

College Football

Latest loss puts Ducks in danger

Oregon hasn't missed postseason since 2004

Associated Press

EUGENE — In the previous six seasons, Oregon played in two national championship games, three Rose Bowls (including the College Football Playoff semifinal), the Fiesta Bowl and the Alamo Bowl.

The 2015 Ducks, now 3-3 halfway through the regular season after Saturday's 45-38 loss to Washington State in double overtime, are in danger of missing out on the postseason for the first time since a 5-6 finish in 2004.

Despite losing a list of great players from last year's Pac-12 championship team — including Heisman Trophy winner Marcus Mariota, all-Americans Hroniss Grasu and Ifo Ekpre-Olomu and first-round NFL draft pick Arik Armstead — coach Mark Helfrich wasn't expecting the program to make a nosedive down the standings.

"I'm never, ever going to think anything but just what we control and what's next," Helfrich said Sunday. "Whether that's the next player in at a position or whatever, we expect him to be great, to play great, to prepare great. At no point ever do we sit here and go, 'We don't have A, B or C, so it's OK.'"

"That just doesn't happen."

Oregon's next two games are on the road at Washington and Arizona State. The November schedule begins with North Division contenders California and Stanford and concludes with home games against disappointing preseason Pac-12



AP Photo/Ryan Kang

Oregon running back Royce Freeman (21) warms up before an NCAA college football game against Washington State Saturday, Oct. 10, 2015, in Eugene, Ore.

favorite USC and Civil War rival Oregon State.

The improving Huskies are coming off a 17-12 victory over the Trojans in Los Angeles and rank 14th nationally in scoring defense (15.0 ppg) entering Saturday's game against Oregon in Seattle (7:30 p.m., ESPN).

"Big game on the road," Jeff Lockie said after throwing the game-ending interception in the second overtime. "We've got to come back and get back to the drawing board and get better. That's the only attitude that's going to make it at this point."

Helfrich would not provide any insight into when Vernon Adams Jr. might be back in the lineup. The senior graduate transfer, who has missed three games because of a broken index finger, appeared to have more velocity on his passes during warmups on Saturday.

"I don't know the answer to that," Helfrich said when asked if Adams had made any significant progress.

For those fans looking at the glass as half full, two of Oregon's losses were to top-10 teams — No. 4 Utah and No. 7 Michigan State.

The Ducks were also in position to beat Washington State without Adams or starting defensive backs Chris Seisay and Reggie Daniels.

On the other hand, the Ducks have only beaten an FCS team (Eastern Washington), a bad Sun Belt team (1-4 Georgia State) and a Colorado team that has lost 13 consecutive Pac-12 games and is 1-19 in conference play under Mike MacIntyre.

"The only thing that we can concentrate on are the solutions," Helfrich said. "It's very easy to sit here and point at what's wrong and point directly at me 100 percent, but we have to be in the solution business. ... What's next? Because the negativity will take care of itself."

Don Pellum's defense made a lot of plays against Washington State — sacking Luke Falk seven times, finishing with 13 tackles for loss and forcing two turnovers.

But for the season, Oregon ranks 53rd nationally in rushing defense (151.2 ypg), 112th in total defense (474.7 ypg), 115th in scoring defense (38.7 ppg) and 124th in passing defense (323.5

Pac-12 Standings

North	Conf.	Ovr.
Stanford	3-0	4-1
California	2-1	5-1
Washington	1-1	3-2
Washington St.	1-1	3-2
Oregon	1-2	3-3
Oregon St.	0-2	2-3
South	Conf.	Ovr.
Utah	2-0	5-0
Arizona St.	2-1	4-2
UCLA	1-1	4-1
Arizona	1-2	4-2
USC	1-2	3-2
Colorado	0-2	3-3

ypg) out of 127 FBS teams.

"It just hurts. A lot of guys come to Oregon to win," safety Tyree Robinson said after Falk passed for 505 yards and five touchdowns to snap the Cougars' eight-game losing streak in the series. "Young guys just got to know you don't just put on this jersey and win a game. You've got to work harder. We're going to work hard. Believe that. We're not just going to give up."

The Ducks rank sixth nationally in rushing offense (318.7 ypg), ninth in scoring offense (41.5 ppg) and 10th in total offense (528.7 ypg). Royce Freeman is averaging 143.2 yards per game, which is sixth nationally.

