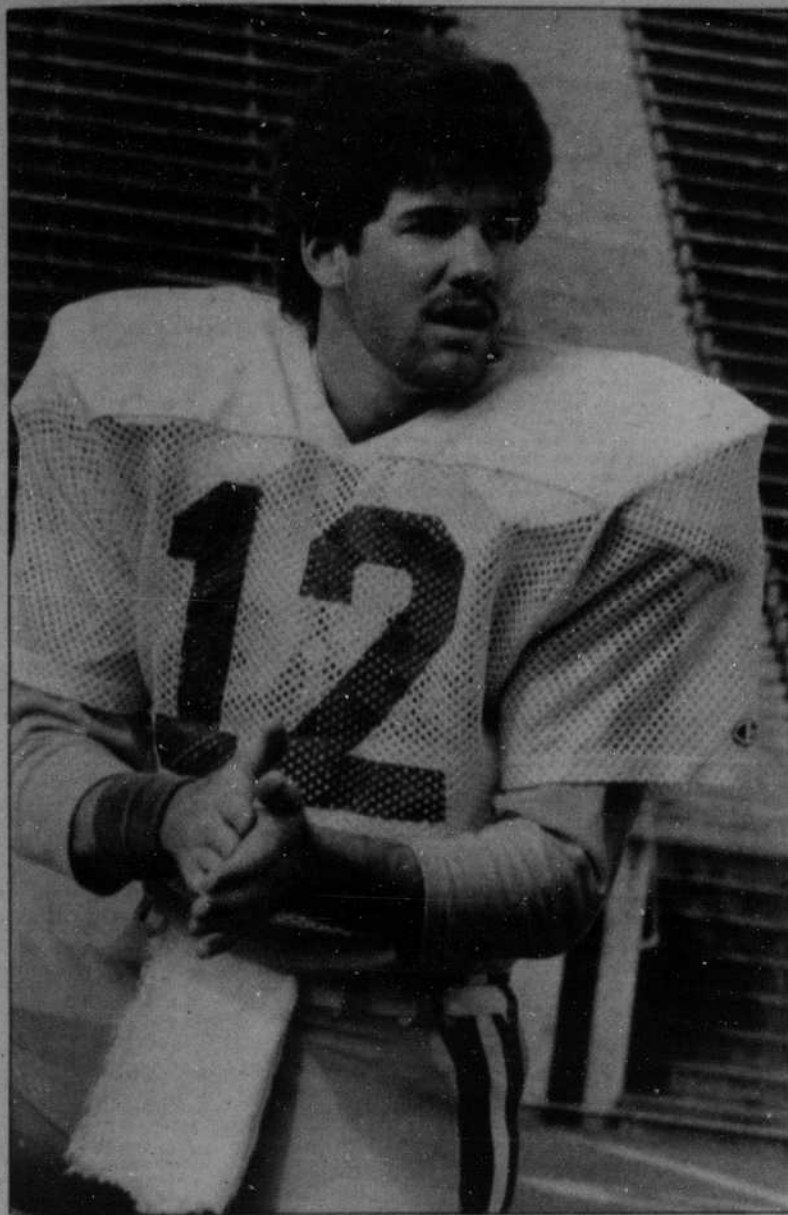




Chris Miller's baseball career was temporarily sidelined because of a broken bone he suffered in his right hand last weekend.

Miller suffers hand injury

By Brent De La Paz
Of the Emerald

The baseball career of Chris Miller has been put on hold for awhile — at least until the Oregon quarterback recovers from a broken hand sustained while wrestling with a friend on Saturday.

Miller, who recently signed a professional baseball contract with the Seattle Mariners, suffered the injury to the base of small finger on his right hand.

On Sunday morning, Dr. Kenneth Butters performed a successful operation on Miller's injury by inserting two screws and a pin near Miller's right wrist, which is his throwing hand.

The junior, who was expected to play short-stop for the Mariner's Northwest Class A Bellingham team this summer, is expected to be in a cast for at least six weeks.

"It was a freak thing," Miller says of the accident. "I was just wrestling, and I got in a bad position."

Miller says he might be able to get the cast off earlier than the six-week period set by his physicians.

"They (doctors) were really pleased," Miller said, referring to the operation. "The pin will be taken out in three weeks, and I will have a smaller cast put on in two to three weeks."

The junior, originally from Sheldon High School in Eugene, says there is a possibility he will get the cast off in four weeks if the rehabilitation process goes well.

"My hand will be at 100 percent," says Miller, who felt the injury would not hinder his football or baseball careers.

Miller says the Mariners are still interested; Seattle is treating Miller's status like any injury suffered by a player under contract.

"Everything stays the same," Miller says. "They (Mariners) are very disappointed, but they expressed their sympathy."

In fact, Miller is still looking forward to joining the Bellingham team sometime in the middle of July.

"I'm going to try to get up there sometime in July — whenever the six weeks are up," Miller says. "If the doctors turn me loose, I hope to be there in the middle of July."

But Miller's baseball season will be short because Oregon football coach Rich Brooks has set August 10 as the opening day for fall drills.

The Ducks are scheduled to play their season-opener against Washington State University on Aug. 31 in Pullman, Wash.

Howe Field may get new team

By Adam Worcester
Of the Emerald

When the Oregon's club sports baseball team played its final home game of the season April 27 at Howe Field, it may have marked the end of an era.

That event may well have been the final college baseball game ever played on the field. By this time next year, budget permitting, Howe Field could be the home of the women's varsity softball team.

