

College Football

Colorado aims to stay hot at home against Oregon State

By PAT GRAHAM
Associated Press

BOULDER, Colo. — The Colorado Buffaloes were greeted by a swarm of fans upon their early morning return last weekend.

That sort of welcoming brigade hasn't happened often in recent memory. Neither have wins of this magnitude.

The new and improved Buffaloes (3-1, 1-0 Pac-12) stunned Oregon 41-38 in Eugene behind the performance of freshman quarterback Steven Montez. They try to follow it up Saturday as an 18 1/2-point favorite against Oregon State (1-2).

As for a possible hangover effect, well, Colorado insisted the page has been turned. This is a team on the cusp of appearing in the AP Top 25 poll and trying to make a bowl appearance for the first time since 2007.

"Our goal every week is to go 1-0 and our ultimate goal is to be Pac-12 champions," cornerback Chidobe Awuzie said. "In the grand scheme of things, it definitely helps that and we were happy after the win. But now we're just trying to focus in on Oregon State and keep this train rolling."

Everyone around campus appears on board, because the looks are way friendlier these days. The conversations, too.



Oregon State's Victor Bolden Jr. (6) makes his way past Boise State defenders on a kick return in the first half of an NCAA college football game in Corvallis, Ore., on Saturday, Sept. 24, 2016.

"We sense a lot more trust among people and they trust us to come out with wins this time around," receiver Bobo said.

The schedule certainly doesn't get any easier with the remaining teams after Saturday a combined 17-9. There's also this: Colorado hasn't exactly followed up big wins with a string of more big wins.

The Buffaloes knocked off a

ranked West Virginia squad in 2008, only to go 2-7 the rest of the way. They beat Georgia in 2010, but followed it up by going 2-6 during a season in which then-coach Dan Hawkins lost his job.

"Being in all those close games has definitely helped us build to where we are now," Awuzie said. "We've gone through so much adversity that I feel as though,



Oregon State Beavers (1-2)



Colorado Buffaloes (3-1, 1-0)

- Today, 11:30 a.m.
- at Folsom Field
- TV: PAC 12 Network

whatever comes at us, we'll be ready."

Beavers coach Gary Andersen appreciates what the Buffaloes have accomplished under coach Mike MacIntyre, who's in his fourth season at Colorado. Andersen is trying to revitalize the program in Corvallis.

"They've continued to recruit and battle like crazy and fight in games and get better and better," Andersen said. "And now they're starting to see those W's come their way."

Things to know as Oregon State and Colorado meet for a ninth time (the Beavers lead 5-3):

DECISIONS, DECISIONS: MacIntyre has quite a QB quandary — go with senior captain Sefo Liufau on a hurt ankle or the freshman Montez who has the hot hand. Montez accounted for 468 yards of total offense in the win over the Ducks. Liufau has broken virtually every school passing mark during his time at Colorado. "We need both of them, because some-

body's going to get dinged up," MacIntyre said. "We need both of those guys ready to play."

FAST START: The Buffaloes have scored on their opening possession in every game this season. For good measure, they've also gotten points in three of their four opening drives in the second half. "They've built themselves a very good football team," Andersen said. "They've ground through the process without question. They're playing well."

BOLDEN ADVENTURE: Oregon State's Victor Bolden Jr. leads the nation with a 40.2-yard average on kickoff returns. What's more, he has two plays covering 90 or more yards — one on a 92-yard sweep against Idaho State and another on a 99-yard kickoff return last weekend against Boise State. Bolden hurt Colorado last season with four returns for 110 yards. "He's a huge difference-maker," Andersen said. "Victor is having a nice year for us at this point."

MORE OFFENSIVE: The Beavers are averaging 28 points in three games, which is up from a season ago. They're allowing 25 points — also an improvement. "They are a much-improved football team from last year when we played them," said MacIntyre, whose team beat the Beavers 17-13 last season in Corvallis to end a 14-game conference skid.

College Football

Ducks take on Cougars in match of underperformers

By NICHOLAS K. GERANIOS
Associated Press

Washington State defeated Oregon in double overtime last year, a game that ignited the Cougars' run to a 9-4 record and a bowl game victory over Miami.

"That was a turning point for us," said Washington State quarterback Luke Falk, who threw for 505 yards and five touchdowns in the game in Eugene.

On Saturday, Washington State (1-2) will host Oregon in another game the Cougars hope can light a fire under a team that has mostly underperformed so far this season.

Safety Colton Teglovic said last year's game proved to the Cougars that they could win a close contest in a tough environment.

"We used that as a springboard," Teglovic said.

But Washington State coach Mike Leach isn't much for looking backward, and doesn't want his team



Oregon Ducks (2-2, 0-1)



Wash. State Cougars (1-2)

- Today, 6:30 p.m.
- at Martin Stadium
- TV: PAC 12 Network

thinking about last year.

"This is 2016," Leach said. "If they go in a time machine, or Captain Kirk, they'll miss the whole thing by a year and the Klingsons are gonna kill them all. They better focus on this year or it won't be a productive, happy experience."