The weak link is obviously the muddled quarterback situation; Oregon ranks 83rd in passing offense (210.0 ypg). Adams, Lockie and Taylor Alie have combined for 10 touchdown passes and six interceptions through six games.

"As far as execution and all that, there's a million things we're absolutely not pleased with," Helfrich said. "Our character of our team and how they've worked and all those things, I'm absolutely 100 percent confident they'll come out and prepare great."

Beavers take step back in Tucson

Associated Press

TUCSON, Ariz. — Gary Andersen was quick to take the blame for Oregon State's 44-7 Pac-12 football loss at Arizona on Saturday.

Andersen, the Beavers' first-year coach, was unwilling to let anyone else get a finger pointed at them for what was a major setback in the program's development.

"I hope we're all tired of me saying this. I'm tired of saying it, but I got to be a better head coach," Andersen said in his opening statement after the loss.

"And that's where it all starts with me and getting them in a position to go."

Defensive end/linebacker Jaswha James did not like hearing that Andersen took the loss on himself.

James knew it was on the team — and it was.

"It is disappointing for a head coach to come here and say the loss is on him because ultimately we came here and didn't execute," James said. "The game plan was good. We just went out there and didn't play well."

The Beavers (2-3, 0-2) had a lot going for them before the game.

They had shown promise in a loss to Stanford, particularly in the pass game.

They had two weeks to prepare the Wildcats, who were struggling — mostly on defense — in the meantime.

What happened was a complete dismantling by a team that was coming off back-to-back blowout losses.

The Wildcats dominated every phase of the game.

Arizona rolled up 644 yards of total offense. Yes, quarterback Anu Solomon was back, but he had a marginal game. The Wildcats

stormed through the Beavers' front, rushing for 368 yards and five touchdowns.

"It was just mental breakdowns," James said. "We just didn't play well and we have to move on to next week."

The Beavers had no answer on offense. They did rush for 151 yards and a touchdown, but the pass game added little.

Seth Collins was 8 of 24 for 56 yards and one disastrous pick. Marcus McMaryion was 4 for 10 for 42 yards.

Collins threw for 275 yards and a TD against Stanford.

It was a big step back for the Beavers.

They are a team at a crossroads, for this season, anyway. If their play stays at this level, only losses will follow.

Andersen said he needs to take a deep breath and understand where the team is at this moment.

"We have got to do a tremendous job of continually moving our personnel pieces where they are and try to get the best kids on the field. That's the challenge anytime you're in this position coaching-wise," he said.

"It's quite simple to sit back for some staffs sometimes or people to say, oh, you're this, you're that. Wait until next year. That's not our style, so that forces me to not be very patient in these situations. It's hard times. It's tough. (Saturday) was a real tough day for me."

Andersen's job just got quite a bit tougher as well.

There's a lot to be done before the Beavers hit the road to Pullman and take on a Washington State team fresh off an upset of Oregon.

NFL

Yet another 4th-quarter collapse hanging over Seahawks

By TIM BOOTH

Associated Press

RENTON, Wash. — Pete Carroll could have been talking about the season opener at St. Louis, or Week 2 in Green Bay, or even the Super Bowl loss last February to New England.

"No matter how many times I look at this I can't get the end to change," Carroll said Monday.

He was referring to one of the worst fourth-quarter collapses in franchise history on Sunday when Seattle let a 17-point lead slip away and lost 27-24 in overtime to the Bengals. That's three times this season Seattle has led in the fourth quarter only to come out on the losing end.

If not for Kam Chancellor punching the ball free from Detroit's Calvin Johnson and a fortunate non-call on

K.J. Wright last Monday night, the Seahawks could be sitting at 1-4.

As it stands, there are plenty of concerns at 2-3.

Seattle led 24-7 starting the fourth quarter and Cincinnati's comeback matched the largest fourth-quarter rally against the Seahawks in franchise history. St. Louis came from 17 down in the fourth quarter in 2004 to beat the Seahawks in overtime in Seattle. The Ravens did the same in 2003 in Baltimore, tying the game on the final play of regulation and winning on a field goal in overtime.

The culprit this time was a combination of not being able to get off the field on defense and terrible third-down execution on offense by the Seahawks.

