



Sports



MSU's Melvin Matlock (left) had a 100-yard kickoff return in a 33-17 win against Central Washington. Quarterback Ben King passed for 433 yards and three touchdowns.

Matlock sparks MSU's win

Mavericks rally for 33-17 win over Cent. Washington

Free Press staff

ELLENSBURG, WASH. — Minnesota State fell behind 17-0 but got a spark from Melvin Matlock just before the half that proved to be the difference.

Matlock started a scoring streak of 33 unanswered points to give the Mavericks a 33-17 victory over Central Washington Saturday in a North Central Conference football game. Matlock returned a kickoff a school-record 100 yards for a touchdown that started the comeback.

Please see MSU, Page D4

MSU: Next game is season finale

Continued from Page D1

After forcing Central Washington to punt on its initial possession of the second half, quarterback Ben King found Joshua Bryant for a 60-yard touchdown pass on the first play of the drive.

Two possessions later, King hit Dan Smedberg for an 8-yard touchdown pass and on the next drive Julian Phipps ran a score in from 1-yard out. King found Tyrell Smith for a 13-yard touchdown pass to seal the victory late in the fourth quarter.

The Mavericks took advantage of three second-half interceptions to produce two of their touchdowns.

King nearly equaled his output from a week ago. After

throwing for 505 yards in last Saturday's win over South Dakota, King went 34 of 46 for 433 yards, three touchdowns and no interceptions.

Bryan Dalton caught 10 passes for 144 yards, Smith had 10 catches for 99 yards and Bryant had eight catches for 120 yards. MSU outgained Central Washington 499-385 in total offense.

Kelvin Rodgers and Chad Breeden led the defensive effort for MSU. Each had a team-high seven tackles, with Rodgers also forcing a fumble and Breeden recording two sacks.

The Mavericks (4-6 overall, 2-5 in NCC) conclude their season at noon Saturday against Western Washington at Blakeslee Stadium.