

Sports

OREGON DUCKS FOOTBALL

Ducks top Bruins; become bowl eligible

By Anne M. Peterson
AP Sports Writer

EUGENE — After both cleared concussion protocol this week, Justin Herbert and Dillon Mitchell found a groove for the Oregon Ducks. Herbert threw for 264 yards and two touchdowns and Oregon defeated UCLA 42-21 on Saturday in Bruins coach Chip Kelly's first game at Autzen Stadium since he left the Ducks following the 2012 season. Mitchell caught eight passes for 156 yards and two touchdowns for the Ducks (6-3, 3-2 Pac-12), who became bowl eligible. The victory also

snapped a two-game losing streak that had dropped the Ducks out of the rankings. "He's a guy that pushes me and I try to push him as much as I can," Herbert said about his chemistry with Mitchell. "He's made me a ton better it's great to have a guy like that in the locker room." With the loss, UCLA (2-7, 2-4) was guaranteed to finish below .500 in Kelly's first season with the Bruins. During Kelly's four-year tenure Oregon made four straight BCS bowl appearances and he was lauded as the architect of the Ducks'

up-tempo "blur offense." He was greeted with a warm ovation when he was introduced prior to the coin flip. But he didn't get nostalgic. "This wasn't about me. This was about a young team that's learning from their mistakes. A lot of teachable moments from this game," he said afterward. "I don't think that way. I'm a forward thinking guy. To me it's about the journey, it's not about thinking about memories or thinking about moments, it's about what's next." Oregon is on its third coach since Kelly's depart-

ure. The Ducks let go of Mark Helfrich following the 2016 season, then Willie Taggart stayed for less than a year en route to Florida State, and now Mario Cristobal leads the Ducks. Herbert started for Oregon after going through concussion protocol earlier this week. He had been under observation after a hard hit in the second half of the Arizona loss. Mitchell also cleared concussion protocol this past week. "I would say it's something special," Mitchell said of his connection with Herbert. "It's something we work on."

Broncos hold off Brigham Young

By Jason Chatraw
Associated Press

BOISE — Brett Rypien threw for 214 yards and a touchdown and the Boise State defense made a last-minute goal line stand as the Broncos held off upset-minded BYU 21-16 on Saturday night. Boise State (7-2), which has now won three straight against the Cougars, leaned heavily on its defense to secure the victory. The Broncos registered seven sacks and nine tackles for loss. Despite notching the victory, Boise State was sloppy on both sides of the ball. But Rypien didn't seem to mind. "To me, a win is a win no matter how you scratch it up," Rypien said. "Winning these close games builds more team chemistry and camaraderie more so than when we're blowing people out. But we're winning tough games, which is what we need coming down the

latter half of the season." BYU (4-5), which has never won in five tries in Boise, lost for the third time this season in a game decided by a touchdown or less. "We needed to make one more play than they did and we failed to do that," BYU coach Kalani Sitake said. "This one hurt a little bit." Boise State led 14-6 at halftime before trading touchdowns with the Cougars in the third quarter. But BYU made things interesting after a 41-yard field goal by Skyler Southam with 4:35 left cut the Boise State lead to 21-16. After the Cougars defense forced a Boise State punt with 2:05 remaining, Zach Wilson led the Cougars from their own 13 to the Boise State 2 with seven seconds remaining. However, on the final play, Tyson Maeva and Scale Igiehon combined for a sack on Wilson, preserving the victory.

Ware leads Trojans past Beavers 38-21

By Kyle Odegard
Associated Press

CORVALLIS — Southern California coach Clay Helton said his offensive line wanted to control the game. And there's no question they opened up massive holes, for which Helton was thankful in his first time this season handling play calling duties for the Trojans.

"It's so easy as a play caller when the run is going, because it sets up so many other opportunities. It set up our explosive plays and over 500 yards of offense," Helton added. Aca Cedric Ware rushed for 205 yards and three touchdowns, including 57-yard and 62-yard scoring sprints, as Southern California beat Oregon State 38-21

on Saturday night. "The O-line, they did their thing today. Every time the running game is going good, it's because of them," Ware said. JT Daniels threw for 177 yards and a touchdown and Vavae Malepeai added 101 yards rushing for the Trojans (5-4, 4-3 Pac-12), who snapped a two-game losing streak.

Jake Luton went 31-for-45 for 301 yards and a touchdown and Isaiah Hodgins had 129 yards receiving for the Beavers (2-7, 1-5). Southern California stormed out to a 21-0 lead thanks in part to a grinding 17-play first drive and a lightning strike 57-yarder from Ware on the Trojans' second possession.

Lakers stop Blazers

PORTLAND (AP) — It took LeBron James to help the Los Angeles Lakers snap a lengthy losing streak against Portland. James had 28 points

and seven assists and the Lakers defeated the Trail Blazers 114-110 Saturday night. Damian Lillard and CJ McCollum each scored 30 points for Portland.

Baker City Herald



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