The Seahawks were 1 of 6 on third downs in the fourth quarter and overtime. They

could not stay on the field to sustain a drive and give their defense a break. And, as Carroll pointed out, even one of those conversions could have changed how the final minutes played out with Cincinnati having to run its field goal unit on at the end of regulation to kick the tying score.

Even more frustrating for the Seahawks, the missed third downs in the fourth quarter were manageable. Seattle twice missed on third-and-4 and failed on third-and-2 in the fourth quarter, attempting passes on all three. The Seahawks also missed on third-and-15 and third-and-8 in overtime.

"It's not just one thing. We just didn't convert them. It was unfortunate," Carroll said.

While the offense was unable to remain on the

field, the Seahawks defense watched Andy Dalton pick them apart late. Dalton threw for 135 yards in the fourth quarter and overtime and completed 13 of 15 passes. The Seahawks held Cincinnati scoreless after its opening drive then gave up 203 yards of offense in the fourth quarter and overtime.

Carroll said Seattle didn't do anything different defensively that contributed to Cincinnati's success.

"We were not sitting back. We were not waiting on them in any way. We were still trying to push to create the pressure we had created earlier," Carroll said. "We had some good success with blitzes and the four-man rush was obviously helping us. We rushed them probably better than anyone had rushed them this year so we kept pushing it. It was plays."



Cincinnati Bengals tight end Tyler Eifert (85) scores a touchdown against Seattle Seahawks cornerback Cary Williams (26) in the second half of an NFL football game, Sunday, Oct. 11, 2015, in Cincinnati.

AP Photo/Gary Landers

SCOREBOARD

Local Slate

PREP FOOTBALL

Friday
Ione at Mitchell, 1 p.m.
Riverside at Vale, 6 p.m.
Umatilla at Nyssa, 7 p.m. (MT)
Hermiston at The Dalles, 7 p.m.
Pendleton at Hood River, 7 p.m.
Ontario at Mac-Hi, 7 p.m.
Culver at Pilot Rock, 7 p.m.
Irrigon at Weston-McEwen, 7 p.m.
Heppner at Stanfield, 7 p.m.
Echo at Elgin, 7 p.m.
Arlington/Condon at Sherman, 7 p.m.

Friday
Nixyaawii at Echo, 1 p.m.
Helix at Echo, 5 p.m.
Saturday
Pendleton at Southridge Tournament, 8 a.m.
Sherman at Ione, 10 a.m.
Arlington vs. Sherman (at Ione), Noon
Stanfield at Irrion, Noon
Condon/Wheeler at Dufur, Noon
Nixyaawii at Powder Valley, 1 p.m.
Echo at Pine Eagle, 1 p.m.
Stanfield vs. Culver (at Irrigon), 1:30 p.m.
Arlington vs. South Wasco (at Ione), 2 p.m.
Condon/Wheeler vs. Horizon Christian (at Dufur), 2 p.m.
Weston-McEwen vs. Culver (at Irrigon), 3 p.m.
Helix at Powder Valley, 3 p.m.
South Wasco at Ione, 4 p.m.
Weston-McEwen at Irrigon, 4:30 p.m.

PREP BOYS SOCCER

Today
Culver at Umatilla, 4 p.m.
City Christian at Irrigon, 4 p.m.
La Grande at Mac-Hi, 4 p.m.
Wednesday
Umatilla at Riverside, 4:15 p.m.
Thursday
Baker at Mac-Hi, 4 p.m.
Hermiston at The Dalles, 4 p.m.
Pendleton at Hood River, 4 p.m.
Friday
Prescott (WA) at Irrigon, 1 p.m.
Saturday
Riverside at Culver, 1 p.m.
City Christian at Umatilla, 1 p.m.

PREP GIRLS SOCCER

Today
La Grande at Mac-Hi, 2 p.m.
Pendleton at Hermiston, 7 p.m.
Wednesday
Riverside at Umatilla, 4:15 p.m.
Thursday
Hood River at Pendleton, 4 p.m.
Horizon Christian at Riverside, 4:15 p.m.
Portland Christian at Umatilla, 4:15 p.m.
Baker at Mac-Hi, 6 p.m.
Friday
The Dalles at Hermiston, 3:30 p.m.

