



Serena Morones for The Oregonian-TNS

Oregon State's revon Bradford (No. 8) gets wrapped up by Oregon's Mykael Wright (2) as the Beavers visited the No. 11 Ducks in their annual college football rivalry game on Saturday, Nov. 27, 2021, at Autzen Stadium in Eugene. Oregon won 38-29.

Championship Week Primer: CFP spots, bowl slots are at stake

■ Oregon plays Utah for Pac- 12 title Friday

By ERIC OLSON

AP College Football Writer

Conference champions will be crowned, bowl selection pecking orders will be locked in and more clarity will emerge about which teams will and won't be among the four picked for the College Football Playoff. It's Championship Week, and while the matchups for the conference title games Friday and Saturday include many of the usual suspects, there are some joining the party for the first time — or the first time in a while.

Start with Michigan, which had zero appearances in the previous 11 Big Ten championship games. The Wolverines are in after knocking off Ohio State to win the East Division. Their opponent, Iowa, is in for the second time and the first since 2015.

Oklahoma State clinched its first appearance in the Big 12 championship game a week before its breakthrough win over six-time defending league champion Oklahoma.

Wake Forest is back in the Atlantic Coast Conference game for the first time since 2006.

In the Group of Five, UTSA will make its debut in the Conference USA game, Kent State is back in the Mid-American Conference game for the first time since 2012 and Utah State is in the Mountain West game for the first time since 2013.

A rundown of the games, with AP ranking:

PAC-12

No. 10 Oregon (10-2, 7-2) vs. No. 14 Utah (9-3, 8-1), Friday, 8 p.m. EST (ABC)
Where: Allegiant Stadium, Las Vegas.

Last meeting: Utah won 38-7 on Nov. 20.

Series: Oregon leads 23-11.

Stakes: Winner to Rose Bowl.

Notable: Oregon is first team to make title game three straight times and will be appearing for fifth time. Ducks are 4-0 in the game, including a 37-15 win over Utah in 2019.

BIG 12

No. 9 Baylor (10-2, 7-2) vs. No. 5 Oklahoma State (11-1, 8-1), Saturday, noon EST (ABC)

Where: AT&T Stadium, Arlington, Texas.

Last meeting: Oklahoma State won 24-14 on Oct. 2.

Series: Oklahoma State leads 22-18.

Stakes: Oklahoma State to CFP or Sugar Bowl if it wins; Baylor to Sugar Bowl if it wins.

Notable: Cowboys held Baylor to season lows of 107 rushing yards and 280 total yards in their previous meeting.

SEC

No. 4 Alabama (11-1, 7-1) vs. No. 1 Georgia (12-0, 8-0), Saturday, 4 p.m. EST (CBS)

Where: Mercedes-Benz Stadium, Atlanta.

Last meeting: Alabama won 41-24 on Oct. 17, 2020.

Series: Alabama leads 41-25-4.

Stakes: Winner to CFP, and loser could be in line for CFP spot depending on score margin and results of other conference championship games.

ACC

No. 18 Wake Forest (10-2, 7-1) vs. No. 17 Pittsburgh (10-2, 7-1), Saturday, 8 p.m. EST (ABC)

Where: Bank of America Stadium, Charlotte, North Carolina.

Last meeting: Pittsburgh won 34-13 on Nov. 17, 2018.

Series: Pittsburgh leads 1-0.

Stakes: Winner to Peach Bowl or Fiesta Bowl.

Notable: In the team's only previous meeting, current QB Kenny Pickett and the Panthers beat the Demon Deacons to clinch a spot in the 2018 ACC title game, where they lost to Clemson.

BIG TEN

No. 15 Iowa (10-2, 7-2) vs. No. 2 Michigan (11-1, 8-1), Saturday, 8 p.m. EST (Fox)

Where: Lucas Oil Stadium, Indianapolis.

Last meeting: Michigan won 10-3 on Oct. 5, 2019.

Series: Michigan leads 42-15-4.

Stakes: Michigan to CFP if it wins; Iowa in line for Rose Bowl bid if it wins.

Notable: Michigan's Aidan Hutchinson and David Ojabo are 1-2 in the Big Ten in sacks with a combined 24; Iowa is 94th nationally in sacks allowed.

GROUP OF FIVE GAMES CONFERENCE USA

Western Kentucky (8-4, 7-1) vs. UTSA (11-1, 7-1), Friday, 7 p.m. EST (CBS Sports Network)

Where: Alamodome, San Antonio.

Last meeting: UTSA won 52-46 on Oct. 9.

Series: Tied 1-1.

Stakes: Both teams will go

to a bowl.

Notable: Western Kentucky has won seven straight seasons losing to the Roadrunners, all by at least 15 points.

MAC

Northern Illinois (8-4, 6-2) vs. Kent State (7-5, 6-2), Saturday, noon EST (ESPN)

Where: Ford Field, Detroit.

Last meeting: Kent State won 52-47 on Nov. 3.

