

Football exemption not yet final

By JOHN HARRIS
and KELI OSBORN
Of the Emerald

John Caine, the University's men's athletic director, is pleased with the Health Education and Welfare's proposed exemption of football from Title IX regulations, but he stressed that the proposal is nothing more than that, and that no concrete decision has been reached.

"What you're hearing is only a proposal. They (HEW) are going to float it around and get reactions from a number of schools," he explains.

"All we're reacting to is what has come over the news wire, so

we can't say anything officially about it. We don't have official documentation from HEW; all we know is what we've heard," he adds.

The proposal, announced Wednesday by HEW Secretary Joseph Califano in Washington D.C., would exempt college football from the same standards other sports must meet in eliminating sex discrimination.

Those standards, which under Title IX are federal law, require any school receiving federal funding to spend an equal amount of money per athlete, both male and female.

The new proposal calls for par-

ity for men and women, excluding football, by next fall. It also suggests that basketball, when involving competition on a national level, deserves special treatment. Presently, the exact definition of special treatment is quite nebulous, but Caine suggests that HEW will be more definite on basketball after receiving input from various schools.

Becky Sisley, the University's women's athletic director, was not surprised by Califano's announcement, because she says the issue has been debated for years. But she is reacting cautiously to the proposal, terming it vague and unfinished.

"The specifics of how it's going to look in final form and what it really means are still needed," she says.

She is especially concerned about the expenditure figure derived from determining the amount of funds spent on each player in a program.

Sisley says there is often disagreement over just how many participants are involved in a particular program. "I've seen different surveys come up with different figures, so there needs to be careful scrutiny of how these figures are derived," she says.

Caine was not surprised by the announcement either, but predictably, he is more enthusiastic about it than Sisley. "Football and basketball are the only two sports that make money, and they finance the women's and minor sports. Had football not been excluded, we'd have been in serious trouble," he says.

But Sisley says the exclusion of football means that the money given women's athletics will be based on funds given the less expensive men's minor sports. "I think it will mean less money (for women's athletics), if you take out football," she claims.

Football and basketball are currently included under the Title IX regulations, but while Oregon has been trying to build its women's program, the major sports have continued to spend

increasing amounts of money in upgrading their programs.

If football were not exempted, one of two things would probably happen; either football would continue as a major sport and the women would receive more money per athlete, or football would not be able to exist as a major sport because much of its budget would be spent on achieving parity with the women.

The chances of the proposal being accepted are fairly good, but the issue has already elicited a response from one feminist leader. Lynda Weston of the Project on Equal Responsibility says, "It looks like they blew a hole right in the middle of the law (Title IX)."

In response to the legality of the proposal, though, Caine says, "I'm just glad that reason has entered into this thing. I don't feel it's pragmatic to destroy something to achieve something else."

Women face unimpressive Alaska twice this weekend

By MARK STEWART
Of the Emerald

If women's basketball coach Elwin Heiny's scouting report on the University of Alaska at Anchorage is correct, Alaska-Anchorage might wish it hadn't scheduled a stop in Eugene this year.

The two teams play twice this weekend, Saturday at 5:30 p.m. and Sunday at 6 p.m. in MacArthur Court.

The Ducks are coming off a game with the Northwest Invaders in which they totally dominated and won 120-70. Alaska-Anchorage lost twice to Oregon State earlier this week and Heiny says Alaska-Anchorage didn't look too good.

"They looked like they were just starting (their season)," Heiny says. "But I know from the past they do improve with each game."

Heiny says Alaska-Anchorage is not a tall team, didn't rebound well against Oregon State and has an offense that isn't as good as that of the Northwest Invaders.

"They did not look good against Oregon State," he says. "I'm sure they didn't have one of their better games. After seeing them against Oregon State, the games could be as bad or worse (than Oregon's rout of the Invaders)."

"We're looking for tough competition and I don't know if we're going to get it from them."

Heiny did say Alaska-Anchorage's defense is better than that of the Invaders (who suited up only seven players).

Assistant coach Shiela Strike says the coaches are not worried about the team getting a false sense of security.

"I would rather see us lose to a super team than have us beat a team by 50 points," she says. "It's a far greater learning experience."

There are several Oregon players that probably wished they had played more against the Invaders and one of those is Tara Smith.

"I hardly got to play. I've been ready for three months," she

says. "My adrenaline is still going for the next game. We've practiced three months and it's (Northwest Invaders) the only game we've played."

"It was good to see the rookies get out and play well," she says. "They were fast breaking, running the offense and maintaining the fast tempo and being really aggressive. Tony (Middleton) got the biggest cheer going into the game."

Alaska-Anchorage is led by 5-11 forward Scottie Denman, who averaged nine points and eight rebounds per game last year, and ex-high school All-American Pam Chelsea.

Duck starter Julie Cushing will not be starting because of strep throat.

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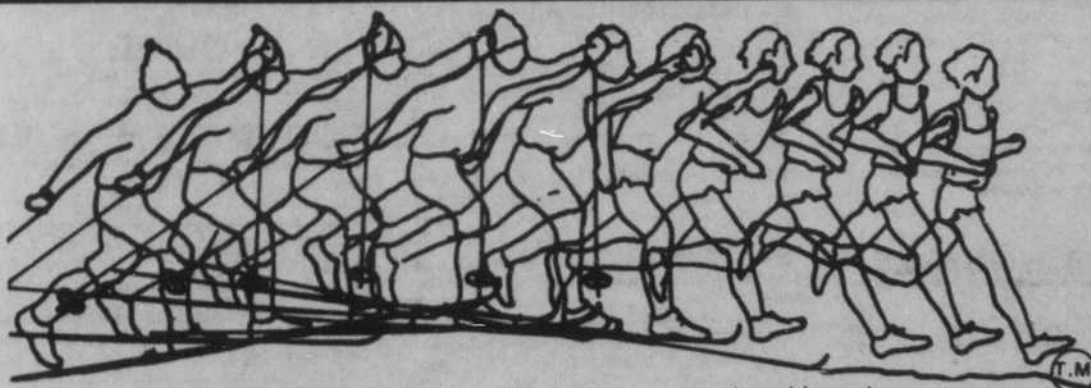
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