PREP VOLLEYBALL

Today
Riverside at Irrigon, 5 p.m.
Mitchell at Arlington, 5 p.m.
Wallowa at Echo, 5 p.m.
Ione at Helix, 5 p.m.
Pilot Rock at Umatilla, 6 p.m.
La Grande at Mac-Hi, 6:15 p.m.
Pendleton at Hood River, 6:30 p.m.
The Dalles at Hermiston, 7 p.m.
Thursday
Pilot Rock at Weston-McEwen, 5 p.m.
Heppner at Stanfield, 5 p.m.
Condon/Wheeler at Ione, 5 p.m.
Mac-Hi at Baker, 6 p.m.
Riverside at Umatilla, 6 p.m.
The Dalles at Pendleton, 6:15 p.m.
Irrigon at Culver, 6:15 p.m.
Hermiston at Hood River, 6:30 p.m.

PREP CROSS COUNTRY

Thursday
Hermiston, Pendleton, Mac-Hi, Umatilla, Weston-McEwen, Heppner, Helix, Nixyaawii, Stanfield, Condon/Wheeler at Kyle Burnside Wildhorse Invite (Mission), 4 p.m.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Saturday
Montana-Western at Eastern Oregon, 1 p.m.

COLLEGE MEN'S SOCCER

Friday
Eastern Oregon at Rocky Mountain, 1 p.m. (MT)
Sunday
Eastern Oregon at College of Idaho, Noon (MT)

COLLEGE WOMEN'S SOCCER

Friday
Eastern Oregon at Rocky Mountain, 3:30 p.m. (MT)
Sunday
Eastern Oregon at College of Idaho, 2:30 p.m. (MT)

COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL

Wednesday
Blue Mountain at Spokane, 6 p.m.
Friday
Blue Mountain vs. Centralia (at Chemeke-ta Crossover), 9 a.m.
Blue Mountain vs. Clark (at Chemeke-ta Crossover), 4:30 p.m.
Eastern Oregon at Evergreen State, 7 p.m.
Saturday
Blue Mountain vs. TBD (at Chemeke-ta Crossover), TBD
Eastern Oregon at Northwest, 5 p.m.

COLLEGE CROSS COUNTRY

Saturday
Eastern Oregon at LCSC Inland Empire Challenge, TBD

Baseball

MLB
Playoffs
DIVISION SERIES
(Best-of-5; x-if necessary)
American League
Houston 2, Kansas City 2
Thursday, Oct. 8: Houston 5, Kansas City 2
Friday, Oct. 9: Kansas City 5, Houston 4
Sunday: Houston 4, Kansas City 2
Monday: Kansas City 9, Houston 6
Wednesday: Houston (McHugh 19-7) at Kansas City (Cueto 11-13), 5:07 p.m. (FS1)
Texas 2, Toronto 2
Thursday, Oct. 8: Texas 5, Toronto 3
Friday, Oct. 9: Texas 6, Toronto 4, 14 innings
Sunday: Toronto 5, Texas 1
Monday: Toronto 8, Texas 4
Wednesday: Texas (Hamels 7-1) at Toronto (Stroman 4-0), 1:07 p.m. (FS1)
National League
All games televised by TBS
Chicago 2, St. Louis 1
Friday, Oct. 9: St. Louis 4, Chicago 0
Saturday, Oct. 10: Chicago 6, St. Louis 3
Monday: Chicago 8, St. Louis 6
Today: St. Louis (Lynn 12-11) at Chicago (Hammel 10-7), 1:37 p.m.
x-Thursday: Chicago at St. Louis, 1:37 p.m.
New York 2, Los Angeles 1
Friday, Oct. 9: New York 3, Los Angeles 1
Saturday, Oct. 10: Los Angeles 5, New York 2
Monday: New York 13, Los Angeles 7
Today: Los Angeles (Kershaw 16-7) at New York (Matz 4-0), 5:07 p.m.
x-Thursday: New York at Los Angeles, 5:07 p.m.

