

Bulldog volleyball sweeps Ontario Tigers

BY IAN CRAWFORD
icrawford@bakercityherald.com

The Baker volleyball team remained unbeaten in Greater Oregon League play by sweeping Ontario on Thursday, Sept. 29 at Ontario.

"We played very well against Ontario," Baker coach Ali Abrego said.

Baker dominated, with set scores of 25-14, 25-7, 25-7, to improve to 12-3 overall, 3-0 in league. The Bulldogs have won eight of their last nine matches.

"The first game (against Ontario) reflects our own errors, and the second and third sets reflect us focusing on what we can control and eliminating those errors," Abrego said. "We had a lot of fun during the Ontario game, and were even able to try out some different lineups. We've been focusing on communication and cohesiveness, and that's exactly what won us that game."

"The girls played extremely well collectively, and we're really focused on controlling the tempo as we move forward into this week with La Grande," Abrego said.

Baker also won the JV match at Ontario.

The Bulldogs travel to La Grande on Thursday, Oct. 6 for a league match against the Tigers starting at 6:30 p.m. Baker then heads to Burns on Saturday, Oct. 8 for a nonleague match at 2:30 p.m.

BOISE STATE FOOTBALL

Boise State, with new starting QB Green, beats Aztecs

BOISE (AP) — Quarterback Taylen Green and George Holani each had more than 100 yards rushing and a pair of touchdowns, and Boise State shut out San Diego State in the second half and rolled to a 35-13 victory on Friday night, Sept. 30.

It was Boise State's first game without former starting quarterback Hank Bachmeier, who entered the transfer portal on Tuesday, Sept. 27, and former offensive coordinator Tim Plough, who was fired after last week's 27-10 loss to UTEP. Former Boise State head coach Dirk Koetter is now the Broncos offensive coordinator.

Bachmeier started 29 games over a four-year career, throwing for more than 6,600 yards and 41 touchdowns. Yet he completed a career-low 54% of his passes for fewer than 500 yards in four games this season.

Green finished with 105 yards rushing on eight carries and completed 5 of 10 passes for 48 yards with one interception. Holani had 131 yards rushing on 17 carries.

The Aztecs jumped out to a 13-0 halftime lead before Green ran for a 17-yard touchdown. Holani's 12-yarder gave the Broncos the lead for good. Green's 39-yard TD run stretched the Broncos' lead to 28-13, and Holani capped the scoring with a 29-yard scoring run.

Ashton Jeanty added 82 yards rushing that included a 32-yard touchdown for Boise State (3-2, 2-0 Mountain West Conference).

Tyrell Shavers had a 36-yard punt return for a touchdown midway through the second quarter for San Diego State (2-3, 0-1).

It was Boise State's first win over San Diego State since 2017.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Nix has 4 TDs as Ducks romp over Stanford

BY ANNE M. PETERSON

Associated Press

EUGENE — When Oregon quarterback Bo Nix took off running in the third quarter, teammate Chase Cota was cheering for him to keep going.

Nix indeed kept going, and going — all the way for an 80-yard touchdown.

"I remember when I saw him get out and he was like 40 yards down the field, I'm like 'Please don't slide, you got the touchdown!'" Cota said. "Sure enough, he made it."

Nix threw for two touchdowns and ran for two more — including that 80-yarder — and No. 13 Oregon won its fourth straight game with a 45-27 victory over Stanford on Saturday night, Oct. 1.

The Ducks (4-1, 2-0 Pac-12) have won 22 consecutive games at Autzen Stadium. They have not dropped a game this season after the opener against Georgia.

"A lot of positives we can take from this game, but also a lot of moments for growth," Oregon coach Dan Lanning said. "We're trying to be the best version of us, and we're not quite there yet."

Stanford (1-3, 0-3) hasn't won since its opener against Colgate. It was the Cardinal's third straight game against an opponent in the AP Top 25. They also fell to USC and Washington.

