◄GAME PREVIEW►



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Musgrave doubtful for Oregon State game

By Ashley Conklin merald Sports Editor

There has likely never been a sharper contrast in the 93-game nistory of the Civil War game than there is this season.

Oregon, 3-3 in the Pacific-10 Conference and 7-3 overall, is going to the Freedom Bowl in December while Oregon State, 1-5 and 1-9, respectively, is going nowhere.

But Oregon Coach Rich Brooks and Oregon State Coach Dave Kragthorpe know that Saturday's 1:30 p.m. game at Parker Stadium in Corvallis will be just as heated and fierce as any other Civil War game.

'This is a different game.' Brooks said. "The records going into this don't mean a lot. Certainly (in) the traditional rival games you should be ready to play regardless of what's at stake

Kragthorpe, agreed, saying that this year's Civil War game should be a bigger game than it ever has been for the Beavers who are hoping to salvage something from a dismal season with a win.

'I think it should really mean something to our players in two ways," he said. "It can mean that we can salvage something out of what's been a very bad year for us in every 'And the other part is the

normal approach," Kragthorpe said. "It's the last game of the season, the last game for the seniors, and I think all those things weigh kind of deep so to speak.

Injuries have played a big part in each team's success, or lack of, this season. Oregon has been able to overcome several injuries to key starters this season to continue on the winning track while Oregon State was without some key players early in the season - namely nose tackle Esera Tuaolo - that led to the Beavers dropping their first five games.

"We set a bad early pace." Kragthorpe said. "We had some disappointments early in terms of injuries and things like

"We got off to a bad start and when you haven't been a winning team, been a winning program as Oregon State hasn't been in so long, it's easier to lose confidence and drop back a level." he said.

Tuaolo, who Brooks described as "on a different planet when it comes to defensive lineman." has been his dominating self for the Beavers lately, but Brooks' biggest concern might be the status of his best player, quarterback Bill Mus-



1,000-yard rusher in school history and only the second freshman in Pac-10 history to have a 1,000-yard sea-



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Oregon tailback Sean Burwell needs 66 yards rushing against Oregon State Saturday to become only the fifth son. Burwell also needs only 35 all-purpose yards to set a new single-season school record in that category.

grave, for Saturday's game Musgrave reinjured his shoulder in last week's 28-3 loss to California and is listed as doubtful for the Civil War game. Musgrave has been doubtful three of the past four weeks, but has played every

Still. Brooks said he believes Musgrave is unlikely to go Saturday, despite his ability to play with pain this season.

'I have said what I truly believe each week: that he's very doubtful." Brooks said. "He convinced me the three other weeks that I've said that, this is the fourth, that he was able to

"All I'm saying is that he's very doubtful and I mean that sincerely." he said.

If Musgrave can't play Saturday, junior Bob Brothers would likely start in his place.

Brooks hadn't decided on Brothers or junior Jon Okken by Wednesday but Brothers has likely re-emerged as the No. 2 quarterback based on having a better game at Cal last week than did Okken, who took over as the No. 2 quarterback following the Idaho game.

Oregon is 25-9 over the last four years when Musgrave has started and finished a game.

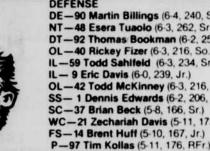
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