NFL
AMERICAN CONFERENCE
East
New England 4
N.Y. Jets 3
Buffalo 3
Miami 1
South
Indianapolis 3
Tennessee 1
Houston 4
Jacksonville 1
North
Cincinnati 5
Pittsburgh 3
Cleveland 2
Baltimore 1
West
Denver 5
San Diego 2
Oakland 2
Kansas City 1
NATIONAL CONFERENCE
East
N.Y. Giants 3
Dallas 2
Washington 2
Philadelphia 2
South
Atlanta 5
Carolina 4
Tampa Bay 2
New Orleans 1
North
Green Bay 5
Minnesota 2
Chicago 2
Detroit 0
West
Arizona 4
St. Louis 2
Seattle 2
San Francisco 1
Thursday's Game
Indianapolis 27, Houston 20
Sunday's Games

Chicago 18, Kansas City 17
Green Bay 24, St. Louis 10
Buffalo 14, Tennessee 13
Cincinnati 27, Seattle 24, OT
Atlanta 25, Washington 19, OT
Tampa Bay 38, Jacksonville 31
Philadelphia 39, New Orleans 17
Cleveland 33, Baltimore 30, OT
Arizona 42, Detroit 17
Denver 27, Oakland 10
New England 30, Dallas 6
N.Y. Giants 30, San Francisco 27
Open: Carolina, Miami, Minnesota, N.Y. Jets
Monday's Game
Pittsburgh 24, San Diego 20
Thursday, Oct. 15
Atlanta at New Orleans, 5:25 p.m.

Golf

Presidents Cup Results
Sunday
At Jack Nicklaus Golf Club Korea
Incheon, South Korea
Yardage: 7380; Par: 72
UNITED STATES 15½, INTERNATIONAL 14½
Singles
United States 6, International 6
Patrick Reed, United States, halved with Louis Oosthuizen, International.
Adam Scott, International, def. Rickie Fowler, United States, 6 and 5.
Dustin Johnson, United States, def. Danny Lee, International, 2 and 1.
Hideki Matsuyama, International, def. J.B. Holmes, United States, 1 up.
Bubba Watson, United States, halved with Thongchai Jaidee, International.
Steven Bowditch, International, def. Jimmy Walker, United States, 2 up.
Phil Mickelson, United States, def. Charl Schwartzel, International, 5 and 4.
Chris Kirk, United States, def. Anirban Lahiri, International, 1 up.
Marc Leishman, International, def. Jordan Spieth, United States, 1 up.
Zach Johnson, United States, def. Jason Day, International, 3 and 2.
Branden Grace, International, def. Matt Kuchar, United States, 2 and 1.
Bill Haas, United States, def. Sang-moon Bae, International, 2 up.
Saturday
Foursomes
United States 2, International 2
Louis Oosthuizen and Branden Grace, International, def. Patrick Reed and Rickie Fowler, United States, 3 and 2.
Bubba Watson and J.B. Holmes, United States, halved with Adam Scott and Marc Leishman, International.
Bill Haas and Matt Kuchar, United States, halved with Sang-moon Bae and Hideki Matsuyama, International.
Dustin Johnson and Jordan Spieth, United States, def. Jason Day and Charl Schwartzel, International, 1 up.
Foursalls
United States 2, International 2
Louis Oosthuizen and Branden Grace, International, def. J.B. Holmes and Bubba Watson, United States, 1 up.
Phil Mickelson and Zach Johnson, United States, def. Adam Scott and Anirban Lahiri, International, 3 and 2.
Sang-moon Bae and Hideki Matsuyama, International, def. Jimmy Walker and Chris Kirk, United States, 6 and 5.
Patrick Reed and Jordan Spieth, United States, def. Jason Day and Charl Schwartzel, International, 3 and 1.

Basketball

WNBA
FINALS
(Best-of-5)
Minnesota 2, Indiana 2
Sunday, Oct. 11: Indiana 75, Minnesota 69
Wednesday, Oct. 14: Indiana at Minnesota, 5 p.m.
NBA
Preeason
Monday's Games
Memphis 91, Cleveland 81
New York 94, Philadelphia 88
Toronto 112, Minnesota 105
Miami 97, San Antonio 94
New Orleans 123, Chicago 115
Portland 88, Utah 81
Today's Games
Miami at Orlando, 4 p.m.
Milwaukee at Cleveland, 4 p.m.
Detroit at Indiana, 4 p.m.
Dallas vs. Oklahoma City at Tulsa, OK, 5 p.m.
Houston at Phoenix, 7 p.m.
Sacramento vs. L.A. Lakers at Las Vegas, NV, 7 p.m.
Denver at Golden State, 7:30 p.m.