

WEEK TWELVE

KANSAS AT OKLAHOMA

NORMAN, Okla. -- Kyler Murray lifted Oklahoma -- and boosted his Heisman Trophy campaign -- with a big finish.

The sixth-ranked Sooners used every bit of offense from Murray to overshadow a huge game from Kansas freshman running back Pooka Williams Jr. in Oklahoma's 55-40 victory Saturday night

Murray accounted for two of his five touchdowns in the fourth quarter.

"He's a special player," Kansas coach David Beaty said. "That Heisman needs to go to him."

Oklahoma (10-1, 7-1 Big 12, No. 6 CFP) moved closer to a spot in the conference championship game in Murray's likely final home game. The Sooners earn a trip to the Big 12 title game for the second straight year by beating West Virginia on the road on Black Friday or if Kansas beats Texas.

That came just days after Oklahoma began a campaign for the baseball first-round draft pick centered around a classic image of Bo Jackson in shoulder pads while holding a baseball bat.

"I don't know whose idea it was, but I felt good about it," Murray said. "It was fun. It was a once-in-a-lifetime deal."

But Murray was nearly outperformed by Williams.

Williams rushed for a career-high 252 yards and two touchdowns and threw for a score for Kansas (3-8, 1-7). The Jayhawks have lost seven of the past eight games.

Murray sealed the game with a breakaway 75-yard touchdown run with 13:44 remaining, sparking a 20-point fourth quarter. He added another touchdown in the quarter and finished with 272 yards passing and two touchdowns. He rushed for 99 yards and three touchdowns.

It was the second time Murray had appeared to establish control for the Sooners.

Oklahoma led 21-17 early in the third quarter when Murray broke free for an 11-yard touchdown run. Backup running back Kennedy Brooks, filling in for injured Trey Sermon, followed with a 13-yard score to cap a night he rushed for 171 yards and two touchdowns.

"He did a great job," Murray said. "I'm sure he'll continue to run well."

But Oklahoma's defense continued to struggle. The Sooners allowed 524 total offensive yards, and Kansas found a way to remain in the game.

"Defensively, we didn't tackle at all, really the whole night" Oklahoma coach Lincoln Riley said. "That's the whole story."

Oklahoma took a 48-24 lead with 12:05 remaining when Kyle Thompson blocked a punt and Curtis Bolton scooped and scored and appeared to be in control.

But Williams answered with a 42-yard touchdown run and Kansas converted the two-point conversion.

Murray responded with an 11-yard touchdown pass to Grant Calcaterra. Kansas would answer with a 25-yard touchdown run by Khalil Herbert on the play following a 25-yard run by Williams.

"I still feel like we can be what we need to be," Riley said. "Obviously, we didn't take the step this week that we needed to take. We felt like we had defended the run well all year. We put a lot of emphasis on our pass coverage, which we thought was better."

"We sprung some new leaks."

Oklahoma still has Murray. At the moment, that's enough.

DEFENSIVE VIBE

Even with struggles, Riley still believes the Sooners can perform when it counts on defense.

But they still allowed 40 points to a Kansas team that had combined for just 39 points in the previous five meetings combined between the two teams.

"This isn't the NFL," Riley said. "We're not going to sign some guys off waivers."

"These moments, especially this one we're getting ready to go into, we can't sit here and feel sorry for ourselves."

THE TAKEAWAY

Kansas: With David Beaty nearing his final week as coach, the Jayhawks have something to build from offensively. Outside of Williams' night, Peyton Bender completed 16 of 23 passes for 145 yards and the Jayhawks rushed for 348 yards.

Oklahoma: The Sooners' embattled defense did itself no favors. It entered the game allowing 416 yards per game, a total Kansas eclipsed in the fourth quarter.