How close is this to becoming a reality?

"It's still in the pen-and-pencil stage," says Oregon Assistant Athletic Director Chris Voelz. The athletic department is still gathering cost figures and is in the process of compiling next year's budget.

But, she says, if the department does decide to convert Howe to softball, "we'll do it next fall — Boom!"

Athletic Director Bill Byrne recently said it would take about \$70,000 to ready Howe for softball. Voelz says that if the money is in the budget, they want to do it.

"We would rather have an operating budget for teams than we would like to have an upgraded facility. If we can have both, we want both."

Byrne explained that the rationale behind the conversion is "that we would like to generate some revenue from our women's softball team and

charge admission to their events."

But Voelz says the change would not necessarily be motivated by money.

"It's a function of weather. It's more trying to avoid rainouts and that kind of stuff," she says. Voelz claims the athletic department would have "to meet as a staff" to decide if admission should be charged.

Ironically, weather was never a problem for the 1985 softball team. For perhaps the first time in its history, no women's softball home games were rained out.

That's ironic, Voelz claims, but also deceiving. Although Oregon Field (located just past the north end of Hayward Field) was perfect this year, during a bad spring, Voelz says it is "underwater."

"I mean it is a mess down there. The drainage isn't very good. We had rainouts, and we had to cancel the next day because it still wasn't drained. We'd play teams who had played 15 games, while we had played one."

Howe field also has some drainage problems that would have to be taken care of, in addition to converting the structure of the infield from baseball to softball.

"We'd have to redo right field," Voelz says. "We would have to re-level the surface, do some work on the backstop and fences."

"Our intention is that once it would be there, then it would be a very good field."

But that would probably be the death knell for resurrecting a varsity baseball program at the University. While sensitive to that concern, Voelz believes the field should have priority.

"I don't think we're going to make decisions based on what might or could happen in five years," Voelz says. "We make decisions on what ought to and should happen to serve our needs."

"We'll certainly take baseball into consideration, but taking something into consideration that doesn't exist right now is very difficult."

Voelz compares it to the situation with the track team's hammer-throwing area, which cuts off part of the field that the women's soccer team used before the sport was cut.

"It's like for us to say, 'Well, should we be having the hammer throw there right now because, actually, soccer could come back.'"

Although Voelz cautions that "until we say yes or no on a project, we don't make a timeline," she says a short-term decision will be reached by the end of the fiscal year. By September, the bulldozers could be rolling.

And those who witnessed or played in that April 27 game could become a part of Oregon athletic history.

Johnson nails the shot; Celtics slip past Lakers

INGLEWOOD, Calif. (AP) — Dennis Johnson's 15-foot jumper from the left side of the foul line at the final buzzer gave the Boston Celtics a 107-105 victory over the Los Angeles Lakers Wednesday night and deadlocked their best-of-seven NBA championship series at two games apiece.

The fifth game will be at the Inglewood Forum Friday night with the sixth and seventh meetings scheduled for Boston Garden Sunday and Thursday.

The Lakers had tied the score at 104-104 with 19 seconds to go when Earvin "Magic" Johnson rebounded in a missed hook shot by Kareem Abdul-Jabbar. After a timeout Dennis Johnson dribbled away much of the remaining time before passing to Larry Bird, who gave it back to Johnson, who found the net as the final buzzer went off.

The basket climaxed a Boston comeback from a seven-point deficit in the fourth quarter.

James Worthy's two quick baskets early in the fourth quarter gave Los Angeles a 90-83 lead and again put the Lakers on the verge of putting the game away. But it was at that point that Bird took over for the Celtics, breaking out a shooting slump that had seen them hit only 39.3 percent of his field goals in the last five playoff games.

Los Angeles appeared ready to take control of the game with a blistering 22-7 streak during a seven-minute span in the third period.

The spurt came after Boston scored the first six points of the half for a 64-58 lead and ended with Los Angeles ahead 80-72 with 3:36 left. But Boston didn't wilt under the pressure as Kevin McHale, who had 13 points in the quarter, came back with two straight hook shots and Quinn Buckner hit from outside just as the 24-second clock expired, trimming the deficit back to two.

et al.

MEETINGS

LESBIAN DISCUSSION GROUP scheduled for tonight is cancelled.

GOLDEN KEY NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY last meeting for the school year at 4 p.m. today in Century Room F, EMU. Important issues to be discussed. All members strongly urged to attend.

CIRCLE K SERVICE CLUB will be Oregon Daily Emerald

holding its final meeting of the year at 6:30 p.m. at 624 E. 16th Street, No. 15.

OSPIRG will have its last chapter meeting of the year tonight at 7 in Century Room D. Meeting will be short.

PRSSA MEETING today at 4 p.m. in Room 301-B Allen, for election of new officers.

COUNCIL FOR MINORITY EDUCATION monthly meeting today from 5 to 7

p.m. in Room 110, EMU.

HOMEcoming '85 planning now beginning for next year's event. Anyone interested in helping come to Century Room E today.

LECTURES

ERIC SONNENTHAL will speak on "Geochemistry of pegmatoids in the Picure Gorge basalt, central Oregon" today at

12:30 p.m. in Room 307 Volcanology.

Deadline for submitting Et Als to the Emerald front desk, 300 EMU, is noon the day before publication. Et Als are run only once, depending upon space availability. Events with a donation or admission charge will not be considered. Events occurring nearest the publication date, and campus-originated events will be given priority.