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Cubs fall to Bulldogs in two overtimes

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Nevada drops 26-23 heartbreaker

By Joe Randleman

HAMPTON – The Nevada football team didn't get enough timely big plays in a heartbreaking 26-23 loss to Hampton-Dumont in double overtime Friday at Hampton. Nevada took a 20-12 lead into the fourth quarter and then stumbled late.

Tai Le got things going with a 63-yard touchdown run for the game's first touchdown in the opening quarter. Hampton-Dumont answered with a Drew Anderson touchdown run later in the quarter. Andre Thomas came back with a scoring run for Nevada in the second quarter and then the Bulldogs added another touchdown on a 92-yard Anderson run before the end of the half to cut the Cub lead to 13-12.

Thomas broke loose for a 18-yard touchdown scamper in the third quarter and the Cub defense dominated the quarter to maintain an eight-point cushion. But in the fourth, Hampton-Dumont struck for a big play through the air as Cole Marzen hooked up with Drew Anderson on a 52-yard touchdown pass.

James Perez then converted a two-point run to knot the score at 20-20 and send the game into overtime.

Neither team got on the board in the first overtime to force a second extra session. In overtime number two, the Cubs got the ball first and Alex Bainter converted a 26-yard field goal.

Hampton-Dumont received the ball on its overtime possession knowing it would win with a touchdown. The Bulldogs got what they needed when Perez ran into the end zone from five yards out to hand Nevada a gutwrenching loss.

"I can't fault the effort of our players, but we simply didn't make key plays at key times," Nevada head coach John Pelzer said. "We sputtered on offense after Andre's third-quarter touchdown and defensively we gave up a huge touchdown run and a huge touchdown pass. Our special teams were solid in most areas, but we left seven points on the field."

Nevada missed two field goals and an extra point. The Cubs didn't turn the ball over, but they were unable to take full advantage of two Bulldog fumbles.

For the game Nevada had 293 yards of total offense, all but 20 of which came on the ground. Le rushed for 130 yards on just 14 carries and Thomas had 109 yards on 24 rushes.

Cub quarterback Colynn Black had one completion for 20 yards to Sam Lodestein and he ran for 27 yards on nine carries, while going the entire game without throwing an interception.

The Cub defense gave up 378 yards, including 324 on the ground.

Tanner Johnson led Nevada with 11 tackles and Seth Gerlach tacked on 10. Thomas finished with nine, including two behind the line, Lance Barber tallied eight tackles and one tackle for loss, Ethan Lund finished with seven tackles and Dakota Crow and Craig Tappe each recovered a fumble.

Anderson did most of the damage for the Bulldogs, who improved to 3-4 on the season and 2-3 in Class 3A District



Photo by DAVID RUNNEALS Nevada head coach John Pelzer goes over strategy with his players during the Cubs' 26-23 overtime loss to Hampton-Dumont Friday at Hampton.



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3. He rushed for 182 yards on 20 carries and caught two passes for 54 yards.

The loss put Nevada at 3-4 overall and 2-3 in the district. The Cubs still have an outside shot at making the playoffs if they can knock off Boone (4-3, 3-2) this Friday and Ballard (3-4, 2-3) the following week.

"It's unfortunate that we didn't improve our chances of going to the playoffs, but fortunately we can still control our own destiny," Pelzer said. "That starts with a great week of practice and a great effort at Boone this Friday."

The Cubs' game with the Toreadors on Friday will take place at 7:30 p.m. in Boone.

Hampton-Dumont 26, Nevada 23 (2 OT)

N 7 6 7 0 0 3 – 23

H-D 6 6 0 8 0 6 – 26

Scoring

First quarter

N – Tai Le 63 run (Alex Bainter kick)

HD – Drew Anderson 11 run (kick failed)

Second quarter

N – Andre Thomas 9 run (kick failed)

HD – Anderson 92 run (two-point conversion failed)

Third quarter

N – Thomas 18 run (Bainter kick)

Fourth quarter

HD – Anderson 52 pass from Cole Marzen (James Perez run)

Second overtime

N – Bainter 26 FG

HD – Perez 5 run

Team statistics N H-D

Rushes-yards 49-273 51-324

Passing 1-7-0 2-3-0

Passing yards 20 54

Total yards 293 378

Fumbles lost 0 2

Punts-average 5-44.0 3-20.0

Individual statistics – Nevada

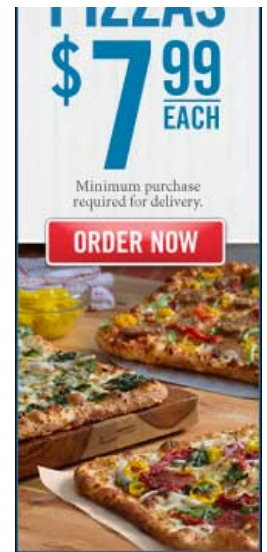
Rushing: Tai Le 14-130, Andre Thomas 24-109, Colynn Black 9-27, Brandon Becker 1-5, Patrick Stephenson 1-2.

Passing: Black 1-7-0-20.

Receiving: Sam Lodestein 1-20.

Tackles: Tanner Johnson 11, Seth Gerlach 10, Thomas 9, Lance Barber 8, Ethan Lund 7.

Fumble recoveries: Dakota Crow, Craig Tappe.



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