

Oregon State beats Stanford to become bowl eligible

■ **First time**
Beavers have had six wins since 2013

By **GARY HOROWITZ**

Associated Press

CORVALLIS — Chance Nolan passed for 257 yards and two touchdowns, and ran for a score, leading Oregon State to a 35-14 win over Stanford on Saturday, Nov. 13.

The victory makes Oregon State (6-4, 4-3 Pac-12) bowl eligible for the first time since 2013, and snapped an 11-game losing streak against the Cardinal.

"It's been a long time coming, man," Oregon State senior linebacker Andrzej Hughes-Murray said of becoming bowl eligible. "I'm happy for my guys and happy for coach (Jonathan) Smith. And happy for myself, too."

Smith, who was hired in 2018 to coach at his alma mater, inherited a team that was coming off a 1-11 season.

"There's no question this is big," said Smith, who was the starting quarterback during Oregon State's 2000 Fiesta Bowl season. "(Win) number six is big. I'm not going to dance around that. We've got a couple more games that can mean a whole lot."

Nolan completed 19 of 25 passes, including a 67-yard touchdown to Trevon Bradford that increased the lead to 21-0 early in the third quarter.

Injuries have taken a toll on Stanford (3-7, 2-6), which has lost five games in a row for the first time under coach David Shaw.

Freshman Ari Patu struggled to get the Cardinal's passing game going in his first career start, completing 7 of 14



Leon Neuschwander/The Oregonian-TNS

Oregon State's Deshaun Fenwick (No. 5) runs the ball as the Beavers face the Stanford Cardinal in a Pac-12 football game on Saturday, Nov. 13, 2021, at Reser Stadium in Corvallis. Oregon State won 35-14.

for 51 yards with a touchdown and interception before leaving midway through the third quarter with an undisclosed injury. Stanford used three quarterbacks in the game.

"Better fight from our guys this week," said Shaw, whose team was coming off a 52-7 loss to Utah. "We're not just looking for better, we're trying to win."

Oregon State's defense made strides after giving up a total of 76 points in its previous two games, losses at California and Colorado.

Smith fired defensive coordinator Tim Tibesar on Sunday, handing the reins to linebackers coach Trent Bray on an interim basis. The Beavers forced three turnovers, including interceptions by safety Jaydon Grant and cornerback Rejzohn Wright. Stanford was limited to 230 total yards.

"Better energy, yeah, 100 percent," Hughes-Murray said.

"We talked about earlier this week just letting it rip. Just going out, cutting loose and just playing. That's what we went out there and did."

The Beavers weren't exactly facing an offensive juggernaut. Stanford managed just 168 total yards in the lost to Utah, which was the program's most lopsided defeat since 2003.

Oregon State, which amassed 475 total yards, opened the scoring in the first quarter on Nolan's 4-yard touchdown run, capping a 16-play, 74-yard drive.

Jack Colletto's 2-yard touchdown run on a direct snap with 17 seconds left in the first half gave the Beavers a 14-0 advantage at the break. Stanford managed just 74 total yards in the opening half and its best drive ended on a blocked field goal attempt from 55 yards.

Oregon State increased its lead to 21-0 early in the third quarter when Bradford turned

a short pass into a 67-yard touchdown.

Stanford answered with Patu's 8-yard touchdown pass to tight end Benjamin Yurosek on fourth and 2, cutting the lead to 21-7.

B.J. Baylor's 6-yard touchdown run late in the third quarter, and a 5-yard touchdown pass to tight end Teagan Quitariano early in the third quarter gave Oregon State a 35-7 lead.

The takeaway

Stanford: The Cardinal are guaranteed to have their second losing season since Shaw become head coach in 2011. Stanford was 4-8 in 2019.

Patu became the first true freshman to start at quarterback for Stanford since John Paye in 1983. He had played in just one previous game, attempting two passes against Utah. Tanner McKee, who made six starts this season and had 14 touchdown passes, suffered a leg injury in the Washington game Oct. 30 and is out indefinitely.

Oregon State: Baylor became the first 1,000-yard rusher for Oregon State since Jermar Jefferson in 2018. Baylor ran for 80 yards on 23 carries and scored his 12th rushing touchdown of the season.

The Beavers last bowl appearance was a victory over Boise State in the 2013 Hawaii Bowl.

Up next

Stanford: The Cardinal host California next Saturday, Nov. 20.

Oregon State: The Beavers host Arizona State next Saturday, Nov. 20 in their final home game of the season.

POWDER VALLEY FOOTBALL

Badgers rout Bobcats, advance to semifinals

By **DAVIS CARBAUGH**

The (La Grande) Observer

NORTH POWDER — The Powder Valley High School football team is on to the Class 1A state semifinals, thanks to a dominant effort in a win over Myrtle Point. The Badgers came away with a 36-0 win over the Bobcats in the quarterfinals at home on Friday, Nov. 12.

