

HERMISTON: Consistent pass rush will be key for Dawgs

Continued from 1B

will host the Wilsonville Wildcats (8-1, 6-1) this Friday at 7 p.m. at Kennison Stadium. The Bulldogs and the Wildcats both played Sandy, who hails from Wilsonville's Northwest Oregon Conference, Sept. 11 and won 53-3. Hermiston just slipped by the Pioneers 13-7 in double overtime.

"They're well-coached. They execute on offense," Faaeteete said. "They have a great defense, have great kids and they play really hard all the time. We're lucky to be able to play a program like this."

The Wildcats are an athletic bunch with numerous weapons. They have two quarterbacks who are capable throwers. The starter, Connor Neville, is a junior who has thrown a touchdown pass in each game this season.

Against Liberty two weeks ago, a game Wilsonville lost 40-37, Neville passed for 507 yards on 31 completions and four touchdowns. He threw four picks in that game, though, and he has five on the season.

The week before, in a 45-14 win over Putnam, he threw for six touchdowns, 407 yards and had just five incomplete passes.

Overall, Neville has passed for 2,198 yards on 68 percent passing for 30 touchdowns. Neville, a three-start recruit, currently has offers from Washington State and Boise State.

Neville missed Wilsonville's 63-14 win over Parkrose, and the senior backup Tom Gomez stepped in capably. He tossed four touchdowns — and three interceptions — while eclipsing the 300-yard mark.

Whoever plays quarterback Friday will have some serious targets. Harrison Steiger has been a menace to secondaries all season. The junior has caught 40 passes this season for 821 yards and a whopping 18 touchdowns.

He's caught a pass and a touchdown in each game he's played this season, and caught ten balls for 232 yards and three touchdowns in the Wildcats' 40-37 loss to Liberty two weeks ago.

But he's not alone. Jonny Neville has been a threat in the passing game, just not as worrisome as Steiger. He still must be accounted for, however, as he's caught 29 balls for 548 yards and 11 touchdowns.

He, too, has caught a pass in every game this season, though he was held without a touchdown in Wilsonville's 59-14 win over

Hillsboro last week.

"The key to stopping the great offense is keeping them off the field," Faaeteete said. "We gotta execute on offense on our end and play the keep-away game: run the ball well, throw the ball efficiently. And when we are on defense, get to the quarterback, create second-and-long, third-and-long situations so it's an easier game for me to call. That being said, it's not gonna be easy to keep this offense in check. They've been putting up numbers all year long."

Wilsonville can run it, too, though it's not the strength of its offense. No Wilsonville running back ever received more than 11 carries in any game this year, and no Wilsonville running back has rushed for more than 111 yards in any game.

The running game is mainly a big play threat, with Elijah Benedick and Mason Craig each averaging more than 10 yards per carry. Andrew Merrick is the Wildcat's leading rusher with 467 yards on just 63 carries and three touchdowns. Sophomore Taran Floyd has scored eight times on the ground.

Hermiston was able to get a good pass rush last week against Pendleton and the

week before against Hood River Valley. Pendleton quarterback Kai Quinn, who has a strong arm, couldn't step into any throws against the likes of Neal and Coleman, and those two will have to do the same against Neville, who only has 37 yards rushing on 23 tries this season.

Once a dual-threat quarterback, Neville now wears two knee braces after a couple knee injuries. If the Bulldogs can get a good pass rush, make Neville uncomfortable in the pocket, as they did with Quinn, Hermiston can disrupt the timing passes Wilsonville likes and potentially force some mistakes.

But the task, offensively and defensively, will be a tall one for the Bulldogs.

"Our guys are gonna look at film, and they're gonna see that the task at hand is a large one," Faaeteete said. "You go out there and you fight, be courageous and then at the end, when the chips fall, you're holding your head held high. It's football. Someone's gotta lose. It's what's great about this game. Anything can happen on Friday night. Crazy things have happened. We just gotta execute on offense and get home on defense and have fun."

