

Transfers are a rare breed of Duck

Brown, Greig cite benefits of JC system



Reggie Brown

By PAUL DANZER
Of the Emerald

In Eugene, they're a rare breed. They may not be bigger, faster or even stronger than the rest, but they are unique. That uniqueness stems not from what they do here, but from how they get here.

They are junior college transfers — athletes who have made the grade at smaller junior or community colleges (known as "JC's"), and have been invited to join the big boys.

At Oregon, their numbers are few. Out of 102 Duck footballers, just seven have gone the JC route, and only one of Oregon's basketball players has transferred in.

But the hundreds of JC's around the country that produce players serve a vital purpose for teams like Oregon. When a club finds itself needing immediate help at a position, and is unable to wait for a freshman to develop, a mature, talented junior college athlete may be the best bet.

The Ducks have two notable cases where a JC transfer has come in and

immediately produced. Football tailback Reggie Brown and basketball forward John Greig, both seniors, are junior college success stories in action.

Southern route

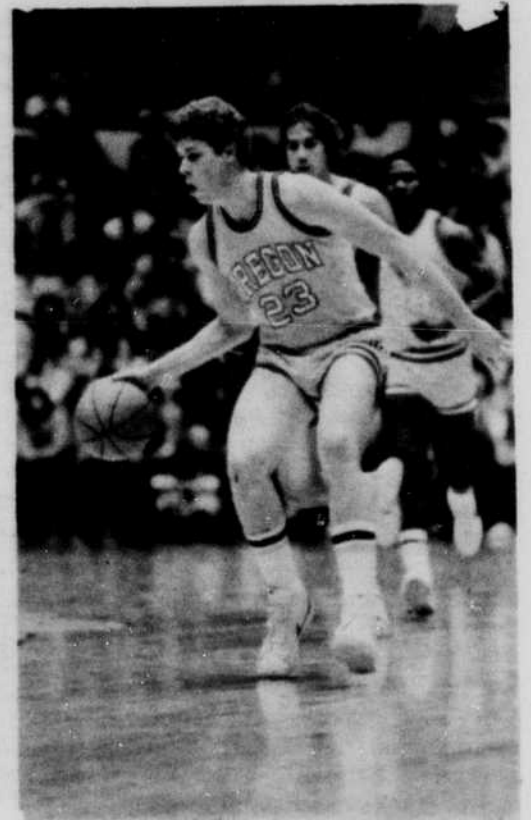
The 5-11, 209-pound Brown, also known as "Truck", took the southern route from his hometown of Newark, New Jersey, spending two years at Pasadena Junior College before arriving in Eugene last year.

"I'm glad I had the two years at the junior college because it gave me more time to mature and become a better football player," says Brown. "If I had it to do again, I'd do it the same."

"I think I'm a better football player because of the JC."

Greig, who spent a year at Wenatchee Valley JC before coming to Eugene, also said if he had to do it over, he would go the JC route again. "That year of experience would be good for anybody," he says.

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John Greig

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EVELYN WOOD READING DYNAMICS

Playoffs start Tuesday, Reds Cards out of it

By the Associated Press

Don't tell the Cincinnati Reds or the St. Louis Cardinals how the split-season format in baseball created more interest down the stretch. Each had the best overall record in their divisions in this mixed-up crazy season, but when the mini-playoffs get rolling Tuesday, the Reds and Cardinals will be home watching.

The Reds' overall record was not only the best in the National League West, but tops in baseball. They had the misfortune, however, of finishing just a half-game behind the Los Angeles Dodgers in the first half of the season and then losing out to the Houston Astros on the next to last day of the second season. Cincinnati was the only team to play over .600 for the entire season.

The Cardinals finished as the runnerup to Philadelphia in the first half and the Expos in the second half, but overall, their record was the best in the National League East. Cincinnati and St. Louis between them had two of the five best records in the majors, but now have all winter to gripe about the inequities of the system.

The best-of-five mini-playoffs open Tuesday with the Kansas City Royals hosting the Oakland A's and the Astros at home against the Dodgers. Wednesday, the Yankees are in Milwaukee and the Expos host the Phillies.

The A's and Royals open the third season Tuesday afternoon in Kansas City. Billy Martin will pitch Mike Norris (12-9) while Dick Howser counters with Dennis Leonard (13-11).

In Tuesday's other game, rookie sensation Fernando Valenzuela (13-7) opposes Nolan Ryan (11-5) in the Astrodome.

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