"That was the best football game we've played all season on both sides of the ball," head coach Josh Cobb said.

Powder Valley started the game on a high note, scoring on a five-yard quarterback keeper from senior Reece Dixon early in the game.

After both teams exchanged possessions back and forth, the Badgers were able to add two late touchdowns in the second quarter and hold a 22-0 lead heading into halftime. While the game still felt in reach for Myrtle through the first two quarters, the Badgers silenced any doubts in the second half.

Early in the third quarter, a 63-yard run by Dixon set up a first down at the Myrtle Point 15-yard line. Dixon finished the drive with a seven-yard touchdown run to extend the lead to 30-0 with 7:38 remaining in the third quarter.

Cobb noted that the team prepared for the weather conditions, switching to a stronger emphasis on the run game.

"The field was a little muddy, so our receivers were a little slow on their cuts," he said. "We just practiced our ground game because it's really hard to win in November if you can't run the ball."

Powder Valley's defense was strong throughout the game, holding the Bobcats scoreless. Holding a 30-0 lead at the end of three quarters, it was Powder Valley's game to lose.

"We had a custom-made defensive plan for this team because they're so prolific in their passing," Cobb said.

Senior running back Case Olson put the icing on the cake with a 22-yard touchdown run in the fourth quarter to give the Badgers a 36-0 lead. Powder Valley would hold onto the 36-point deficit and ride off with a quarterfinal victory.

The win over Myrtle Point sets up a semifinal rematch pitting Powder Valley against St. Paul on Saturday, Nov. 20 at 6 p.m. at Caldera High School in Bend. The Badgers outlasted the Buckaroos 50-40 on Sept. 17. Powder Valley is just two wins away from bringing home its first state title since 2003.

"We're playing better ball than when we played St. Paul the first time, but so is St. Paul," Cobb said. "It's going to be a good game."

Eastern knocks off Southern Oregon, finishes season on high note

By **DAVIS CARBAUGH**

The (La Grande) Observer

LA GRANDE — It has been a brutal season for the Eastern Oregon University football team, but things ended on a high note in the final game of the year on Saturday, Nov. 13.

The Mountaineers defeated the Raiders 14-10 on a last-second touchdown to end a six-game losing streak and send its seniors out with a victory in their final game in blue and gold. Senior quarterback Kai Quinn came away with a flawless game-winning drive to cement his legacy at Eastern.

It was another low-scoring affair, with Eastern's defense making several key stops throughout the matchup.

The game was scoreless through the first quarter, but a 12-yard touchdown pass

from SOU quarterback Blake Ascitutto to Ben Graziani put the Raiders up 7-0 just seconds into the second quarter.

Eastern's defense kept the team in contention midway through the second quarter, when redshirt-freshman Blaine Chavez intercepted Ascitutto deep in EOU territory. Just when it looked like Eastern might tie the game thanks to a deep completion to the SOU two-yard line by senior Isaiah Thomas, the drive eventually stalled. Kicker Zachary Cahill missed from short range in a windy afternoon game as the Mountaineers remained scoreless.

The Mountaineers were unable to find the end zone in the first half as Southern went into halftime leading 7-0.

Midway through the third quarter, Quinn took matters into his own hands with an

eight-yard touchdown run to tie the game.

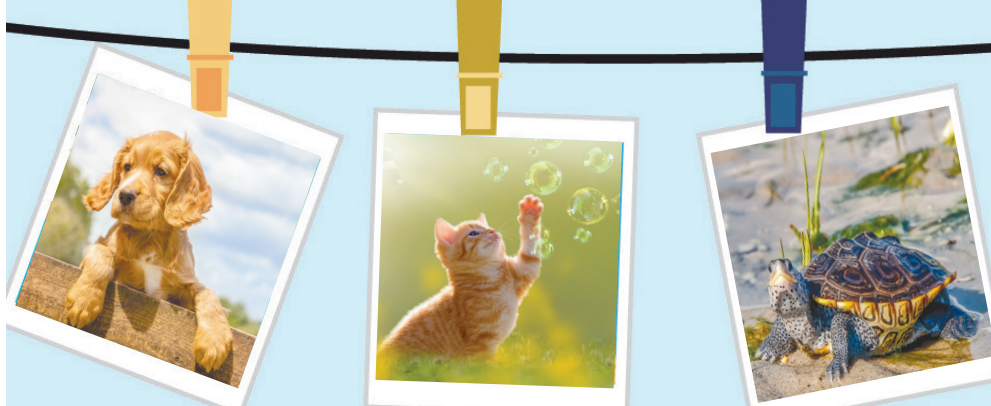
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