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SPORTS

Brooks changes lineup

By Jake Berg Emerald Sports Editor

The Oregon football deck has been shuffled.

In the wake of two straight losses and multiple injuries, Coach Rich Brooks was forced Monday to pull the old switcheroo, making personnel changes on both offense and defense.

Most notable of the changes is the return of cornerback Daryle Smith to the Oregon roster. The senior was suspended indefinitely at the start of last week for unspecified disciplinary reasons and did not play in the Ducks' 30-14 loss to USC last weekend.

Following his reinstatement, Smith took part in drills Monday.

Redshirt freshman Herman O'Berry replaced Smith in the secondary against the Trojans and received compliments on his performance from Oregon defensive coordinator Denny Schuler after the game. But Brooks said a starter at cornerback for Saturday's home game against New Mexico State would not be determined until later this week.

Another change in the secondary involves the moving of strong safety Chad Cota to the first unit. The redshirt freshman replaces junior Paul Rodriguez at the position.

Kyle Crowston, who entered the season as the Ducks' second-string quarterback, has been moved to the secondary as he hopes to see more playing time. The redshirt freshman saw action in Oregon's opening win over Washington State, completing 2 of 2 passes for 41 yards, but he and Oregon offensive coordinator Mike Bellotti decided on the move to free safety, Bellotti said.

"Kyle is one of our better athletes on the team," Bellotti



Daryle Smith

said. "We want to make an attempt to get him on the field."

Crowston, an all-state defensive back while at Evergreen High in Vancouver, Wash., would likely have been the fourth-string quarterback, had he stayed at the position.

Redshirt freshman Danny O'Neil is the first unit quarterback, but Brooks did make a change at the backup spots. Brett Salisbury, after leading the Ducks to their only touchdown against USC, has been moved up to the second unit, and sophomore Doug Musgrave was bumped down to third.

"He was elevated to No. 2 based on his performance," Bellotti said of Salisbury. "He did some good things."

Salisbury, a junior transfer, sustained a hernia during a late summer practice that kept him out of action for four-and-a-half weeks. He completed 4 of 6 passes for 67 yards and a touchdown against USC, his first game of the season.

Also on offense, junior center Tom Curran will start Saturday in place of injured Greg Phillips, whose lower left leg was bruised severely against USC.

X-country team ranks fourth

The loss of the Oregon women's cross country team's top two runners didn't have an effect on the first national poll of the season

The Ducks appeared fourth nationally in the NCAA Division I Women's Cross Country Poll taken Monday. The high ranking comes despite the loss of the team's two best runners from last season, Liz Wilson and Stephanie Wessell.

After a big win at the Mountain West Classic in Missoula, Mont., the men's cross country team moved up a spot in the NCAA Division I Men's Cross Country Coaches' Poll taken Tuesday.

Ranked in the women's top spot is Villanova, and Providence and Arkansas take up the third- and fourth-rankings, respectively. Following Oregon in fifth spot is North Carolina Other Pacific-10 Conference teams appearing in the women's poll were Arizona at 13th and Washington at 23rd.

The Oregon women finished fifth at last season's NCAA championships, and only Wilson and Wessell are gone from that team. In addition, the Ducks have recruited runners who figure to help the team this year.

Arkansas ranks in the men's poll top spot and Iowa State ranks second. Following Oregon in the fourth and fifth spots are Providence and Wisconsin, respectively.

Oregon's volleyball team fell out of the rankings in both national polls taken Tuesday. The Ducks, ranked 19th last week in both the Tachikara/AVCA Poll and the NCAA Coaches' Poll, was not ranked in the top 20 teams Tuesday, but Oregon did receive votes.

Hockey team tryouts Sunday

Tryouts for the Oregon Club Sports hockey team will be Sunday, Oct. 6, Coach Mike Sobol has announced.

A mandatory meeting at Lane County Ice at 7:45 p.m Sunday will precede the tryouts that night. All students, staff and faculty are eligible for the team.

Those attending the meeting

must bring their own equipment for the tryouts.

The hockey team will open its 19-game season on Oct. 26. Oregon will play 12 home games.

For more information, contact hockey captain/coordinator Scott Brown at 344-8148.