

Notre Dame hoping to rebound at Oregon

By Mike Riplinger
Of the Emerald

When a team has just been knocked from the ranks of the unbeaten, it's never a good time to play them.

They get angry. Especially when that team is coming off of a losing season and started out the new year with four straight wins. They're anxious to prove to the world how good they are.

Such will probably be the case with Notre Dame, which makes its long-awaited appearance in Autzen Stadium Saturday at 1 p.m. Notre Dame's 16-13 loss to Arizona last weekend could give the Irish a little extra malice to bounce Oregon.

"I would've preferred they come in undefeated," said Oregon coach Rich Brooks. "I'm sure they're not looking to kindly on the Pac-10 right now. They'll be looking at this as a chance to restore their pride and move back up in the national rankings."

"This game is a key football game after the disappointment of last Saturday," said Notre Dame coach Gerry Faust. "Arizona was a tough loss, but we have the kind of men who will rebound well."

The Irish had taken an early 10-0 lead, but the Wildcats came roaring back. With the score knotted at 13-13 and time running out, freshman Max Zendejas kicked a 48-yard field goal to give the Irish their first loss.

"It was a rough weekend. We're trying to put the pieces back together," said Faust of the loss. "We just fell short there at the end."



Notre Dame tight end Tony Carter will be one of the main targets at Autzen Stadium Saturday afternoon when the Irish try to get back on the winning track against the Ducks.

But the loss aside, the Fighting Irish have had a good year so far. Ranked ninth before their loss, they dropped to 15th this

week. "Not many people looking at our schedule would think we would be 4-1. I think that's a real

compliment to our players," said Faust.

The Irish have been led by a stingy defense that is ranked fourth nationally, and first against the rush, giving up a measly 42.9 yards a game.

On the offensive side of the ball, Notre Dame has had its problems scoring points, considering the potential of quarterback Blair Kiel, running backs Phil Carter and Larry Moriarty, and tight end Tony Hunter.

Kiel has hit 67 out of 113 passes for a .593 percentage, but incredibly, he hasn't thrown a touchdown pass. As a matter of fact, the Irish's longest play from the line of scrimmage is only a 37-yard run by Moriarty, and the longest pass only went 25 yards. Faust conceded, "We just haven't had the big play this year yet."

Still, the Irish have plenty of firepower in Carter, who has a 91-yard per game average, and Moriarty, who's running at a 86.2-yard per game clip. However, Moriarty missed the Arizona game with a sprained ankle and is questionable for Saturday.

"My number one concern is that they don't overpower us," Brooks said of the Irish ground attack.

"To couple that, they have a very sophisticated passing attack. Kiel is a fine quarterback and Tony Hunter is a tough receiver at tight end."

Hunter has snagged 18 catches for 235 yards, showing the Irish can move the ball through the air.

With his own team, Brooks must worry about his quarter-

back situation again. Sophomore Mike Jorgensen will get the keys to the offense if he is sufficiently recuperated from the concussion he suffered last week at California.

If Jorgensen is not able to play, freshman Dana Hill is the likely candidate to take his place. Hill moved the Ducks in for their fourth-quarter touchdown at Cal in relief of Jorgensen.

A problem for the Irish is their own tradition. "We know they are a team waiting for us," said Faust of the Ducks, "and that's a problem we always run into — other teams play at their best, so we have to, too."

Notre Dame hasn't had an easy game yet this year, beating Michigan 23-17, Purdue 28-14, Michigan State 11-3 and Miami 16-14.

The fact that Oregon hasn't notched its first win this year also scares Faust.

"It's really a scary situation because Oregon has come so close. We compare Oregon to Michigan State, which is also an excellent team, the kind that had some heartbreaks and bad knocks. We just hope Oregon waits a week and takes it out on somebody else."

"On premise of our scores, it will be down to the wire, a nail-biter. To be perfectly honest with you, I just want to win. I don't care what the score is. I'm sure coach Brooks feels the same way."

Whatever happens, Faust said it will be exciting.

"People have been getting their money's worth at our games, but I've been getting an ulcer."

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meeting was over. I talked to Rick Bay, who did a thorough job of looking into the matter," said Simic.

Simic said he, met again with Bowerman and a few others after the letter was sent, "but nothing about the incident came up."

Bowerman claims the only thing he has ever done for the Oregon track program "is that Dellinger has asked me for some help with funds, and within the limits of conference rules, I have always tried to help him."

"As far as any violations, I just don't have any knowledge," he added.

Bay said he believes the NCAA will decide soon about whether any violations have been committed.

"I talked to the NCAA today," Bay said Thursday. "Part of their problem is a

backlog of cases to go through. Secondly, they want to take this particular case to the NCAA council that governs infractions and take a good look at it."

Bay said he didn't think this would be a test case.

"I guess it could be, but I don't think it will. I doubt if the NCAA is going to single out the University of Oregon."

Bay said he didn't think the athletes would be hit with a very stiff penalty, if they are ruled in violation, or that the University would be suspended.

"But you never know," he said.

Even though the University may never be sanctioned, Bay is still disillusioned.

"I guess it comes down to Bill's ego. Either you agree with him, or you disagree with him, and if you disagree, he turns on you."

NFL strike ends in a week ?

COCKEYSVILLE, Md. (AP) — There is progress in negotiations to end the month-old National Football League strike and there could be a settlement within a week, sources on both the union and management sides said Thursday.

"If progress continues at the current rate it is plausible we could have a settlement by next Tuesday or Wednesday," said a union source at the bargaining table.

"There has definitely been progress during the last 24 hours," said a management source monitoring the talks. "I wouldn't disagree with a week-long timetable."

Meanwhile, the National Labor Relations Board's top lawyer announced in Washington that he will issue a complaint charging the NFL has engaged in unfair labor practices in negotiations with the players' union.

William A. Lubbers, general counsel of the five-member board, said the complaint will be based in part on management's "refusal to bargain in good faith with the union (and

failing to give the union information relevant to collective bargaining ..."

In the strike talks, the sources, while confident the talks are moving in the right direction, were quick to note that major economic differences remain.

Mediator Sam Kagel said negotiators were "going into each of the economic issues in great depth." He said that negotiators, meeting with subcommittees, are examining about 15 specific economic areas, although most of the work Wednesday night and Thursday centered on pensions and insurance.

Lubbers, in his statement, said the NFL will be given a chance to settle the case before a complaint is issued. If there is a complaint, it would be heard before an administrative law judge and the NFL would have the right of appeal to the federal courts.

Negotiators trying to hammer out a new collective bargaining agreement have been meeting in this suburb of Baltimore for the past 10 days.

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