

Ervin sets record as Spartans roll against rivals

SAN JOSE, Calif. – Tyler Ervin made history Saturday night at Spartan Stadium as he ran for a San Jose State record 300 yards against Fresno State in a 49-23 victory. The running back averaged 7.1 yards on 42 carries and added three touchdowns to his impressive stat line. Quarterback Joe Gray also contributed his best performance of the season, throwing for 253 yards and three touchdowns completing 20 of 23 passing attempts. The Spartans dominated most of the game, accumulating 33 first downs.

Miscues on special teams and an interception by San Jose State kept the Bulldogs in the game until the fourth quarter, when the Spartans pulled away with a long drive resulting in a passing touchdown by Gray to tight end Billy Freeman and a strong defensive stand on Fresno State's ensuing drive. Jimmy Pruitt capped the scoring with a 27-yard interception return for a touchdown, bringing an exciting end to an emotional rivalry game full of fireworks.

The first quarter saw both teams engage in a scuffle near midfield that resulted in offsetting unsportsmanlike conduct penalties and set the tone for the rest of the game. From there the Spartans dominated time of possession by establishing the run with Ervin, who also had four receptions for 45 yards. Fresno State started Ford Childress at quarterback due to legal troubles earlier in the week for new starter Zack Greenlee. Childress struggled in the first half but seemed to settle in during the second half until the lone interception he threw resulted in the final points for either team. San Jose State travels to Auburn next week while Fresno State stays in state with a road contest against San Diego State.