Series: Northern Illinois leads 21-8.

Stakes: Both teams will go to a bowl.

Notable: Huskies have won seven of the nation-leading nine one-score games they've played. The loss to Kent State was one of the two they didn't.

MOUNTAIN WEST

Utah State (9-3, 6-2) vs. No. 19 San Diego State (11-1, 7-1), Saturday, 3 p.m. EST (Fox)

Where: Dignity Health Sports Park, Carson, California.

Last meeting: San Diego State won 38-7 on Oct. 31, 2020.

Series: San Diego State leads 13-2.

Stakes: Winner goes to Jimmy Kimmel LA Bowl.

Notable: Utah State, picked fifth in the Mountain Division, won six games after trailing by double digits and went 6-0 on the road.

SUN BELT

Appalachian State (10-2, 7-1) vs. No. 20 Louisiana-Lafayette (11-1, 8-0), Saturday, 3:30 p.m. EST (ESPN)

Where: Cajun Field, Lafayette, Louisiana.

Last meeting: Louisiana-Lafayette won 41-13 on Oct. 12.

Series: Appalachian State leads 8-2.

Stakes: Both teams will go to bowls.

Notable: This will be the third time these teams have met in the four-year history of the game. App State won the previous two.

AMERICAN ATHLETIC

No. 16 Houston (11-1, 8-0) vs. No. 3 Cincinnati (12-0, 8-0), Saturday, 4 p.m. EST (ABC)

Where: Nippert Stadium, Cincinnati.

Last meeting: Cincinnati won 38-10 on Nov. 7, 2020.

Series: Houston leads 15-12.

Stakes: Cincinnati is in line for CFP spot if it wins; Houston will go to bowl win or lose.

Notable: The defending champion Bearcats have won 15 straight against conference opponents and 19 of their last 21.

Trail Blazers snap 3-game skid with 110-92 win over Detroit

By ANNE M. PETERSON

Associated Press

PORTLAND — Ben McLemore found out when he came to the Moda Center on Tuesday afternoon, Nov. 30 that he'd likely be seeing playing time for the Trail Blazers.

With Portland missing several players, McLemore had 17 points off the bench and the Blazers handed the Detroit Pistons their seventh straight loss with a 110-92 victory.

McLemore, a veteran who joined the Blazers in the offseason, had played in just six previous games with the team.

"It's something that I've built up over the course of the years, of just having a switch on when they tell me, 'Hey, tonight's the night,'" McLemore said.

CJ McCollum led all scorers with 28 points for the Blazers, who snapped a three-game losing streak. Portland has won 10 straight at home for the first time since 2009.

Detroit rookie Cade Cunningham finished with a season-high 26 points, including five 3-pointers. The Pistons have won just four games this season.

Both teams were playing the second of back-to-backs. The Blazers fell 129-107 at



Steph Chambers/Getty Images-TNS

The Portland Trail Blazers' CJ McCollum, left, drives against the Detroit Pistons' Jerami Grant during the first quarter at Moda Center on Tuesday, Nov. 30, 2021, in Portland.

the Utah Jazz on Monday night, while the Pistons were coming off a 110-106 loss at the Los Angeles Lakers.

"When adversity hits with a young team you either join the fight or you step back. I thought tonight we stepped back, where in Los Angeles we joined the fight and competed even when things were going bad," Pistons coach Dwane Casey said.

BAKER MIDDLE SCHOOL INTRAMURAL BOYS BASKETBALL

BMS boys hoops teams in action

Baker City Herald

The Baker Middle School intramural boys basketball season continued with two intrasquad games last week.

In game 1, Coach Jimmy Howerton's team beat Coach Bryan Dalke's team 34-23.

Logan Crawford had a great game for Howerton's team, scoring 18 points and making a pair of 3-pointers.

The rest of the scoring was done by Dallin Stocks, who had eight points, Dean Jobs with six, and Kyran Payne with 2 points.

Tristan Klecker was the leading scorer for Dalke's team with nine points,

followed by Isaac Berry with six, Lane Wever with four, and 2 points each from Caedmon Myers and Caden Ballou.

In game 2, Howerton's team won a game that was decided in the last minute by the score of 36-34.

Dalke's team got off to a quick start and led 14-2 at the end of the first quarter. Both teams scored seven points in the second quarter.

In the second half, Howerton's team outscored Dalke's team 27-13. Howerton's team was led by Damien Knie with a season-high 23 points. After a slow start, Knie pretty much took over the game with 14 points in

the second half.

Logan Crawford hit a big 3-pointer in the fourth quarter to tie the game at 30. Crawford scored five points, Nolan Briels had four points, and both Daniel Maldonado and Dallin Stocks had two points.

Dalke's team was led in scoring by Tyler Wirth with 12 points and William Spriet with 10 points. Johndale Buniag hit two 3-pointers and finished with six points, Tristan Klecker had four points and Isaac Berry scored two points.

Both teams are improving so much and it has made for some great games, Dalke said.

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