

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

FIESTA BOWL

(10) Iowa St.	34
(25) Oregon	17

ORANGE BOWL

(5) Texas A&M	41
(13) North Carolina	27

OUTBACK BOWL

Mississippi	26
(11) Indiana	20

GATOR BOWL

Kentucky	23
(23) NC State	21

Late Friday

CFP SEMIFINAL, SUGAR BOWL

(3) Ohio St.	49
(2) Clemson	28

Herman out, Sark in as coach at Texas

AUSTIN, Texas — Texas was tired of waiting for Tom Herman to deliver a Big 12 title and turn the Longhorns back into national championship contenders.

Next up: Steve Sarkisian, the architect of the Alabama Crimson Tide's offense and its tsunami of points this season.

Texas fired Herman on Saturday after four winning seasons, then hours later announced it was giving the job to the Alabama offensive coordinator.

It's a quick move Texas expects will deliver quick results.

"I think there's championship talent on this team. Clearly, there's work to be done or a change wouldn't be made," Sarkisian said.

Sarkisian leads a Crimson Tide offense that has pummeled opponents and produced two Heisman Trophy finalists in quarterback Mac Jones and receiver DeVonta Smith heading into the Jan. 11 College Football Playoff championship game against Ohio State. He recently won the Broyles Award given to college football's top assistant coach.

He's also been around. At 46, Sarkisian has previous head coaching stints at Washington and Southern California. He's been Alabama's offensive coordinator under Nick Saban since 2019, and has experience as an NFL assistant.

Sarkisian will remain with Alabama for the championship game.

Texas wants Sarkisian to not just win — Herman did that with a 32-18 record and four bowl victories — but to knock rival Oklahoma off the top of the Big 12.

He will be Texas' fourth head coach since the program's last Big 12 championship in 2009. Since then, Texas has fired Mack Brown, Charlie Strong and Herman.

Sarkisian was 46-35 overall at Washington and USC, but was fired midway through his second season with the Trojans 2015 and went into alcohol rehabilitation treatment. He later lost a \$30 million breach of contract and disability discrimination lawsuit against USC that alleged the school fired him instead of allowing him to seek treatment. Sarkisian said he's grown as a person since then and is ready to step back into the spotlight at Texas.

Texas did not immediately release contract terms for Sarkisian. Herman still had three years left on a guaranteed contract set to pay him more than \$6 million per year. Texas is on the hook for more than \$20 million in buyouts for Herman and his staff.

— Associated Press

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Ducks fall short in Fiesta Bowl



Rick Scuteri/AP

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

Tenth-ranked Iowa State runs over No. 25 Oregon in Fiesta Bowl, 34-17

ASSOCIATED PRESS

GLENDAL, Ariz. — Breece Hall ran for 136 yards and two touchdowns, Brock Purdy accounted for two scores and No. 10 Iowa State grinded out a 34-17 victory over No. 25 Oregon in the Fiesta Bowl on Saturday.

The Cyclones (9-3) used their ball-control offense to dominate the time of possession and keep Oregon's offense off the field for long stretches to win their first New Year's Six bowl.

Hall, an AP All-American, had 34 carries and his ninth

100-yard game this season. Purdy, who went to high school in nearby Gilbert, threw for 156 yards and a touchdown on 20-of-29 passing, adding a touchdown on the ground.

Iowa State had a time of possession advantage of more than 25 minutes.

Oregon (4-3) alternated between Tyler Shough and Anthony Brown at quarterback, but couldn't sustain anything on offense and was plagued by numerous mistakes.

See Fiesta Bowl / B3



Courtesy Fiesta Bowl

Oregon quarterback Anthony Brown (13) scores a touchdown past Iowa State's Lawrence White IV (11) during the Fiesta Bowl on Saturday in Glendale, Arizona.

NFL

Seahawks playing for big stakes in finale vs. 49ers

BY JOSH DUBOW

AP Pro Football Writer

The stakes for this season's finale between fierce NFC West rivals Seattle and San

INSIDE

- Chiefs starting QB Chad Henne against Herbert, Chargers, **B3**
- Raiders, Broncos jockeying for draft position, not playoffs, **B3**

string of a disappointing season.

"Honestly, it's no different than last year when you're playing for home-field advantage and playing for the West,"

Next up



Seattle (11-4) vs. San Francisco (6-9)
When: 1:25 p.m. Sunday | TV: FOX

49ers coach Kyle Shanahan said. "I know it is mentally to some people, and if you let the mental part of that change how you go about yourself, it'll be a joke in what you put on tape and what you put on the field."

The 49ers (6-9) are trying to show enough to spoil things for the Seahawks (11-4) when the teams play Sunday at the Niners' temporary home in Arizona.

See Seahawks / B3

NBA

Blazers' McCollum making most of opponents' focus on Lillard



Tony Avelar/AP

Portland Trail Blazers' C.J. McCollum (3) takes a 3-point shot during a game against the Golden State Warriors Friday night in San Francisco.

BY AARON FENTRESS

The Oregonian

The Portland Trail Blazers team MVP to this point is without a doubt Damian ... wait (looks over team statistics) ... check that.

It's actually C.J. McCollum, who scored 28 points in Portland's 123-98 win at Golden State on Friday.

Five games into the season, McCollum is off to the most consistent start of anyone on the Blazers (3-2). Should his current trajectory continue, McCollum for the first time in his career could become a viable All-Star candidate in the Western Conference, filled with elite guards, including All-Star teammate, Damian Lillard.

A comparison of the two: Points per game: McCollum, 28. Lillard, 25.2.

Field goal percentage: Mc-

Collum, 45.9%. Lillard, 42.9%
Three-point percentage: McCollum, 45.5%. Lillard, 35.4%.

Effective field goal percentage: McCollum, 57.8%. Lillard, 52.2%.

Assists: Lillard, 6.6. McCollum, 5.8.

Rebounds: Lillard, 4.4. McCollum, 3.

Steals: McCollum, 1.6. Lillard, 0.8.

Turnovers: McCollum, 0.6. Lillard, 3.2.

Of course, this all could change over the course of a couple of games. Lillard justifiably receives more attention from opposing defenses, which has created opportunities for McCollum. The important factor here is that McCollum is making teams pay for doubling, trapping or blitzing Lillard.

See McCollum / B2