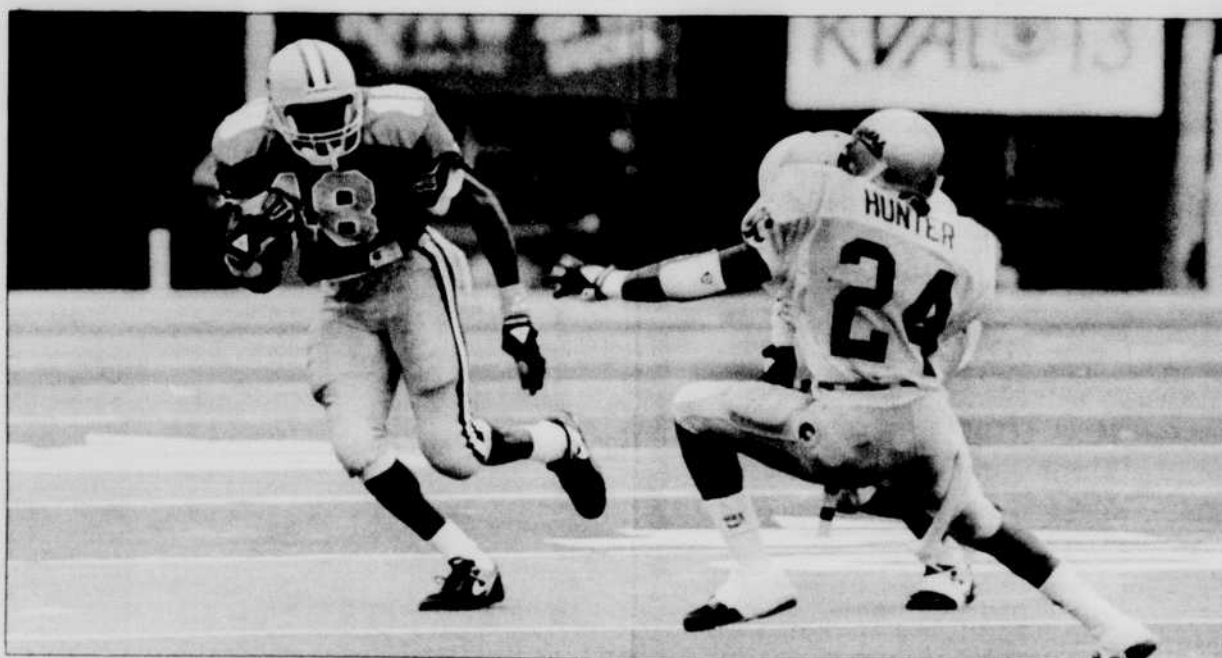


◀ GAME PREVIEW ▶

# Oregon injuries pile up as New Mexico State comes to town

By Jake Berg  
Emerald Sports Editor



Anthony Jones is the Ducks' leading receiver this year, catching 14 passes for 208 yards and four touchdowns, all team-highs.

Many of Oregon's football players are spending more time in the training room than on the field. And that's serious for the wounded Ducks, 2-2 overall and 1-1 in the Pacific-10 Conference, who will take on the 0-3 Aggies at 1 p.m. Saturday in Oregon's only non-league game at Autzen Stadium this season. Oregon is hurting from two straight losses, but more importantly, the Ducks are reeling from injuries.

Tailback Sean Burwell, who has missed Oregon's last two games because of an ankle injury, is still doubtful, Coach Rich Brooks said. Burwell did some light jogging in practice this week but was otherwise kept to minimal workouts.

"Any time you lose a guy with the ability that Burwell has, that always puts more pressure on all the rest of the components of the offense," Brooks said.

Eric Castle, the Ducks' free safety who missed much of the first half against USC last week, is questionable for Saturday. Brooks said a back injury Castle sustained last Saturday has actually made the junior's condition decline during the week.

If Castle isn't able to start Saturday, redshirt freshman Chad Cota would move into his place. Cota was elevated to the starting role at strong safety earlier this week, but junior Paul Rodriguez would play there if Cota moved to free safety.

Other injuries in the defensive secondary include a wrist injury to cornerback Muhammad Oliver and a shoulder injury to cornerback Herman O'Berry. Daryle Smith, who was reinstated Monday after a suspension, may replace O'Berry at the starting right cornerback position.

Linebacker Joe Farwell has seen limited practice time over the last three weeks because of an ankle in-

jury. Despite the injury, Farwell has started all four games this season and will likely see action Saturday.

Center Greg Phillips left the USC game early with a lower left leg bruise, and sophomore Tom Curran filled in for Phillips and will start Saturday. Phillips is listed as doubtful for New Mexico State.

Also on offense, starting fullback Juan Shedrick is still suffering from a hip injury that limited his playing time last week.

In the reserves, linebackers David Massey (foot)

and John Taumoepeau (knee) could miss Saturday's game. Fullback Dwayne Jones (hamstring) and tackle Matt Martin (ankle) are still hurt.

And in the wake of that hospital list, Oregon must still play a football game Saturday, and Brooks said the Aggies' 0-3 mark could be deceiving.