STANFIELD: Monkus ready to roll

Continued from 1B

through the air, which is wear Salas says his defense needs to key on.

"We have to limit their big plays," he said. "Their quarterback is very mobile, and his best work comes when he's out of the pocket, so our guys can't give him time to make plays, we need to crash the pocket and finish tackles."

The quarterback he mentioned is junior Steele Ware, who threw for more than 2,200 yards and 36 touchdowns during the season, controlling the offense to an average of just over 52 points per game.

Salas knows that his defense can only contain that type of an offense for so long, and says that his offense will be the big key to deciding the game.

"Our offense can help out the defense by taking big, long drives that eat a lot of clock," he said. "When you keep explosive offenses off the field, it puts you in a great position to win, and that's what we want."

The Tigers definitely have the capability to control the clock, behind the duo of stud

running back Thyler Monkus and quarterback Dylan Grogan, who have carried the offense all season long.

Monkus capped off an outstanding season with 246 yards and four touchdowns on 20 carries in the win over Culver. Grogan also added 127 yards on the ground.

However, there is still a minor concern over Monkus' bum ankle, which he injured during the Week 8 win against Pilot Rock.

"We've been resting him up a bit in practice, trying to make sure he's 100 percent," said Salas. "But he'll be ready to go."

With the Tigers roaring and ready to go, Salas said he's excited to see what the two teams can do.

"If all 25 people keep each other in the game and do their job, we'll be fine," he said. "We've been pretty successful with pretty basic football. It will be a good match-up with teams with contradicting styles."

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SCOREBOARD

Local Slate

PREP FOOTBALL

Friday
(5A first round) No. 9 Wilsonville at No. 8 Hermiston, 7 p.m.
(2A first round) No. 9 Stanfield at No. 8 Vernonia, 7 p.m.

Saturday
(2A first round) No. 13 Irrigon at No. 4 Kennedy, 1 p.m.
(2A first round) No. 10 Weston-McEwen at No. 7 Reedsport, 2 p.m.
(2A first round) No. 15 Monroe at No. 2 Heppner, 3 p.m.

PREP BOYS SOCCER

Saturday
(5A quarterfinal) No. 4 Hermiston vs. Woodburn, TBD
(3A quarterfinal) No. 6 Riverside at No. 3 St. Mary's, 4 p.m.

PREP VOLLEYBALL

Friday
(2A quarterfinal) No. 10 Weston-McEwen vs. No. 2 Culver (at Ridgeview HS, Redmond), 10 a.m.
(1A quarterfinal) No. 7 Lone vs. No. 2 North Douglas (at Ridgeview HS, Redmond), 3:15 p.m.

Saturday
Weston-McEwen vs. TBD at 2A state tournament, TBD
Lone vs. TBD at 1A state tournament, TBD

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Saturday
College of Idaho at Eastern Oregon, Noon

COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL

Thursday
Walla Walla U. at Eastern Oregon, 7 p.m.

COLLEGE CROSS COUNTRY

Saturday
Eastern Oregon at CCC Championships, TBD

COLLEGE MEN'S BASKETBALL

Saturday
Eastern Oregon at Gonzaga (exhibition), 5 p.m.

COLLEGE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Friday
Eastern Oregon at Arizona Christian, 6 p.m.
Saturday
Eastern Oregon at Arizona Christian, 3 p.m.

