

WEEK TEN
FRESNO AT BOISE STATE

BOISE, Idaho -- Boise State quarterback Brett Rypien etched his name in the Mountain West record books as the conference's all-time leading passer in both yards and completions. But the pro-style passer needed his feet almost as much as his arm to beat the nation's second-best scoring defense.

Rypien engineered a fourth-quarter comeback, finishing with 269 yards passing with a touchdown and one interception, along with 30 yards rushing on eight carries that included scrambles for three first downs, in leading Boise State to a 24-17 upset over No. 16 Fresno State on Friday night.

"(Rypien) ran the ball well tonight," Boise State coach Bryan Harsin said. "He moved and scrambled and all those little plays, they don't seem like much at the time but they add up throughout the game. And that's why we won the game tonight."

Trailing 17-10 late in the third quarter, Rypien scrambled on third down for a 10-yard gain to set up a game-tying 1-yard run by Alexander Mattison.

After the game, Rypien shrugged off his fleet-footed prowess.

"It's just me trying to make a play," Rypien said. "There were some third-down situations in there where I felt like their eyes were off me and I had to take off and make a play."

Even Fresno State coach Jeff Tedford could only shake his head afterward when recalling Rypien's running plays.

"They have a good offense and Rypien killed us with his legs a little," Tedford said.

Rypien's legs complemented his clutch throws, none bigger than a 49-yard scoring strike on another third down play when he hit Khalil Shakir in stride with 9:22 remaining in the fourth quarter to give the Broncos a 24-17 lead.

"On the touchdown pass, (Rypien) stepped up and slid and delivered a perfect ball in that situation," Harsin said. "With all that was going on, when you can deliver a perfect throw in that moment in a tight ball game -- it takes a lot of hard work for that guy to do that."

Boise State (8-2, 5-1 Mountain West), which hasn't lost to Fresno State at home since 1984, beat a ranked team for the first time in November in program history to keep its conference title aspirations alive.

It was also the first time since 1999 that the Broncos were an underdog at home for a regular season game.

"We knew it was going to be tough," Rypien said. "Being an underdog on the blue, that's never a good feeling, especially since we haven't been in a long time. And some guys in the locker room took that kind of personally."

Mattison rushed for 144 yards on 30 carries and two touchdowns, the most any single running back has tallied against the Bulldogs' this season.

Fresno State (8-2, 5-1) had only given up three touchdowns in conference play before facing the Broncos and had only been in one game decided by one score or less all season.

Following another bitter loss to the Broncos, Tedford remained upbeat.

"We'll bounce back," Tedford said. "Our guys played hard right down to the end. I've still got a lot of confidence in this team."

Fresno State Marcus McMaryion, who struggled against Boise State in the Mountain West title game last December, was 24-of-35 passing with a touchdown. However, McMaryion couldn't pull off any late-game heroics after the Bulldogs fell behind, as the Broncos held Fresno State on its final two drives before running out the clock to secure the victory.

THE TAKEAWAY

Fresno State: The Bulldogs' faint hopes to emerge from the Group of 5 and earn a berth in a New Year's Six bowl dimmed with the loss. However, they still have a chance to win the West division and get back to the conference title game.

Boise State: With the season hanging in the balance, the Broncos showed they have the fortitude to do what it takes to win close games for the second straight week. The Broncos still have plenty of work to do in order to get an opportunity to defend their conference title, including a home date in two weeks against Mountain division leader No. 14 Utah State.

POLL IMPLICATIONS

Fresno State will fall after the close loss on the road, but not far enough to drop out of the poll altogether. Boise State, which hasn't been ranked since the third week of the season, might have a chance to crack the top 25 again with some help on Saturday.

Final	1	2	3	4	T
FRES	0	10	7	0	17
BSU	3	0	7	14	24
Scoring Summary -----					
FIRST QUARTER					
BSU FG 6:37				FRES	BSU
Haden Hoggarth 35 Yd Field Goal					
9 plays, 62 yards, 4:05				0	3
SECOND QUARTER					
FRES TD 14:12				FRES	BSU
KeeSean Johnson 3 Yd pass from Marcus McMaryion (Asa Fuller Kick)					
9 plays, 83 yards, 2:51				7	3
FRES FG 0:00					
Asa Fuller 47 Yd Field Goal					
7 plays, 37 yards, 1:14				10	3
THIRD QUARTER					
FRES TD 11:42				FRES	BSU
Ronnie Rivers 1 Yd Run (Asa Fuller Kick)					
7 plays, 75 yards, 3:18				17	3
BSU TD 5:56					
Alexander Mattison 7 Yd Run (Haden Hoggarth Kick)					
12 plays, 70 yards, 5:40				17	10
FOURTH QUARTER					
BSU TD 14:57				FRES	BSU
Alexander Mattison 1 Yd Run (Haden Hoggarth Kick)					
11 plays, 59 yards, 5:16				17	17
BSU TD 9:22					
Khalil Shakir 49 Yd pass from Brett Rypien (Haden Hoggarth Kick)					
7 plays, 83 yards, 2:31				17	24

Team Stats	FRES	BSU
First Downs	22	24
Total Yards	390	448
Total Plays	63	74
Avg Gain Per Play	6.2	6.1
Net Yards Rushing	107	179
Rushes	28	44
Yards Per Rush	3.8	4.1
Net Yards Passing	283	269
Comp-Att	24-35	24-30
Yards Per Pass	8.1	9.0
Times Sacked	3	1
Yds Lost To Sacks	-24	-3
Interceptions	0	1
Punts	4	2
Punt Average	39.8	34.5
Penalties	9	4
Penalty Yards	61	45
Fumbles	1	0
Fumbles Lost	0	0
Possession	25:34	34:26

Individual Stats

RUSHING

FRES	Rush	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
22 Jordan Mims	8	47	5.9	22	0
20 Ronnie Rivers	7	33	4.7	26	1
6 Marcus McMaryion	9	12	1.3	15	0
7 Derrion Grim	2	8	4.0	7	0
33 Josh Hokit	2	7	3.5	7	0
BSU	Rush	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
22 Alexander Mattison	30	144	4.8	14	2
4 Brett Rypien	8	30	3.8	10	0
2 Khalil Shakir	2	5	2.5	4	0
34 Robert Mahone	2	2	1.0	2	0
96 Haden Hoggarth	1	-1	-1.0	0	0

PASSING

FRES	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
6 Marcus McMaryion	24	35	283	8.1	1	0	145.9
BSU	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
4 Brett Rypien	24	29	269	9.3	1	1	165.2
6 CT Thomas	0	1	0	0.0	0	0	0.0

RECEIVING

FRES	Rec	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
3 KeeSean Johnson	8	95	11.9	38	1
20 Ronnie Rivers	7	60	8.6	12	0
7 Derrion Grim	4	57	14.3	20	0
16 Jared Rice	3	43	14.3	21	0
33 Josh Hokit	1	22	22.0	22	0
1 Jamire Jordan	1	6	6.0	6	0

BSU	Rec	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
7 A.J. Richardson	5	66	13.2	25	0
8 Sean Modster	5	63	12.6	41	0
2 Khalil Shakir	4	59	14.8	49	1
86 Chase Blakley	2	17	8.5	9	0
85 John Bates	1	15	15.0	15	0
22 Alexander Mattison	3	15	5.0	6	0
81 Akilian Butler	2	14	7.0	9	0
6 CT Thomas	1	10	10.0	10	0
34 Robert Mahone	1	10	10.0	10	0