

Bucks:

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To the Bucks advantage, they will have running back Payton Lambert back in action after missing two games with an ankle injury.

"To have him back is nice," Davis said. "Great, actually. It gives us that extra weapon on the offensive and defensive side of the ball. With the emergence of (running back) Brock Mackey, it gives us tools to work with. I like where we sit right now where the roster is concerned."

Quarterback Collin Primus will run the offense, running back/linebacker Kyle Liscom continues to give teams fits each week on both sides of the ball, and the big men have been winning the war in the trenches.

"Collin has done a great job," Davis said. "He manages the game. You have to make sure you eliminate the little mistakes and get the ball to the right kid at the right time. He has a good demeanor in the huddle and the players trust him. He is confident and performs the duties of a quarterback. I'd love to have him at receiver catching balls, but right now, he's where we need him."

Defensively, Davis said the Bucks will have to eliminate the big plays that beat them last year.

"We have to get off to a good start," Davis said. "We didn't score a point against them last year. We have to come out and establish a physical dominance up front. You don't score, you don't win. We do have great team speed. If we are going to win this football game, we are going to have to exploit our team speed."

There's one more aspect that Davis said he feels gives his team an advantage.

"I like the way our kids compete," he said. "Our kids truly care. If you come together as a unit and care about the outcome, you are going to be a good team. I think our leadership this year is better than we've had the last couple of years."



John Braese/Contributed Photo

Adrian players tackle lone/Arlington's Bryce Rollins after catching a pass against the Antelopes on March 5, 2021. The 6-foot-9 Rollins is a big target for the Cardinals.

Football:

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"Taylor is a big kid and he plays physical," Stefani said. "We are going to have to go with our strengths and I hope that is enough to handle the situation. Dufur is a little beat up too, but coach (Jack) Henderson always finds a way to get things done. It's a good program he has built through the years."

Joining Rollins in the backfield is Cedrick Dayandante. They give the Cardinals (3-3 overall, 3-2) a solid 1-2 punch.

"Cedrick he has good speed and can pop it to the outside," Stefani said. "Cedrick has

had better numbers when he and Taylor are in the backfield together and Taylor is leading the way. Taylor has good footwork. He can turn 4 yards into 10."

To keep the Rangers' defense honest, the Cardinals will throw in a few pass plays. Quarterback Carson Eynetich has a few nice targets, including 6-9 junior Bryce Rollins, who creates a mismatch against most teams.

The Cardinals will have to be mindful of Dufur running back Cody Phillips and quarterback/safety Joshua Taylor.

"Phillips is a strong runner and he will come at you pretty hard," Stefani said. "Dufur is lacking what they have had in the past — that big time speed.

Taylor is a solid ball player. He covers ground well and runs their offense pretty well."

The Cardinals also will have to be able to respond should the Rangers break free for a big play.

"As long as we can play disciplined and not let the big plays hurt us, we should be OK," Stefani said. "Sometimes we don't know what to do and everyone folds. We need to stay disciplined, and play our spots."

Also this week, Imbler visits Pilot Rock, and Stanfield plays at Umatilla on Oct. 14. And on Oct. 15, Heppner is at Grant Union, McLoughlin is at Vale, Weston-McEwen plays at Riverside and Prairie City/Burnt River is at Echo.

ON THE SLATE

Thursday, Oct. 14

- Prep football**
Hermiston at Kennewick, 7 p.m.
Stanfield at Umatilla, 7 p.m.
Imbler at Pilot Rock, 7 p.m.
- Prep volleyball**
Union at Weston-McEwen, 5 p.m.
Enterprise at Stanfield, 5 p.m.
Echo at Sherman, 5 p.m.
Condon at lone/Arlington, 5 p.m.
McLoughlin at Ontario, 5:30 p.m.
Heppner at Pilot Rock, 6 p.m.
Pendleton at Crook County, 6:30 p.m.
Hermiston at Chiawana, 7 p.m.
- Prep slowpitch softball**
Hermiston at Davis (2), 4 p.m.
- Prep girls soccer**
Pendleton at Redmond, 4:30 p.m.
- Prep boys soccer**
McLoughlin at Prescott, 4 p.m.
Redmond at Pendleton, 4:30 p.m.
- Prep cross-country**
Pendleton, Heppner, McLoughlin, Nixyaawii, Pilot Rock, Stanfield/Echo, Weston-McEwen, Umatilla at Riverside Runoff Invitational, TBD

Friday, Oct. 15

- Prep football**
Heppner at Grant Union, 6 p.m.
McLoughlin at Vale, 6 p.m.
Dufur at lone/Arlington, 7 p.m.
Weston-McEwen at Riverside, 7 p.m.
Prairie City/Burnt River at Echo, 7 p.m.
Redmond at Pendleton, 7 p.m.
- Prep volleyball**
Vale at Riverside, 1 p.m.
Nyssa at Umatilla, 2 p.m.
Burns at Irrigon, 5 p.m.
- Prep girls soccer**
Umatilla at Stanfield/Echo, 1 p.m.
Four Rivers at Riverside, 2 p.m.
Nyssa at Irrigon, 4 p.m.
- Boys prep soccer**
Nyssa at Irrigon, 2 p.m.
Four Rivers at Riverside, 6 p.m.
- College volleyball**
Blue Mountain at Columbia Basin, 6 p.m.
Eastern Oregon at Lewis-Clark State, 7 p.m.
- College men's soccer**
Oregon Tech at Eastern Oregon, 4 p.m.
- College women's soccer**
Oregon Tech at Eastern Oregon, 6:30 p.m.

Dawgs:

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"I felt we could have beaten Southridge had we executed better," Faeteete said. "Kennewick just got done playing a tough Kamiakin team. At the end of the day, football is football. Johnny and Joes and X's and O's. They are a good football

team. They have plenty of good athletes everywhere, and they are going to be hungry Thursday night. We are going to go in with our game plan, play team football and limit turnovers. Stopping the run is part of our thing. Their run game is good, and that opens up the deep throws."

The Lions had a couple of big plays last week, with Dayton Davis throwing for a touchdown, and

running 34 yards for another; and Myles Mayovsky returning a kickoff 94 yards for a score.

Defensively, Bronson Childs led the Lions with 10 tackles, while Simeon Howard added nine tackles, and Mayovsky had eight tackles and a pass breakup.

"We have to win first downs on defense and put pressure on the quarterback and take away their first

reads," Faeteete said. "They have a lot of depth. It will be finding that balance."

The Bulldogs have a few weapons of their own in quarterback Chase Elliott, who threw for 215 yards last week, and is one of the team's leading rushers. Toss in Sam Cadenas who blocked a punt and recovered the ball for a touchdown last week, and senior Caden

Hottman, who makes his presence known on both sides of the ball.

"Football is a team sport," Faeteete said. "Guys like Sam and Caden are able to stand out because their teammates help out. We expect Sam to play hard, that's the only way he knows how. The same with Caden and a lot of our kids. The kids are tough, but we are young. That's part of the learning curve."

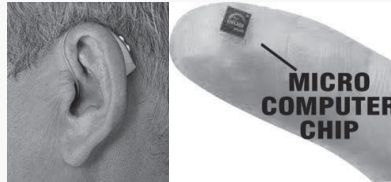
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