"They're a team right now that's trying to find out how to win," Brooks said. "They could very easily be 2-1 right now."

The Aggies were edged in their season opener by

Texas-El Paso, 22-21 but fell apart the next week at Kansas, 54-14. New Mexico State's third loss came last week at Albuquerque to New Mexico.

New Mexico State has obviously struggled since the 1984 season, going a miserable 7-72 since then.

Aggies head Coach Jim Hess, now in his second season at Las Cruces, has a 1-13 slate while at the school. Hess is attempting to rebuild the program with an influx of junior college players.

One of those transfers is starting quarterback David Chisum. The senior set school records for pass attempts and completions last season.

"I believe their quarterback Chisum is playing very well," Brooks said. "They rely mostly on passing the ball."

Who will be passing the ball from Oregon's side was questioned by some earlier in the week, but Brooks said there is no question as to who the Ducks' quarterback is — Danny O'Neil.

"Danny O'Neil is our starting quarterback," he said. "I can't explain it any more matter-of-factly than that."

Brett Salisbury, the second-string quarterback, led Oregon to its only touchdown in the game.

Brooks is definitely on O'Neil's side, but the coach is unhappy overall with the offense's performance last weekend.

"We have to find the end zone, which has been escaping us," Brooks said. "We need to get better as a football team. I'm not as concerned with who we're playing as I am with our football team."

**Game Notes:** Saturday will be the first time ever that Oregon will have played a school from the state of New Mexico. The Duck defense allowed 306 yards and 340 yards in wins over Washington State and Texas Tech, respectively, but permitted only 279 yards in a loss to Utah and 265 yards in the loss to USC last week.

## ◀ UO PROBABLE STARTERS ▶

**OFFENSE**  
SE—81 Ronnie Harris (5-10, 170, Jr.)  
LT—72 Todd Gydesen (6-6, 280, Sr.)  
LG—64 John Tattersall (6-4, 285, Jr.)  
C—57 Tom Curran (6-2, 260, So.)  
RG—67 Bud Bowie (6-5, 260, Sr.)  
RT—75 David Collinsworth (6-4, 285, Jr.)  
TE—83 Jeff Thomason (6-4, 229, Sr.)  
QB—16 Danny O'Neil (6-2, 175, RFr.)  
TB—22 Donovan Moore (5-11, 190, Jr.)  
FB—24 Juan Shedrick (6-2, 228, So.)  
FL—18 Anthony Jones (5-11, 187, Jr.)  
PK—9 Gregg McCallum (5-9, 185, Sr.)



**DEFENSE**  
LE—90 Matt LaBounty (6-4, 258, Sr.)  
NT—69 Marcus Woods (6-2, 299, Sr.)  
RE—97 Romeo Bandison (6-5, 272, So.)  
LO—47 Andy Curran (6-4, 241, Sr.)  
ML—45 James Bautista (6-1, 232, Sr.)  
WL—51 Joe Farwell (6-2, 210, Jr.)  
RO—40 Ernest Jones (6-2, 222, So.)  
SS—7 Chad Cota (6-1, 183, RFr.)  
LC—11 Muhammad Oliver (5-11, 170, Sr.)  
RC—4 Herman O'Berry (5-11, 179, RFr.)  
FS—12 Eric Castle (6-3, 208, Jr.)  
P—3 Tommy Thompson (5-10, 185, So.)

## ◀ NMS PROBABLE STARTERS ▶

**OFFENSE**  
WR—1 Ezell Brown (5-8, 161, So.)  
LT—68 Shawn Bowman (6-3, 269, Jr.)  
LG—65 Troy Sienkiewicz (6-4, 277, RFr.)  
C—54 Matt Miles (6-2, 263, Sr.)  
RG—72 Eric Schmierer (6-4, 258, Jr.)  
RT—61 Eric Friberg (6-4, 289, Jr.)  
TE—84 Todd Cutler (6-4, 236, Jr.)  
QB—9 David Chisum (6-0, 187, Sr.)  
HB—25 Mike Beauregard (5-10, 183, Sr.)  
FB—28 Jimmie Mitchell (5-10, 212, Sr.)  
FL—7 Atlas Reager (6-0, 169, Jr.)  
PK—88 Jose Ortiz (5-7, 200, Jr.)



**DEFENSE**  
LE—92 George Tuoti (6-5, 260, Jr.)  
LT—99 Sam Austrino (6-1, 280, Jr.)  
RT—95 Chad Glover (6-3, 250, Sr.)  
RE—53 Loren Dunlap (6-2, 245, Sr.)  
WL—51 Brian Carter (6-1, 218, Sr.)  
ML—57 Steve Campbell (6-1, 225, Sr.)  
SL—34 Lolesio Takapu (6-2, 240, Jr.)  
SS—40 Quinton Tetzino (5-11, 200, Jr.)  
LC—32 Danny Mitchell (5-10, 183, Jr.)  
RC—12 George Sykes (5-9, 188, Sr.)  
FS—27 Donald Stowers (6-2, 200, So.)  
P—11 Garrett Henson (6-0, 176, Sr.)

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