Jed Boice blocked Anousith Wilaikul's 39-yard field-goal attempt to give the Ducks their second consecutive overtime victory.

The Ducks (8-1, 6-0) trailed 17-16 at the half, but Joey Harrington threw a 38-yard touchdown pass to Marshaun Tucker, then hit Maurice Morris for the 2-point conversion to tie it at 24 with 9:08 remaining in the fourth quarter. The game was billed as a match between the top quarter-

backs in the Pac-10, but Harrington was left to battle Cougars backup Matt Kegel after Gesser fractured the tibia in his left leg as he was sacked with 11 minutes remaining in the second quarter. Harrington completed 18 of 39 passes for 212 yards and a touchdown as the Ducks moved a step closer to the Rose Bowl, with games against California and Oregon State remaining.

Kegel, who had a 1-yard scoring run in the fourth quarter, completed 10 of 20 for 107 yards in relief of Gesser, who was 2-of-10 for 35 yards and an interception.

Washington State led 17-16 after Dave Minnich's 2-yard touchdown run that capped a 54-yard drive with 1:47 left in the first half. Minnich carried 25 times for 108 yards and a

touchdown. The Ducks had gone up 16-10 on a 46-yard field goal by Frankel after Rashad Bauman picked off Gesser's pass and ran it back 42 yards for a touchdown.

Oregon scored on its first possession on an 8-yard touchdown pass to Morris from Harrington. The touchdown was set up by a 48-yard pass play from Harrington to Tucker on the Ducks' first play from scrimmage. Tucker caught nine passes for 142 yards and a touchdown.

Washington State answered with a 56-yard pass play. Gesser pitched to wide receiver Collin Henderson, who threw to Nakoa McElrath streaking down the left sideline to the Oregon 3. Adam Hawkins scored on a 1-yard touchdown. Wilaikul hit a 41 yard-field goal to make it 10-7.

Blazers Fall to Kings, 79-75

Bobby Jackson stripped the ball from Scottie Pippen and hit two free throws with 11 seconds left as the Sacramento Kings beat the Trail Blazers 79-75 Monday night for their first win over Portland in nearly three years.

Thanks to a revolutionary attitude exemplified by new Kings Jackson and Doug Christie, the NBA's most pass-happy, run-and-gun team of the last two seasons has held all five of its opponents this season under 50 percent shooting.

"We beat Portland because we played defense," said Vlade Divac, whose layup with 22 seconds left put the Kings up for good. "We didn't shoot the ball well, and we didn't rebound great, but we stopped them. If we can do that in future games, we'll beat anybody."

The Blazers shot poorly, passed only sporadically and got just 20 points from their vaunted bench.

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