

WEEK FIVE
MATCHUP
OREGON STATE AT ARIZONA STATE

Sun Devils beat Beavers for Williams' first Pac-12 win

TEMPE, Ariz. -- Add Eno Benjamin to the list of running backs that have very big nights against Oregon State's creaky run defense.

And for Benjamin, it was a record-breaker.

The sophomore from Wylie, Texas, rushed for a school record 312 yards on 30 carries and scored four touchdowns as Arizona State beat Oregon State 52-24 on Saturday night, giving coach Herm Edwards his first Pac-12 victory.

"He made a bunch of explosive plays tonight," Edwards said. "It was fun to watch him go."

Benjamin scored on runs of 44, 47 and 10 yards and caught an 8-yard touchdown pass.

Benjamin spent most of his freshman season watching Demario Richard and Kalen Ballage.

"I really learned from them," Benjamin said. "I think last year really set me up for something like this."

Freshman Jermar Jefferson gained 254 yards on 31 attempts and scored twice for Oregon State (1-4, 0-2), becoming the third Beaver in school history to top 200 yards in a game twice in a season.

Benjamin broke the school's single-game record of 250 yards rushing set by Ben Malone against Oregon State in 1973. Saturday's performance was No. 8 on the Pac-12 list.

"He reminds me a little bit of Curtis Martin," Edwards said, "about the same stature, doesn't look like he can break tackles, but he does."

The Beavers' beleaguered defense gave up a second big game in a row on the ground. Arizona's J.J. Taylor rushed for 284 yards at Oregon State last week.

"The largest topic is just tackling," Beavers coach Jonathan Smith said. "We just got to get guys on the ground. We had plenty of opportunity at the line of scrimmage, we had a couple on the back field. We got to improve in that area. I don't know how to say it. We have to finish the deal to get a guy down."

Oregon State safety Jalen Moore said missed tackles led to Benjamin's big night.

"Congratulations to him but I felt like we have seen better backs than that," he said. The Sun Devils (3-2, 1-1) jumped to a 17-0 lead. Benjamin scored Arizona State's first touchdown with a 44-yard run and, on the first play of the second quarter, caught the TD pass from Manny Wilkins.

When Benjamin broke a couple of would-be tackles and raced 47 yards for his, and Arizona State's, third touchdown of the night, the Sun Devils were up 24-3 and appeared headed for a rout.

But the Beavers have shown this season they can move the ball and scored a pair of touchdowns on Jefferson's runs of 11 and 27 yards to cut the Arizona State lead to 24-17 with 1:02 left in the half.

That was plenty of time for the Sun Devils, who needed just 48 seconds to go 75 yards in seven plays. Wilkins threw 19 yards to Kyle Williams for the score with 14 seconds left and Arizona State led 31-17 at the break.

Benjamin rushed for 187 yards in 15 carries, the most yards in a half in school history. Woody Green gained 171 yards in a half against Wyoming in 1973.

After Arizona State stretched the lead to 38-17 with a pair of third-quarter touchdowns, Jefferson's 45-yard run set up a fourth-down, 2-yard pass from Conor Blount to Noah Togiai cut it to 38-24.

On their next possession, Wilkins was stopped on a fourth-and-1 play at the Oregon State 40. The Beavers drove downfield and had it fourth-and-goal at the 1. A false start penalty pushed the Beavers back and Blount's pass fell incomplete.

Benjamin did most of the work again as Arizona State rolled downfield for his 10-yard touchdown run that made it 45-24.

Blount played the entire game at quarterback as Jake Luton missed his second straight game with a high ankle sprain. The Beavers ran their road losing streak to 22 games.

Edwards said Wilkins played despite being "a little under the weather."

THE TAKEAWAY

Oregon State: The Beavers' run defense was as bad as advertised and it will be a problem all season long. But the Beavers have a big-play runner of their own in Jefferson. Hard to see much success for this team though under the first-year coach Smith. Arizona State: The missed tackles of his defense will give Edwards plenty to talk about with his team in the coming week but it was some kind of night for Benjamin, regardless of who the team was playing.

