

# Ducks limp into Arizona contest hurting but favored over Wildcats

PORTLAND (AP) — His Ducks are wounded, physically and mentally, so Oregon coach Rich Brooks can't figure out why his team has been rated a 4½-point favorite in Saturday's Pacific 10 Conference football game against 17th-ranked Arizona.

"I'm shocked, to be honest with you," Brooks said Wednesday in his weekly tele-

"He's still limping and his ankle's still bothering him so we're just going to have to see how he holds up the rest of the week," Brooks said.

Backup fullback Brandon Jumper is out for the season after undergoing knee surgery, and starting tight end Joe Meerten is out indefinitely with injured ribs. Split end Joe Reitzug also is listed as doubt-

in Eugene.

"If we don't recover, we'll be run right out of the tunnel at Autzen Stadium," he said. "If we don't come back and play a heck of a good football game, it will not only be a loss but an embarrassing loss. I believe we can recover, but that remains to be seen."

Arizona, 2-0 in the Pac-10 and 3-1 overall, enters the contest after beating Oklahoma 6-3 and Washington 20-17. The Wildcats run an unusual wishbone-triple option attack under the direction of quarterback Ronald Veal, who completed eight of 12 passes for 153 yards and rushed 15 times for 53 yards last week against Washington.

"The wishbone-triple option can attack you in a variety of different ways and it's very hard to simulate in practice," Brooks said. "I really believe they have a tremendous quickness advantage in the backfield."

Brooks calls the Arizona defense "the best we've seen this year."

That's bad news for an Oregon offense that struggled against Stanford after powerful performances the first two games of the season.

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— Rich Brooks

phone news conference. "I can't envision us being favored over Arizona after what they did against Oklahoma and Washington."

Besides, he said, Arizona owns a 19-3 victory over Stanford, a team that beat the Ducks 18-17 last weekend in one of Oregon's biggest folding acts in Brooks' 13 seasons at the school.

Oregon, ranked 22nd nationally after victories over California and Iowa, was leading 17-0 before Stanford rallied, scoring all of its points in the final 7 minutes and 19 seconds of the game.

While reeling from the emotional loss, the Ducks also must contend with injuries to several players. The bad news mounted Monday when starting outside linebacker Bjarne Jensen suffered at least a partially torn ligament in practice. He'll miss Saturday's game and might be out for the season, Brooks said.

Mark Kearns, the team's starting middle linebacker and signal caller on defense, injured an ankle against Stanford and is listed as questionable against Arizona.

ful because of injured ribs.

With all the injuries and with the team's emotional status uncertain after last weekend's abrupt collapse, Brooks said he isn't sure how the players will respond this week.

"I would hope that we'll bounce back, but that's a hope," he said. "I also would have thought we would have been more emotional last week but we weren't."

If the Ducks aren't emotional against Arizona, they could be in for a long afternoon Saturday

## KPNW, AD sponsor spirit

KPNW-AM (1120 AM) invites all University students to section C of Autzen Stadium at 1:30 this Saturday afternoon for the KPNW tailgate party.

Little Ceasers Pizza will provide pizza for a dollar a slice. All money from the pizza sales will go to benefit the Duck rally squad.

Jerry Allen, "the Voice of the Ducks" and Mike Guldager, KPNW sports director, will host two hours of pre-game entertainment. Drawings will also

be held for prizes.

The University Athletic Department also encourages Oregon football fans to take part in "Spirit Day" during this Saturday's game.

The AD will distribute duck pins to the first 5,000 fans arriving at the stadium and will also distribute 20,000 pompoms.

The AD asks that all fans come show support by wearing green and yellow this Saturday.

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