

Sports

PAC-12 FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP GAME

Ducks hold off Trojans to claim second straight Pac-12 crown

By Greg Beacham
AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES — Oregon didn't win its Pac-12 division, and it only got into the championship game because Washington had to drop out. The Ducks hadn't won a game in nearly a month before they took the Coliseum field Friday night.

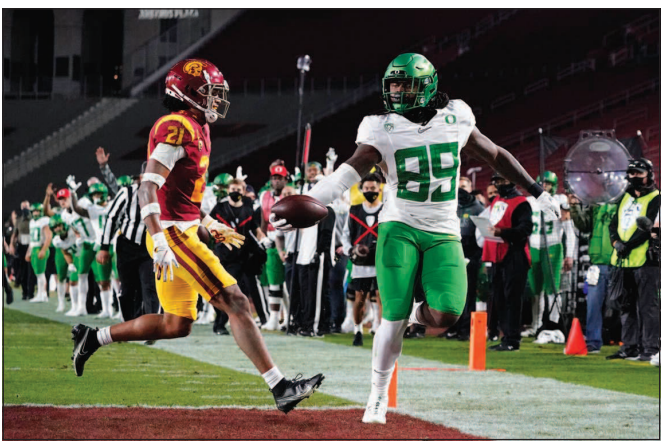
They still ended up celebrating amid confetti and streamers in their rivals' empty stadium.

After yet another display of the big-game poise their West Coast foes so often lack, the Ducks are back-to-back conference champions.

Anthony Brown threw two touchdown passes in his unusual Oregon debut, Jamal Hill made his second interception with 2:47 to play, and the Ducks won their second straight Pac-12 title with a 31-24 victory over No. 13 Southern California.

Defensive end Kayvon Thibodeaux, the game's MVP with five tackles and a sack, jauntily wore two hats during the postgame party to symbolize the Ducks' two championships.

"We fought this year," said Thibodeaux, a Los Angeles native. "So many trials and tribulations. So many things that kept popping up. So many excuses we could have made, and we didn't flinch. We stuck to the script and got it done."



Ashley Landis/Associated Press

Oregon tight end D.J. Johnson (89) scores a touchdown ahead of Southern California safety Isaiah Pola-Mao (21) during the second quarter of Friday night's Pac-12 Conference championship game in Los Angeles.

Tyler Shough also threw two touchdown passes for the Ducks (4-2), who claimed the Pac-12's New Year's Six bowl berth despite having more losses than USC, Washington or Colorado. The Trojans were one win away from an unbeaten regular season before the Ducks took charge with a superb defensive effort and timely offense throughout the night.

"We were itching to get back to our kind of football, and we did it tonight," coach Mario Cristobal said. "(We) really just came out with an attitude, came out with a purpose and a mission."

Jaylon Redd, Hunter Kampmoyer, DJ Johnson and Travis Dye caught TD passes for the Ducks, who got into the title game after consecu-

tive losses only because the Huskies had to drop out Monday due to coronavirus problems.

Despite losing its two previous games to Oregon State and California, Oregon seized the opportunity to continue its domination of the Trojans on the way to the school's sixth Pac-12 championship in 12 years and its record fourth championship game victory.

When Thibodeaux was asked whether a championship won in 2020 should have an asterisk, he replied: "Everybody who's not a winner is going to say that, so who are we leaving it up to? The winners or the losers?"

Kedon Slovis passed for 320 yards with two touchdowns and three interceptions for the Trojans (5-1), whose perfect

Oregon to play Iowa State in Fiesta Bowl Jan. 2

GLENDAL, Ariz. (AP) — Iowa State lost the Big 12 championship game, yet still earned a spot in its first major bowl game.

Oregon won the Pac-12 title after being a late replacement and is back in a New Year's Six bowl for the second straight season.

Two different roads to what could be another great Fiesta Bowl when No. 12 Iowa State faces No. 25 Oregon on Jan. 2.

season ended with their fourth loss in their last five meetings with Oregon. The sophomore quarterback had X-rays on his shoulder after the game.

USC fell behind 14-0 in the opening minutes after two interceptions from Slovis led to TD drives by the Ducks — and unlike every other game this season, the Trojans never caught up.

"There's a lot of hurt souls in our locker room right now," USC coach Clay Helton said.

Oregon had a 31-17 lead with less than 10 minutes to play, but Bru McCoy caught a TD pass on fourth down for the Trojans before they got the ball back with 4:43 left.

OREGON STATE FOOTBALL SEASON FINALE

Beavers can't slow Sun Devils

By Gary Horowitz
Associated Press

CORVALLIS — Jayden Daniels passed for a touchdown and had two of Arizona State's six rushing touchdowns in the Sun Devils' 46-33 victory over Oregon State on Saturday night.

Following a 70-7 blowout of rival Arizona, the Sun Devils' offense was explosive once again in the season finale amassing 514 total yards.

"We should have been 4-0. That's motivation for next year," said Daniels, who was 8 of 15 for 139 yards, and ran for 83 yards on six carries. "You have those thoughts on what could have been."

Rachad White had 158 of the Sun Devils' 375 yards rushing on just 13 carries, including runs of 51 and 55 yards.

Despite having three games canceled this season, White said "the excitement was still there for all of us."

Daniels' 53-yard touchdown run early in the third quarter gave the Sun Devils a 33-15 lead.

Jack Colletto, who the Beavers often utilized at quarterback in short-yardage situations, scored on an 11-yard run to cut the lead to 33-21 midway through the third quarter.

Back came the Sun Devils (2-2 Pac-12), who scored on White's 45-yard run to extend the lead to 40-21.

Oregon State (2-5) stayed within striking distance on Chance Nolan's 24-yard touchdown pass to Tre'Shaun Harrison late in the third quarter, cutting the deficit to 40-27.

But wide receiver Ricky Pearsal scored on a 29-yard reverse early in the fourth quarter to give Arizona State a 46-27 advantage.

OREGON MEN'S BASKETBALL

Ducks rout Pilots

EUGENE (AP) — Chris Duarte scored 21 points, LJ Figueroa added 15 and Oregon walloped Portland 80-41 on Saturday, winning its sixth straight game.

Portland had been averaging nearly 82 points a game, beat Oregon State 87-86 in OT on Dec. 10, and rode a five-game win streak into Matthew Knight Arena for the afternoon clash.

The Pilots (5-2) managed just 12-for-56 shooting (21%) against Oregon with four assists, season lows.

The Ducks, shooting 50% at halftime (14-for-28) cranked it up to 64% shooting in the second half, making 18 of 28.

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Youth Pastor Silas Moe
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Sat 8 AM at Day Chapel
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Baker City Sunday Mass 9:30 am
St. Therese in Halfway 2 pm Sat
St. Anthony's in North Powder 11:30 Sun
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2nd & 4th Sundays, Morning Prayer
5th Sunday, Morning Prayer
2177 First Street • Baker City
Entrance on 1st Street
Corner Church & First Streets
541-523-4812

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541-523-4812
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Live Streaming on Facebook
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firstlutheranbakercity@gmail.com

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