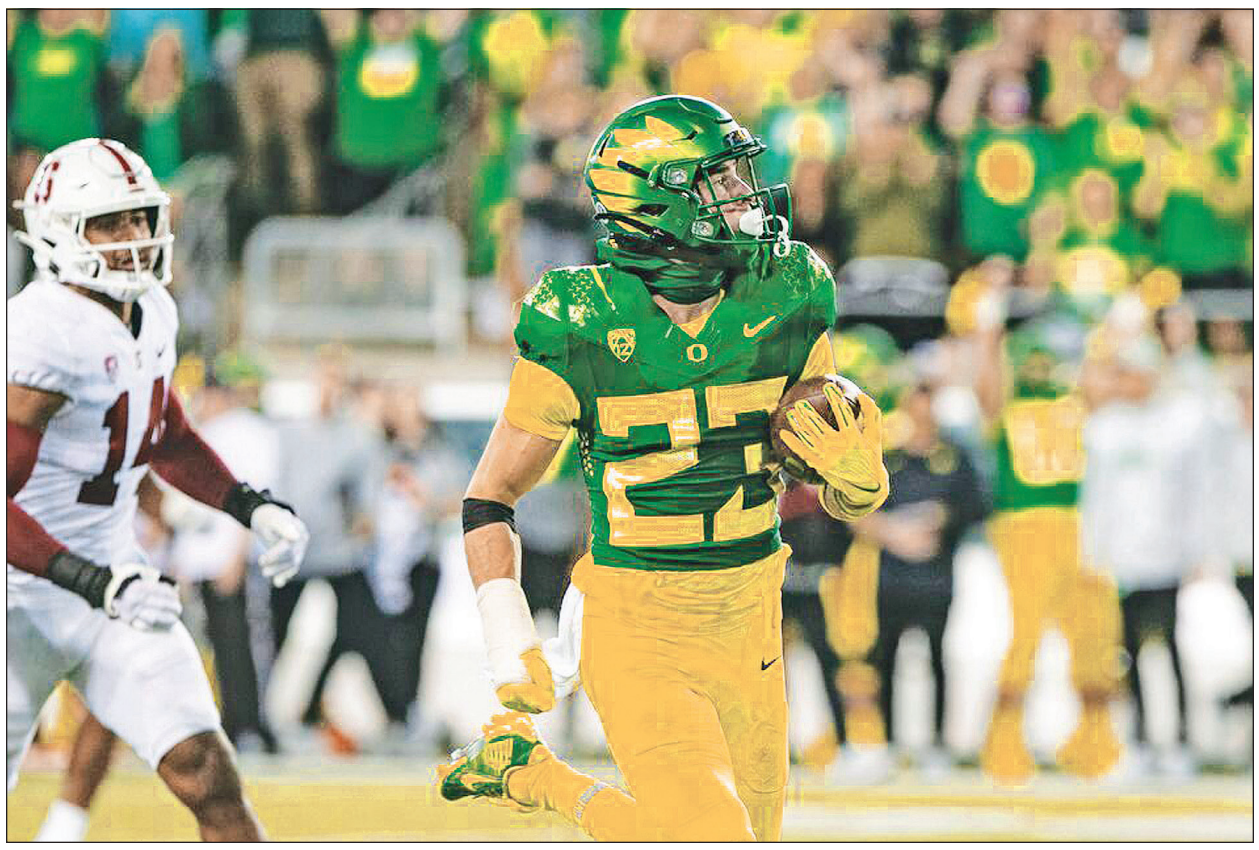
"Obviously not the result we wanted tonight. Didn't play well enough to get the result," Cardinal coach David Shaw said. "We had a couple of guys get banged up, we were down to one of our backup tackles before the game started, and during the game. That's not an excuse. Our guys came out, they fought hard. Gotta find a way to start better, start faster."

Nix completed 16 of 29 passes for 161 yards and led Oregon with a career-best 141 yards rushing on six carries. Oregon had 351 yards on the ground compared to Stanford's 127.