One thing the Cougars need to improve on is their slow starts.

"We've just got to stop coming out flat," said cornerback Marcellus Pippins. "We've been coming out flat the last couple of games. We've got to start fast and have a rhythm coming out."

Oregon (2-2, 0-1 Pac-12) is coming off a 41-38 loss to Colorado, the Buffaloes'



In this Sept. 10, 2016, file photo, Oregon running back Royce Freeman runs against Virginia during the second half of an NCAA college football game in Eugene.

first win over Oregon since joining the Pac-12 in 2011.

Quarterback Dakota Prukop was intercepted in the end zone on Oregon's final drive to kill a comeback attempt.

Two days after the loss, Oregon held a players-only meeting after practice.

"We just want guys to play harder, to give it all they got, particularly on special

teams," receiver Dwayne Stanford said. "We want everyone who touches the field to give it all they got."

Oregon has been slowed by injuries, with defensive end Jalen Jelks and defensive tackle Drayton Carlberg doubtful to play against the Cougars. The status of star running back Royce Freeman is unclear.

Inexperience is also an issue, with 11 freshmen included on Oregon's offensive and defensive two-deep depth chart prior to Saturday's loss to Colorado.

Coach Mark Helfrich said it's too early to panic.

"We were left for dead last year and bounced back," he said. "We were left for dead the year before and that turned out OK."

"I told the team, and I believe it 100 percent, this team can be special," Helfrich said.

Some things to watch when Oregon plays at Washington State:

RAH, RAH: Falk said he needs to take a greater leadership role. "This year I've got to be more of an energy guy," said Falk, who isn't the type for speeches. "I'm kind of a calm, even-keeled guy, it's definitely not within my personality, but I definitely can do it."

WILL ROYCE ROLL?: Freeman, who ran for 246 yards and three

touchdowns against the Cougars last year, may not play. The Ducks do not talk about injuries, but Freeman suffered a leg injury two weeks ago against Nebraska and did not play in Oregon's loss to Colorado. The Cougars say his injury status is of no concern to them because Oregon has other weapons. "The other backs are good too," Leach said. "It really doesn't change anything."

MORROW RETURNS: Washington State junior running back Jamal Morrow was ejected in the second half of the Idaho game after officials ruled that he appeared to punch an Idaho defender at the end of a special teams play, an act that could have required Morrow to miss the first half of the Oregon game. But Washington State officials say because Morrow was tossed for unsportsmanlike conduct, not targeting, the penalty does not carry over to the next game.

College Roundup

Timberwolves claw back to .500 in East

East Oregonian

PENDLETON — The Blue Mountain Timberwolves clawed their way back to the .500 mark in the NWAC East on Friday night, beating Columbia Basin 3-1.

The Timberwolves (14-13, 3-3) jumped on Columbia Basin quickly in the first two sets, winning 23-11 and 25-16 before CBC was able to win the third set 25-21. However, the Timberwolves were able to finish off the win in the fourth sets with a 25-19 victory.

Jordan Mix led the Blue Mountain offense with 13 kills and Shelby Schreier had 11. Other team leaders included Karly Cantu with 25 assists and 14 digs, and three aces, and Bailey Buckner with nine blocks.

Blue Mountain next heads to Big Bend on Wednesday for a 6 p.m. match.

EASTERN OREGON 3, OREGON TECH 0 — At Klamath Falls, the Mountaineers notched their 16th straight victory on the season as they swept Oregon Tech 25-21, 25-17, 25-22 on Friday.

Junior Amanda Miller led the Mountaineers (16-1, 9-0 CCC) with 17 kills, and junior Madisen Garlie had 10 and Kasandra Tuma had seven. Rachelle Chamberlain led the team with 41 assists and Holli Mullins

added a career-high 22 digs. Next up for EOU (16-1, 9-0 CCC) is a trip to Ashland to take on No. 18 Southern Oregon today at 5 p.m.

MEN'S SOCCER

OREGON TECH 1, EASTERN OREGON 0

— At La Grande, the Mountaineers were stonewalled twice in the 77th minute and didn't get off another shot as Oregon Tech closed out the Cascade Collegiate Conference shutout win on Friday.

Austin Schoenmann scored off a pass from Michael Page in the 41st minute for Oregon Tech (8-1-1, 5-0 CCC).

Next up for EOU (6-3-1, 1-3-1) is a home game against Southern Oregon today at 1 p.m.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

EASTERN OREGON 4, OREGON TECH 0

— At La Grande, Tegan Davis-court scored with 36 second left in the first half to extend Eastern Oregon's lead to 3-0, and the Mountaineers cruised to a Cascade Collegiate Conference win on Friday.

The goal came in transition after EOU's Jessica Parker made her only save of the game. Cydni Cottrell checked in with 15 minutes left in the game to finish out the shutout, but didn't have to make a save as EOU out-shot OIT 21-7.

Eastern (7-2-2, 4-0-1 CCC) will host Southern Oregon today at 3:30 p.m.

