

Sports

FIESTA BOWL

Mistake-prone Ducks fall to Iowa State, 34-17

GLENDALÉ, Ariz. (AP) — The youngest team in the FBS, mistake-prone Oregon looked it in a 34-17 loss to No. 12 Iowa State in the Fiesta Bowl on Saturday.

The Ducks (4-3, CFP 25) committed a season-high five turnovers, including a muffed kickoff return, had a touchdown negated by a penalty and held the ball for only 17:12. They were 0 for 6 on third down.

“It is a game of execution,” coach Mario Cristobal said. “We weren’t able to execute and get done what we needed to get done.”

Down 28-17 at the half, Oregon’s six second-half possessions ended punt-fumble-punt-fumble-punt-interception.

Iowa State (9-3, CFP 10) turned the first fumble into a field goal midway through the third quarter and blunted later drives after Anthony Brown fumbled and Tyler Shough threw an interception.

“The things you can’t compromise in a game like this — you can’t compromise your physicality, your execution, your focus and your effort,” Cristobal said. “Certainly when you turn the ball over like we did, hard to overcome.”

The Ducks rotated Shough and Brown at quarterback, an orchestrated strategy that Cristobal said he believed gave the Ducks their best chance. Both threw two touchdown passes in a victory over Southern California in the Pac-12 title game.

Redshirt freshman Shough,



Iowa State running back Breece Hall (28) lowers his shoulder in a push for the end zone during the Fiesta Bowl on Saturday, Jan. 2, in Glendale, Arizona.

one of 16 Oregon players who made their first career start in the regular season, completed 7 of 9 passes for 79 yards and an interception.

Senior transfer Brown entered early in the second quarter and played most of the rest of the game, completing 12 of 19 passes for 147 yards. He rushed for two touchdowns and lost a fumble.

“He (Brown) developed a hot hand, and we stayed with the hot hand,” Cristobal said. “That’s what transpired. Nothing else.”

Both are eligible to play next season because the NCAA granted every player another year of eligibility this season.

“It’s not up to me who plays,” Shough said. “I’m just trying to

control what I can control and do my best.”

The bowl experience could be construed as a bonus for the young Ducks, who had the highest percentage of underclassmen (74%) in the FBS while winning their second Pac-12 title. Four Ducks, including top NFL offensive line prospect Penei Sewell, opted out of the season.

Iowa State had the ball for 21 minutes, 29 seconds of the first half.

“It’s very frustrating to be on the offense side seeing them run out a full quarter,” wide receiver Mycah Pittman said. “The whole 2020 year was kind of up and down. It’s a year of very unfortunate things.”

Oregon linebacker Isaac Slade-Matautia was ejected for targeting with 3:08 remaining in the first half when he struck quarterback Brock Purdy with his helmet as Purdy ran for a first down.

The first costly turnover came after Iowa State took a 21-14 lead on Purdy’s run with 1:44 left in the half. Oregon’s DJ Johnson missed while attempting to make an over-the-shoulder catch of a short kickoff near his sideline and Iowa State recovered. Reece Hall scored on a 1-yard run 17 seconds later for a 28-14 edge.

PAC-12 MEN’S BASKETBALL

OSU loses to Cardinal, 81-71

CORVALLIS (AP) — Oscar da Silva had 31 points, 10 rebounds and four assists, Jaiden Delaire added 19 points and nine boards and Stanford beat Oregon State 81-71 on Monday in a rescheduled contest.

Da Silva’s three-point play capped a 12-2 run to open the second half for a 10-point lead. Oregon State twice led by two points midway through the half, but da Silva and Delaire combined to score every point during a 10-0 run for a 77-64 lead with 2:11 remaining.

Da Silva was 11 of 16 from the field, getting his eighth career double-double. Delaire was 7 of 9 at the free-throw line to help Stanford make 73% of its 30 attempts.

Freshman reserve Michael O’Connell set season highs with 12 points, seven rebounds and eight assists for Stanford (6-3, 2-1 Pac-12). O’Connell, who did not turn it over, entered after starting guard Bryce Wills left the game early with an injury.

Jarod Lucas led Oregon State (5-4, 1-2) with 22 points and five 3-pointers. Gianni Hunt added a career-high 17 points and four makes from distance. Ethan Thompson was 3-of-12 shooting from the field for 10 points.

Stanford, coming off a 73-56 loss at No. 21 Oregon, is scheduled to play Washington on Thursday and Washington State on Saturday. Oregon State plays at Utah on Wednesday night.

Oregon pulls away from Stanford late

By Steve Mims
Associated Press

EUGENE — Senior guard Chris Duarte scored 23 points and No. 21 Oregon defeated Stanford 73-56 on Saturday night for its eighth straight win.

Eugene Omoruyi added 15 points, and LJ Figueroa had 13 points and 12 rebounds. Eric Williams scored 12 for the Ducks (8-1, 3-0 Pac-12).

Bryce Wills and Spencer Jones had 12 points apiece to pace the Cardinal (5-3, 1-1), who had their four-game winning streak snapped.

Stanford took a 46-45 lead on a basket by Wills with 9:45 to play before Omoruyi and Aaron Estrada hit consecutive 3-pointers for the Ducks.

Amauri Hardy added a 3 for Oregon, and Omoruyi made one of his own to put the Ducks ahead 57-51 with 6:21 left. Duarte later scored five straight points to give Oregon a 62-53 lead with 4:26 to go.

Oregon’s 28 straight home wins are the second-most in school history and tied for the second-longest active streak in the NCAA. Oregon shot 42.4% from the field, but was 10 for 19 on 3-pointers in the second half.

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