Cardinal quarterback Tanner McKee threw for 166 yards and two touchdowns. Casey Filkins rushed for a score and caught another TD pass.

The Ducks appeared to score on their opening drive of the game, but the pass from Nix to Kris Hutson was called back because of an ineligible player downfield. They settled for a 38-yard field goal from Camden Lewis.

Before the end of the first quarter, Nix hit Cota with a short pass and he sprinted into the end zone for a 48-



Sean Meagher/The Oregonian

Oregon wide receiver Chase Cota (No. 23) takes a reception 49 yards for a touchdown as the No. 13 Ducks face the Stanford Cardinal in a Pac-12 college football game at Autzen Stadium in Eugene, Oregon, on Saturday, Oct. 1, 2022.

yard touchdown.

Joshua Karty kicked a 23-yard field goal for Stanford to narrow the margin to 10-3. But the Ducks answered with Nix's 10-yard touchdown pass to Troy Franklin.

Linebacker Noah Sewell pretended to fly in celebration after running back a fumble 21 yards to set up Nix's 4-yard touchdown run. Jordan James added a 1-yard touchdown as time expired in the half to give the Ducks a 31-3 lead.

While the Ducks had firm control of the game by the break, their opening half was marked by 10 penalties for 90 yards. Oregon finished with 14 yards for 135 yards.

"We wanted to come out tonight and play a complete game and perfect game. I don't think we did that, to be honest," Oregon defensive back Bennett Williams said. "Yeah, we got the win, but there's a lot of things that we got to go back and go to the drawing

board and then fix up. That's really the goal every week, right?"

McKee found Filkins for a 42-yard touchdown pass midway through the third quarter. Nix responded with a career-best 80-yard touchdown run on the Ducks' first play from scrimmage.

Nix became the first Ducks player to rush for 100 or more yards this season. Elijah Higgins caught a 28-yard touchdown pass from McKee to make it 38-17 before the end of

the third. Sean Dollars added a 2-yard scoring run for the Ducks in the final quarter. Karty kicked a 53-yard field goal and Stanford closed out the scoring on Ari Patu's 18-yard touchdown pass to Mudia Reuben in the waning moments.

"Lost the first three games of our conference schedule. We're gonna be better by the end of the year than we are right now. That's the stance that we're taking," Shaw said.

THE TAKEAWAY

Stanford: Cardinal offensive lineman Barrett Miller was carted to the locker room with an injury early in the game. ... Stanford upset then-No. 3 Oregon 31-24 in overtime last season. ... The Cardinal were without running back E.J. Smith, who will miss the rest of the season with an unspecified injury. Smith, the son of Dallas Cowboys great Emmitt Smith, rushed for 206 yards and four touchdowns through the first two games of the season. He missed last week's game against the Huskies.

Oregon: The Ducks appealed outside linebacker DJ Johnson's targeting penalty in the game against Washington State. It was denied, so Johnson missed the first half of Saturday night's game. ... Oregon allowed its first sack of the season early in the second quarter.

UP NEXT

Stanford: The Cardinal host Oregon State next Saturday, Oct. 8 in another late Pac-12 game. The Beavers fell to Utah 42-16 earlier Saturday.

Oregon: The Ducks visit Arizona next Saturday, Oct. 8. The Wildcats beat Colorado 43-20.

Interceptions costly in Oregon State's loss to Utah

BY JOHN COON

Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY — Cameron Rising threw for 199 yards and three touchdowns and added 73 yards and a score on the ground to lead No. 12 Utah to a 42-16 victory over Oregon State on Saturday, Oct. 1.

The Utes (4-1, 2-0 Pac-12) forced four turnovers to avenge their only Pac-12 loss from last season. It was the first time Utah finished with four interceptions in a game since a 52-45 victory over UCLA in 2016.

Two of those takeaways came in the red zone.

