

Area talent shines in the Ivy League

By Joe Davidson
BEE STAFF WRITER

In the Ivy League, where the scholars crack the books during the week and brawl in pads on weekends, the tension is every bit as thick as any other venue across the college football landscape.

Saturday, host Harvard moved to 3-0 after stunning the 10th-ranked team in Division I-AA, Northeastern, 28-20. Among those paving the way for the top-ranked offense in the country, which averages nearly 600 yards a game, is Harvard senior starting left guard Joe Traverso of Christian Brothers High School.

A valedictorian from his prep days, he's just as studious these days, all while leading the Crimson with a 440-pound bench press.

Also Saturday, visiting Columbia rallied from a 20-0 deficit to shock Princeton 33-27, thanks partly to the defense of junior defensive back Jason August of Jesuit (eight tackles) and senior defensive end Ryan Armbrust of Rocklin (three tackles).

Blair Morrison, a starting receiver for Princeton by way of Del Campo, had five receptions. What's more, the senior has borne witness to both sides of a dramatic comeback in his career. A year ago, Princeton downed Columbia 35-32 with a 50-yard Hail Mary on the final play. Saturday, it was a near reversal, with Columbia pulling the Hail Mary trick from 49 yards in an Ivy League opener. It marked Columbia's first win at Princeton since 1945.

● Fresno State welcomed back its leader and may have to say goodbye to its best offensive lineman.

Paul Pinegar of Woodland saw his first action of the season after being slowed by a torn chest muscle, though he looked equal parts sharp and shaky in a 34-10 loss at

MONDAY MORNING QUARTERBACK

Colorado State. Pinegar, a sophomore, passed for 111 yards on 11 of 19 attempts, but he was picked off twice.

Matt Stevenson limped off the field during Fresno State's opening drive, and the Bulldogs' starting right tackle from Granite Bay High could miss up to six weeks with a sprained knee ligament.

"Somebody fell on my knee from the inside," he told The Fresno Bee on Saturday. "I don't even know who it was. My knee just collapsed inward."

Said Fresno State coach Pat Hill, "It's a tough loss because Matt's been our most consistent lineman."

Hill also hopes to avoid a quarterback controversy. Jeff Grady had taken over for Pinegar this season and, after completing six passes for 47 yards, was replaced by Pinegar in the second quarter.

"I was upset about it, but that's not my call," Grady told The Fresno Bee. "(The coaches) made it."

● There is no quarterback controversy at Boise State, where Ryan Dinwiddie shattered school records with his greatest outing, completing 40 of 60 passes for 532 yards and accounting for five touchdowns, three passing and two rushing, in a 43-37 shootout over Louisiana Tech.

Dinwiddie, a senior from Elk Grove High, hit former prep target Trent Lundin for a 42-yard touchdown to push the Broncos ahead for good at 30-23. David Mikell of Natomas High rushed for 99 yards for Boise State (4-1), which amassed a school-record 732 yards.

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