Football

AMERICAN NFL CONFERENCE

EAST

W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New England	7	0	0	01.000	249 133
N.Y. Jets	4	3	0	0.571	172 139
Buffalo	3	4	0	0.429	176 173
Miami	3	4	0	0.429	154 173

SOUTH

W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Indianapolis	3	5	0	0.375	173 203
Houston	3	5	0	0.375	174 205
Jacksonville	2	5	0	0.286	147 207
Tennessee	1	6	0	0.143	125 159

NORTH

W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Cincinnati	7	0	0	0.000	198 132
Pittsburgh	4	4	0	0.500	168 147
Cleveland	2	6	0	0.250	167 216
Baltimore	2	6	0	0.250	190 214

WEST

W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Denver	7	0	0	0.000	168 112
Oakland	4	3	0	0.571	178 173
Kansas City	3	5	0	0.375	195 182
San Diego	2	6	0	0.250	191 227

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

EAST

W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
N.Y. Giants	4	4	0	0.500	215 208
Washington	3	4	0	0.429	148 168
Philadelphia	3	4	0	0.429	160 137
Dallas	2	5	0	0.286	133 171

SOUTH

W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Carolina	7	0	0	0.000	191 136
Atlanta	6	2	0	0.750	213 173
New Orleans	4	4	0	0.500	213 234
Tampa Bay	3	4	0	0.429	163 199

NORTH

W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Green Bay	6	1	0	0.857	174 130
Minnesota	5	2	0	0.714	147 122
Chicago	2	5	0	0.286	140 202
Detroit	1	7	0	0.125	149 245

WEST

W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Arizona	6	2	0	0.750	263 153
St. Louis	4	3	0	0.571	135 125
Seattle	4	4	0	0.500	167 140
San Francisco	2	6	0	0.250	109 207

Today's Game
Cleveland (+11) at Cincinnati, 5:25 p.m.

Sunday's Games
Tennessee (+8) at New Orleans, 10 a.m.
St. Louis (+2.5) at Minnesota, 10 a.m.
Green Bay (-2.5) at Carolina, 10 a.m.
Washington (+14) at New England, 10 a.m.
Miami (+3) at Buffalo, 10 a.m.
Jacksonville (+2.5) at N.Y. Jets, 10 a.m.
Oakland (+4.5) at Pittsburgh, 10 a.m.
Atlanta (-7) at San Francisco, 1:05 p.m.
N.Y. Giants (-2.5) at Tampa Bay, 1:05 p.m.

Denver (-5) at Indianapolis, 1:25 p.m.
Philadelphia (-2.5) at Dallas, 5:30 p.m.
Open: Arizona, Baltimore, Detroit, Houston, Kansas City, Seattle

Monday's Game
Chicago (+4) at San Diego, 5:30 p.m.

Basketball

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	5	0	01.000
New York	2	3	4.00
Boston	1	3	2.50
Philadelphia	0	4	0.00
Brooklyn	0	5	0.00

Southeast Division

W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	5	1	8.33
Washington	3	1	7.50
Miami	2	2	5.00
Charlotte	1	3	2.50
Orlando	1	4	2.00

Central Division

W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	4	1	8.00
Detroit	3	1	7.50
Chicago	3	2	6.00
Indiana	2	3	4.00
Milwaukee	2	3	4.00

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

W	L	Pct	GB
Memphis	3	2	6.00
San Antonio	3	2	6.00
Dallas	2	2	5.00
Houston	2	3	4.00
New Orleans	0	4	0.00

Northwest Division

W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	2	1	6.67
Portland	3	2	6.00
Oklahoma City	3	2	6.00
Utah	2	2	5.00
Denver	2	2	5.00

Pacific Division

W	L	Pct	GB
Golden State	5	0	01.000
L.A. Clippers	4	1	8.00
Phoenix	3	2	6.00
Sacramento	1	4	2.00
L.A. Lakers	0	4	0.00

Miami at Minnesota, 5 p.m.
Charlotte at Dallas, 5:30 p.m.
Utah at Denver, 6 p.m.
Memphis at Portland, 7:30 p.m.

