

ORANGE COUNTY NEWS

Woodbridge and Irvine football coaches look back at last week's wild PCL opener



Woodbridge Coach Rick Gibson talks to his players, who wore black uniforms for the first time, after Friday's game with Irvine. Woodbridge won, 47-41. Tim Burt photo

By **TIM BURT** | tiburt@scng.com | Orange County Register
October 11, 2017 at 4:48 pm

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RICK GIBSON, WOODBRIDGE

Woodbridge, (4-2, 1-0) defeated Irvine, 47-41, in a Pacific Coast League game Friday, Oct. 6, at University. Woodbridge plays Northwood Friday, Oct. 13, at Portola.

"I felt we played well in two of the three facets of the game," said Coach Rick Gibson. "I felt we were outplayed by Irvine's special teams. They recovered two onside kicks and returned a kickoff for a touchdown."

Players of the game: "Offensively we were led again by Nick Nash 115 yards rushing and 201 yards passing," Gibson said. "Jacob Nash had seven receptions and played man coverage on Irvine's very good receivers. Nikos Reza had 166 yards rushing which means our offensive line controlled the line of scrimmage. Our defense was led by Sam Tipple, Josh Villanueva, Chance Rainey and Colin Turner."

ERIK TERRY, IRVINE

Irvine (3-3, 0-1) fell to Woodbridge, 47-41, in the PCL opener at University on Friday, Oct. 6. Irvine plays Beckman Friday, Oct. 13, at Tustin.

"It was another classic in the Irvine/Woodbridge rivalry," Coach Erik Terry said. "Great offensive game planning by Coach Gibson and his staff to attack our defense. They have some dynamic offensive players with Nick Nash leading the way. We know the ebb and flow of these games and our players stayed confident which allowed us to make some great special teams plays and carve into the Woodbridge lead. Momentum was on our side in the fourth quarter but we came up just one possession short of giving ourselves an opportunity to win."

Players of the game: "Aron Kaye, our special teams coordinator, had his units ready to play and several players contributed to the effort including Rian Fields, Ethan Shank and Jacob Yi," Terry said.

"Bryce Tanikawa and Marc Filia were in a zone and were definitely the highlights of our offense.

"Defensive backs Joey Hare and Ethan Shank stood out with multiple deep passes broken up and two caused fumbles."

MATT BOWMAN, CREAN LUTHERAN

Crean Lutheran, 4-3, defeated St. Monica, 39-0, Friday, Oct. 6 at Irvine Stadium. The Saints have a bye this week.

"We played really well and it was great to get a shutout victory on our homecoming night," said Coach Matt Bowman. "The defense played great and held the opponent to 11 total yards. The offense cashed in on short field position and special teams covered well."

Players of the week: Offense: Michael Berelowitz, four TD passes; defense, Ben Beavers, six tackles, four tackles for a loss and one sack; special teams, Andy Richardson, 1-1 FG, one touchback, 1 perfectly executed pooch kick.

MARK CUNNINGHAM, UNIVERSITY

University (5-1, 1-0) defeated Northwood, 28-7, Friday night. The Trojans host Corona del Mar Friday, Oct. 13, at University.

"I felt we played very well in the first half," said Coach Mark Cunningham. "We are grateful for the win and look forward to the challenge this Friday night at Uni vs Corona del Mar."

Players of the game: Offense, Ariyan Golbad; defense Onyexx Chukwumerije; special teams, Claudell Martinez.

MARCELLO GIULIANO, BECKMAN

Beckman (1-5, 0-1) fell to Corona del Mar, 62-13, in the Pacific Coast League opener. The Patriots host Irvine Friday, Oct. 13, at Tustin.

"While the scoreboard was lopsided to be sure, our kids made some good improvements in critical areas that we need to make pay off over the last month of the season," said Coach Marcello Giuliano. "With various injuries, it also gave some new guys an opportunity to contribute and earn their way on to the field down the stretch."

Players of the week: Mikael Mian had seven receptions for 170 yards and a touchdown. On defense, Justin Galentine had to play out of position at corner back, and "really battled against the two best receivers in our league," Giuliano said.

"On special teams, sophomore Hector Hernandez had a terrific night in all phases of the kicking game, particularly in punt and kickoff coverage."

PETE MITCHELL, NORTHWOOD

The Timberwolves, 1-5, lost to University, 28-7. Northwood hosts Woodbridge Friday, Oct. 13, at Portola.



Tim Burt

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