

SPORTS



Photo by Eric Evans

Tailback Sean Burwell helped Oregon trounce Idaho Sept. 15, rushing for more than 100 yards and scoring three touchdowns.

Ducks pay high price for Idaho win

By Ashley Conklin
Emerald Sports Editor

Oregon literally ran over Division I-AA Idaho Sept. 15 at Autzen Stadium for a 55-23 victory, but it was a costly win for the Ducks.

Two starters, wide receiver Tony Hargain and fullback Brandon Jumper, both sustained season-ending injuries in the first half, putting a damper on another good offensive day for Oregon.

The running game, which was nowhere to be found the week before against San Diego State, returned against the Vandals as tailbacks Ngalu Kelemeni and Sean Burwell each rushed for more than 100 yards. As a team, the Ducks ground out 398 rushing yards, five short of the school record.

But the two injuries were more significant than anything else Oregon did that day.

Hargain broke his left kneecap when he jumped for a Bill

Musgrave pass in the first quarter. There was no contact on the play and Hargain didn't even land on his knee when he came down.

"Tony Hargain, in one of the freakiest things I've ever seen, broke his kneecap when he leaped to go up for a pass," Oregon Coach Rich Brooks said. "He wasn't hit, he didn't land on it. He just pulled it apart. He's out for the year obviously."

Hargain, who underwent successful surgery the following day, looked destined for a great season.

He opened the season with 10 catches for 206 yards and two touchdowns against San Diego State and was leading the nation in receiving yardage.

A fifth-year senior, Hargain has already used his one redshirt season at Oregon.

"Tony Hargain worked as hard as anybody I've been around, through the off-season, through the summer," Brooks

said.

"He was obviously prepared and off to a fantastic start," he added, "and it's a crushing thing personally and emotionally to have that type of injury."

The loss of Jumper also happened on a freak play when he was shoved while already out-of-bounds following a 43-yard run in the second quarter.

Jumper was trying to avoid the medical table on the sideline and ran into a pole holding up a rope that separates the sideline from the stands.

Jumper suffered a torn anterior cruciate in his right knee, the same injury he suffered last year in his left knee at Stanford. Jumper, a sophomore, used his redshirt year after last season's injury and is facing a long rehabilitation process following surgery.

"Brandon Jumper apparently has torn the anterior cruciate on a late hit out-of-bounds that

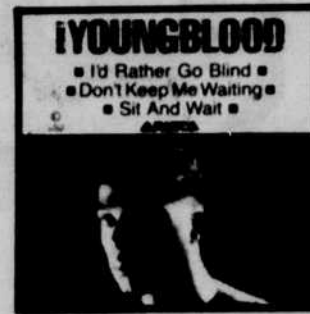
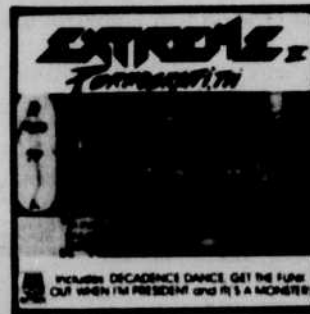
Turn to IDAHO, Page 17



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