Hockey

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

GP	W	L	OT	Pts	
Montreal	14	11	2	1	23
Ottawa	12	6	4	2	14
Tampa Bay	14	6	6	2	14
Boston	11	6	4	1	13
Detroit	12	6	5	1	13
Florida	12	5	4	3	13
Buffalo	12	5	7	0	10
Toronto	12	2	8	2	6

Metropolitan Division

GP	W	L	OT	Pts	
N.Y. Rangers	12	8	2	2	18
N.Y. Islanders	13	7	3	3	17
Washington	11	8	3	0	16
Pittsburgh	12	8	4	0	16
New Jersey	12	6	5	1	13
Carolina	12	5	7	0	10
Philadelphia	12	4	6	2	10
Columbus	13	3	10	0	6

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

GP	W	L	OT	Pts	
Dallas	13	10	3	0	20
St. Louis	13	9	3	1	19
Winnipeg	13	8	4	1	17
Minnesota	11	7	2	2	16
Nashville	11	7	2	2	16
Chicago	13	7	5	1	15
Colorado	12	4	7	1	9

Pacific Division

GP	W	L	OT	Pts	
Los Angeles	12	8	4	0	16
Vancouver	13	6	3	4	16
San Jose	12	6	6	0	12
Arizona	11	5	5	1	11
Edmonton	13	5	8	0	10
Anaheim	12	3	7	2	8
Calgary	13	3	9	1	7

Today's Games
Anaheim 3, Florida 2, SO
Winnipeg 4, Toronto 2
St. Louis 6, Chicago 5, OT
Pittsburgh 3, Vancouver 2

Today's Games
Tampa Bay at Buffalo, 4 p.m.
Boston at Washington, 4 p.m.
N.Y. Islanders at Montreal, 4:30 p.m.
Winnipeg at Ottawa, 4:30 p.m.
Nashville at Minnesota, 5 p.m.
Philadelphia at Calgary, 6 p.m.
Colorado at Arizona, 6 p.m.
Florida at San Jose, 7:30 p.m.
Columbus at Los Angeles, 7:30 p.m.










NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss.

PIGSKIN PICKERS

Week 9

Overall: 58-22
Last Week: 7-3

W'ville at Hermiston
Stanfield at Vernonia
WMHS at Reedsport
Irrigon at Kennedy
California at Oregon
Arizona State at WSU
Utah at Washington
LSU at Alabama
Packers at Panthers
Eagles at Cowboys

										
Mike Appleton	Kevin Fisher	Clint Shoemake	Sam Barbee	Mario Ramirez	Matt Entrup	Jeff Snell	Eric Singer	Kathy Aney	Jennifer Cox	Kim Furgerson
Overall: 58-22	58-22	57-23	57-23	56-24	53-27	52-28	51-29	51-29	50-30	46-34
Last Week: 7-3	9-1	7-3	8-2	9-1	8-2	8-2	7-3	8-2	7-3	9-1
Wilsonville	Wilsonville	Wilsonville	Wilsonville	Wilsonville	Wilsonville	Wilsonville	Wilsonville	Wilsonville	Wilsonville	Wilsonville
Stanfield	Vernonia	Stanfield	Vernonia	Vernonia	Vernonia	Vernonia	Stanfield	Stanfield	Vernonia	Stanfield
Reedsport	Reedsport	Reedsport	Reedsport	Reedsport	Reedsport	Reedsport	WMHS	WMHS	Reedsport	Reedsport
Kennedy	Kennedy	Kennedy	Kennedy	Kennedy	Kennedy	Kennedy	Kennedy	Kennedy	Kennedy	Kennedy
Oregon	Oregon	Oregon	California	Oregon	Oregon	Oregon	Oregon	California	Oregon	Oregon
WSU	WSU	WSU	WSU	WSU	WSU	ASU	WSU	WSU	WSU	WSU
Utah	Utah	Utah	Washington	Utah	Washington	Utah	Utah	Utah	Washington	Utah
Alabama	Alabama	LSU	LSU	LSU	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
Packers	Packers	Packers	Packers	Packers	Packers	Packers	Panthers	Panthers	Panthers	Packers
Eagles	Eagles	Eagles	Cowboys	Cowboys	Eagles	Cowboys	Eagles	Eagles	Eagles	Eagles

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