

spring sports

emerald sports

- Men's track Injuries may prove to be a damper to Bill Dellinger's squad, especially with the 14 scholarship limit.
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- Men's tennis Buzz Summers will try to make a winning equation with his team this year.
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- Women's tennis A league championship is not out of the question for Marti Schey's team.
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- Women's track A strong schedule is ahead and Tom Heinonen's squad has 12 national qualifiers back from last year to lead the way.
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- Golf Jeff Sanders will lead a squad ranked fifth nationally in a preseason poll.
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- Softball Coach Becky Sisley hopes to build a title contender with a blend of the old and the new.
By Mike Grady p. 10B
- Baseball It's been a while since Oregon has been on the top of the Pac-8 Northern Division and coach Mel Krause is hoping to change that.
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Walton resting after surgery

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — Bill Walton, the Portland Trail Blazer who underwent surgery on his right foot Sunday, says he's had more serious problems.

"Oh, I've had worse," Walton said when asked about his condition Monday. "I broke my leg a couple of times and I had a knee operation and a hand operation."

The 6-foot-11 center who led the Blazers to the National Basketball Association title last season said he has no idea how long it will be before he returns to the team. A team spokesman has said Walton will be out for one to three weeks.

"You know, the foot feels a lot better today than it did yesterday," Walton said Monday. "Who knows, maybe by next week I'll be running. I'll just do as much as I can every day and until I reach a point where I can play in the NBA, I won't play."

"When I reach that point," he said, "I'll be in there. Your body always tells you how you feel. That's the wonderful thing."

The decision to operate on the foot was made Saturday afternoon after the Blazers had beaten Cleveland. Walton did not play in that game.

Walton said the problem had been worsening since Jan. 31, when he first noticed the injury.

"The first Milwaukee game here," Walton said, resting his bandaged foot on a recliner, "I don't know how I hurt it. All I know is it really started to hurt and every time I put my foot down it hurt more."

"Eventually, by the Philadelphia game a week ago, I'd been playing on my left foot so much that it was too tired to play," he said.

Walton left the game in the second quarter and has not played since.

Blazer Coach Jack Ramsay said he had planned to rest Walton earlier, but injuries to other members of the team prevented it.

Team physician Dr. Robert Cook performed the surgery at Willamette Falls Hospital in Oregon City Sunday to relieve a

condition called interdigital neuroma. The operation relieved pressure on nerves over the middle toes as they reach the big bone of the foot.

Walton left the hospital Sunday night, a day earlier than had been announced. He said he doesn't know when he'll be able to play.

"I just don't know," he said. "Basketball is a running game and you can't fake running in a basketball game."

"One of the theories of our team," he said, "is to outrace the other team down the court time after time. And if you can't run, well..."

The Blazer team captain said he would have had to undergo surgery even if Portland had not accumulated such a big lead in the Pacific Division race.

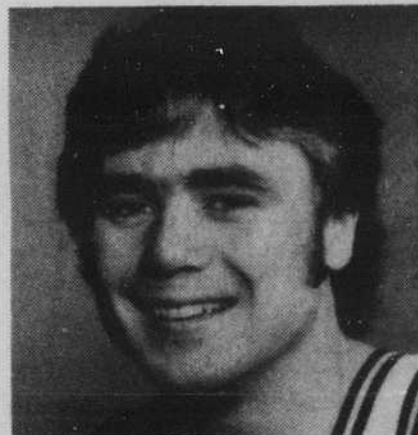
"Absolutely," he said. "I can't play now. I talked to the doctor and we talked to Jack Ramsay about it. It was mostly my foot under me that made the decision for the operation."

Drummond wins two awards but Harter silent at banquet

Mike Drummond, Oregon basketball's feisty little senior captain, was honored with two awards Monday night at the team's banquet at the Rodeway Inn.

Drummond received the John Warren Award for the most inspirational player for the second straight year, and was also awarded the Bill Baker award, given annually to the team's most valuable player.

"When I was a freshman," the 5-8 Bulldog told the gathering, "I came in the basketball office one



day and I saw this big trophy that said 'Bill Baker Award' on it. And I thought to myself, there's no way that I'm going to get that."

Drummond, who along with trainer Rick Cornish was honored as a graduating senior, had some kind words for the Oregon pro-

gram. "I was watching a film in class of a guy climbing up a mountain," he said. "He almost didn't make it to the top, but he made it, and he was joyous."

"That's how I see my stay here at Oregon," he continued. "It hasn't been roses — it's not utopia. But I've made it now."

Oregon Coach Dick Harter made no comment about the possibility of his taking the job at Penn State, but rather chose to speak about Oregon.

"I'd like to thank people for things not only this year," Harter said, "but also in recent years."

"This year, we were an average college basketball team. But that's not what Oregon basketball is about. We can come back, we can become Kamikazes again."

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