Final	1	2	3	4	T
ORST	0	17	7	0	24
ASU	10	21	7	14	52

Scoring Summary -----

	ORST	ASU
FIRST QUARTER		
ASU FG 8:30 Brandon Ruiz 29 Yd Field Goal		
15 plays, 64 yards, 6:30	0	3
ASU TD 4:28 Eno Benjamin 44 Yd Run (Brandon Ruiz Kick)		
4 plays, 57 yards, 0:56	0	10
second Quarter		
ASU TD 14:53 Eno Benjamin 8 Yd pass from Manny Wilkins (Brandon Ruiz Kick)	10	17
13 plays, 62 yards, 2:43	0	
ORST FG 9:17 Jordan Choukair 36 Yd Field Goal		
13 plays, 57 yards, 5:36	3	17
ASU TD 7:49 Eno Benjamin 47 Yd Run (Brandon Ruiz Kick)		
4 plays, 75 yards, 1:28	3	24
ORST TD 6:22 Jermar Jefferson 11 Yd Run (Jordan Choukair Kick)	10	24
5 plays, 75 yards, 1:27	10	24
ORST TD 1:02 Jermar Jefferson 27 Yd Run (Jordan Choukair Kick)	17	24
11 plays, 89 yards, 3:32	17	24
ASU TD 0:14 Kyle Williams 19 Yd pass from Manny Wilkins (Brandon Ruiz Kick)	17	31
7 plays, 75 yards, 0:48	17	31
third Quarter		
ASU TD 11:13 N'Keal Harry 6 Yd Run (Brandon Ruiz Kick)	17	38
5 plays, 51 yards, 2:10	17	38
ORST TD 7:38 Noah Togiai 4 Yd pass from Conor Blount (Jordan Choukair Kick)	24	38
9 plays, 75 yards, 3:35	24	38
fourth Quarter		
ASU TD 9:48 Eno Benjamin 10 Yd Run (Brandon Ruiz Kick)	24	45
11 plays, 94 yards, 5:22	24	45
ASU TD 3:28 N'Keal Harry 41 Yd pass from Manny Wilkins (Brandon Ruiz Kick)	24	52
5 plays, 68 yards, 3:17	24	52

	ORST	ASU
Team Stats		
First Downs	24	28
Total Yards	406	558
Total Plays	77	73
Avg Gain Per Play	5.3	7.6
Net Yards Rushing	261	396
Rushes	53	48
Yards Per Rush	4.9	8.3
Net Yards Passing	145	162
Comp-Att	14-24	14-25
Yards Per Pass	6.0	6.5
Times Sacked	5	0
Yds Lost To Sacks	-42	0
Interceptions	0	0
Punts	3	1
Punt Average	31.3	47.0
Penalties	5	1
Penalty Yards	50	5
Fumbles	3	0
Fumbles Lost	1	0
Possession	30:31	29:29

Individual Stats

RUSHING

	Rush	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
ORST					
22 Jermar Jefferson	31	254	8.2	45	2
24 Kase Rogers	11	27	2.5	6	0
20 B.J. Baylor	1	12	12.0	12	0
18 Timmy Hernandez	1	3	3.0	3	0
8 Trevon Bradford	1	-1	-1.0	0	0
4 Aidan Willard	1	-15	-15.0	0	0
2 Conor Blount	6	-18	-3.0	13	0
ASU					
3 Eno Benjamin	30	312	10.4	47	3
5 Manny Wilkins	9	61	6.8	22	0
31 Isaiah Floyd	5	18	3.6	8	0
25 Trelon Smith	1	4	4.0	4	0
1 N'Keal Harry	2	2	1.0	6	1

PASSING

	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
ORST							
2 Conor Blount	14	23	145	6.3	1	0	128.2
4 Aidan Willard	0	1	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
ASU							
5 Manny Wilkins	14	25	162	6.5	3	0	150.0

RECEIVING

	Rec	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
ORST					
18 Timmy Hernandez	7	61	8.7	19	0
17 Isaiah Hodgins	1	44	44.0	44	0
5 Kolby Taylor	2	16	8.0	10	0
8 Trevon Bradford	2	15	7.5	11	0
84 Teagan Quitariano	1	5	5.0	5	0
81 Noah Togiai	1	4	4.0	4	1
ASU					
1 N'Keal Harry	5	84	16.8	41	1
10 Kyle Williams	4	39	9.8	19	1
3 Eno Benjamin	3	27	9.0	14	1
2 Brandon Aiyuk	1	7	7.0	7	0
87 Tommy Hudson	1	5	5.0	5	0