"We found our toughness," senior safety R.J. Hubert said. "This team has guts, passion, they're tough, and I love these guys."

Third-string quarterback Ben Gulbranson threw for 177 yards and two interceptions to lead the Beavers. Gulbranson played the final three quarters after starter Chance Nolan left with a neck strain.

Oregon State (3-2, 0-2) suffered its second straight loss despite rolling up 417 yards and 21 first downs.

"I don't want to say we took a step back, but we definitely didn't take any steps forward," senior safety Jaydon Grant said.

Utah broke open a close game with a pair of third-quarter touchdowns. Devaughn Vele scored on a 16-yard catch. Then, R.J. Hubert picked off a pass from Gulbranson in the end zone and returned it 70 yards to set up Jaylen Dixon's 22-yard scoring run.

A 4-yard toss from Rising to Dalton Kincaid gave the Utes

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— Jaydon Grant, senior safety

a 42-16 lead early in the fourth quarter.

Clark Phillips III intercepted Nolan twice in the first quarter, becoming the first Utah player since Julian Blackmon in the 2017 Heart of Dallas Bowl to have multiple interceptions in the same game. The sophomore cornerback finished with three interceptions — the first Utah player to do since Robert Johnson had three picks against Colorado State in 2009.

Utah coach Kyle Whittingham said Phillips combines natural speed and quickness with unrivaled preparation to make his mark on the football field.

"There's nobody who studies more film than Clark and that leads to big plays," Whittingham said. "The more film you study, the more big plays you're going to make."

Phillips snagged his first interception on Oregon State's second play from scrimmage to set up Dixon's diving 19-yard catch three plays later that gave Utah a 7-0 lead less than two minutes into the game.

The Beavers answered on their next drive. Silas Bolden took a pitch and ran 29 yards untouched on a reverse to even the score. Phillips jumped a route for his second interception and returned it 38 yards to put Utah back in front midway

through the first quarter.

"We noticed formational tendencies and (defensive coordinator Morgan) Scalley put us in position to be able to capitalize on that," Phillips said. "I just so happened to be the outside corner on that (pick-six) play. As soon as I saw the ball snapped and the quarterback looked, I said this is the one and hopefully we score."

Rising stiff-armed a defender, danced along the sideline, and dragged a would-be tackler to the pylon at the end of a 24-yard run to extend the Utes' lead to 21-7 early in the second quarter.

Atticus Sappington made three field goals — two from 26 and one from 31 yards out — to help Oregon State trim the deficit to 21-16 early in the third quarter.

The Beavers never drew closer after ending a pair of second-half drives with end-zone interceptions.

"We can't turn it over," Oregon State coach Jonathan Smith said. "Again, I think we've got guys that can help us score points. We just got to do a better job of it."

THE TAKEAWAY

Oregon State: The Beavers experienced some early success running the ball against Utah's

defense. Oregon State tallied 130 rushing yards by halftime while averaging 5.2 yards per carry.

Utah: The Utes have forced a turnover in seven consecutive games. Utah scored its first 14 points off two takeaways, providing a cushion against a sluggish offense that went 3-and-out on four of the team's first seven drives.

RUNNING MAN

Rising finished as Utah's leading rusher after averaging 10.4 yards per carry on only seven carries. Oregon State didn't account for his elusiveness when plays broke down and the junior quarterback made the Beavers pay.

His 73 yards were his second highest total of the season — trailing only the 91 yards he gained in the season opener against Florida.

"I think a lot of people don't really look at me as a runner," Rising said. "Any chance I get, I like to take advantage of it."

SHUTTING IT DOWN

Utah forced a turnover on its opponent's opening drive for the second time this season. The Utes have not allowed an opponent to score on their opening drive in all five games so far.

POLL IMPLICATIONS

Utah could move closer to the Top 10 in the AP Top 25 Poll.

UP NEXT

Oregon State visits Stanford on Saturday, Oct. 8.

Utah visits UCLA on Saturday, Oct. 8.

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