Final	1	2	3	4	T
KU	7	3	7	23	40
OKLA	7	14	14	20	55

Scoring Summary -----

Quarter	Time	Player	Yards	Time	KU	OKLA
FIRST QUARTER						
KU	TD 2:50	Pooka Williams Jr.	23 Yd Run (Gabriel Rui Kick)	7	7	0
OKLA	TD 1:19	Kyler Murray	7 Yd Run (Austin Seibert Kick)	4	7	7
SECOND QUARTER						
KU	FG 12:02	Gabriel Rui	45 Yd Field Goal	11	10	7
OKLA	TD 9:03	Carson Meier	20 Yd pass from Kyler Murray (Austin Seibert Kick)	7	10	14
KU	TD 0:18	Kennedy Brooks	7 Yd Run (Austin Seibert Kick)	9	10	21
THIRD QUARTER						
KU	TD 10:52	Khalil Herbert	3 Yd Run (Gabriel Rui Kick)	7	17	21
OKLA	TD 5:39	Kyler Murray	11 Yd Run (Austin Seibert Kick)	13	17	28
OKLA	TD 0:50	Kennedy Brooks	13 Yd Run (Austin Seibert Kick)	7	17	35
FOURTH QUARTER						
KU	TD 14:05	Jeremiah Booker	9 Yd pass from Pooka Williams Jr. (Gabriel Rui Kick)	4	24	35
OKLA	TD 13:44	Kyler Murray	75 Yd Run (Austin Seibert PAT blocked)	2	24	41
OKLA	TD 12:05	Curtis Bolton	9 Yd Return of Blocked Punt (Austin Seibert Kick)	5	24	48
KU	TD 9:38	Pooka Williams Jr.	42 Yd Run (Peyton Bender Pass to Khalil Herbert for Two-Point Conversion)	5	32	48
OKLA	TD 5:25	Grant Calcaterra	11 Yd pass from Kyler Murray (Austin Seibert Kick)	10	32	55
KU	TD 2:31	Khalil Herbert	25 Yd Run (Carter Stanley Pass to Caperton Humphrey for Two-Point Conversion)	7	40	55

Team	KU	OKLA
First Downs	25	31
Total Yards	524	566
Total Plays	64	72
Avg Gain Per Play	8.2	7.9
Net Yards Rushing	348	294
Rushes	36	40
Yards Per Rush	9.7	7.4
Net Yards Passing	176	272
Comp-Att	20-28	21-32
Yards Per Pass	6.3	8.5
Times Sacked	0	1
Yds Lost To Sacks	0	-3
Interceptions	0	1
Punts	3	0
Punt Average	25.0	0.0
Penalties	6	2
Penalty Yards	53	25
Fumbles	0	1
Fumbles Lost	0	1
Possession	30:12	29:48

Individual Stats

RUSHING						
KU	Rush	Yds	Avg	Long	TD	
1 Pooka Williams Jr.	15	252	16.8	44	2	
10 Khalil Herbert	15	64	4.3	25	2	
25 Dom Williams	4	32	8.0	13	0	
7 Peyton Bender	2	0	0.0	0	0	

OKLA						
Rush	Yds	Avg	Long	TD		
26 Kennedy Brooks	25	171	6.8	14	2	
1 Kyler Murray	8	99	12.4	75	3	
27 Jeremiah Hall	4	21	5.3	8	0	
4 Trey Sermon	1	5	5.0	5	0	

PASSING							
KU	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
7 Peyton Bender	19	27	167	6.2	0	0	122.3
1 Pooka Williams Jr.	1	1	9	9.0	1	0	505.6

OKLA							
Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat	
1 Kyler Murray	21	32	272	8.5	2	1	151.4

RECEIVING						
KU	Rec	Yds	Avg	Long	TD	
88 Jeremiah Booker	5	58	11.6	22	1	
11 Steven Sims Jr.	6	49	8.2	13	0	
14 Kerr Johnson Jr.	2	27	13.5	25	0	
1 Pooka Williams Jr.	3	18	6.0	8	0	
10 Khalil Herbert	2	10	5.0	7	0	
5 Stephon Robinson Jr.	1	10	10.0	10	0	
89 Mavin Saunders	1	4	4.0	4	0	

OKLA						
Rec	Yds	Avg	Long	TD		
5 Marquise Brown	6	65	10.8	15	0	
2 CeeDee Lamb	5	52	10.4	20	0	
45 Carson Meier	3	49	16.3	20	1	
80 Grant Calcaterra	3	46	15.3	23	1	
84 Lee Morris	1	40	40.0	40	0	
14 Charleston Rambo	2	13	6.5	9	0	
26 Kennedy Brooks	1	7	7.0	7	0	