College Football

Washington stuns Stanford in Top-10 clash

By TIM BOOTH
Associated Press

SEATTLE — Jake Browning threw for 210 yards and three touchdowns, Myles Gaskin added 100 yards and two scores, and No. 10 Washington was dominant on both sides, overwhelming No. 7 Stanford 44-6 on Friday night.

After months of hype that Washington (5-0, 2-0 Pac-12) was on the verge of a breakout, the Huskies showed they were ready for their return to the national stage.

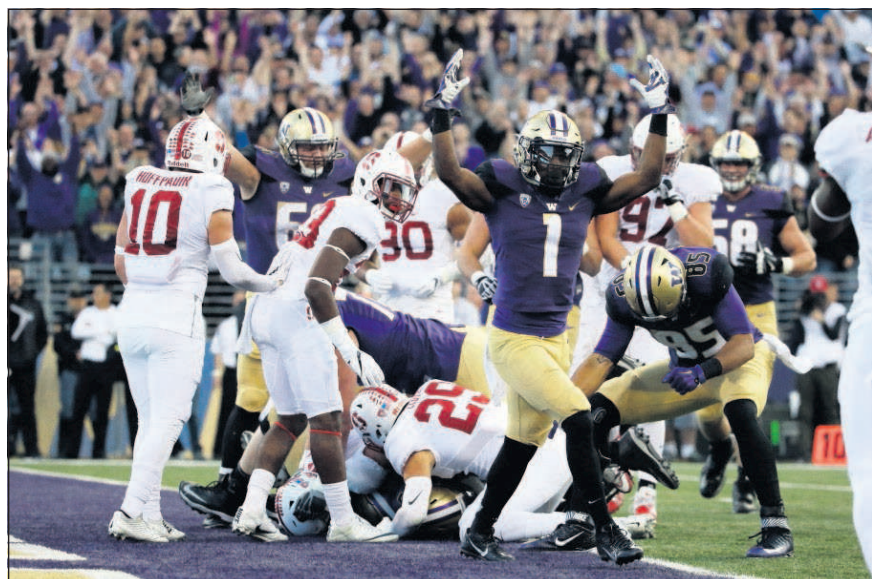
And they did it emphatically, handing Stanford (3-1, 2-1) its worst loss since a 41-3 setback against Arizona State in 2007.

The Huskies raced to a 23-0 half-time lead, scored early in the second half to go up 30-0 and coasted to their biggest victory over an AP Top 10 team since beating No. 5 Southern California 31-0 in 1990. That game 26 years ago announced Washington as a national contender and the Huskies went on to share the national title a year later with Miami — taking the coaches' version while Miami topped the AP media poll.

Browning was the leader of an efficient offense that scored on six of its eight drives. He threw touchdowns of 3 yards to Dante Pettis, 19 yards to John Ross and capped the night with a 3-yarder to Aaron Fuller with 5:30 remaining. Browning was 15 of 21 and did not commit a turnover.

Equally important was Washington's ability to establish a running game. The Huskies rushed for 214 yards and averaged 5.2 yards per carry.

Meanwhile, Stanford star Christian McCaffrey saw his Heisman



Washington wide receiver John Ross (1) celebrates after Washington running back Myles Gaskin scored a touchdown against Stanford in the first half of an NCAA college football game, Friday, Sept. 30, 2016, in Seattle.

Trophy aspirations hit a major speed bump. McCaffrey was held to 49 yards rushing on 12 carries, five catches for 30 yards and continued his streak of never scoring an offensive touchdown in a road game.

It was McCaffrey's fewest yards rushing since 2014 at California when he had 19 yards on three carries.

Stanford's only TD came late in the third quarter on a 19-yard pass from Ryan Burns to J.J. Arcega-Whiteside.

Burns was 15 of 22 for 151 yards, but Washington controlled the line of scrimmage on both sides. Stanford quarterbacks were sacked eight times, six in the first half. Stanford had allowed only four total sacks in the first three games combined.

Stanford was playing short-handed without starting cornerbacks Quenton Meeks and Alijah Holder, starting wide receiver Francis Owusu and starting fullback Daniel Marx. Starting right tackle Casey Tucker limped off with an apparent leg injury late in the fourth quarter.

TAKEAWAYS

Stanford: The Cardinal were unexpectedly sloppy. Stanford committed 11 penalties after entering the week as the least penalized team in the Pac-12. There were communication issues in part due to the roaring Washington crowd, but also a lack of sharpness not normally seen from David Shaw's team.

Washington: The defense was up to the task of keeping McCaffrey under control and forcing Burns to beat them through the air. McCaffrey had 34 yards on 10 carries in the first half and forced the Cardinal into numerous long third-down situations. That allowed Washington to bring extra pass rushers to get to Burns.

UP NEXT

Stanford: The Cardinal head home after two straight weeks on the road to host Washington State.

Washington: The Huskies travel to Oregon looking to snap a 12-game losing streak to the Ducks.