

Receiver position up for grabs

By Steve Mims
Oregon Daily Emerald

Most of the attention during the Oregon football team's spring drills has been centered on the quarterback position, but a fierce battle is taking place at wide receiver.

The Ducks have seven players vying for playing time at receiver in the spring and a pair of highly touted recruits ready to enter the competition in the fall.

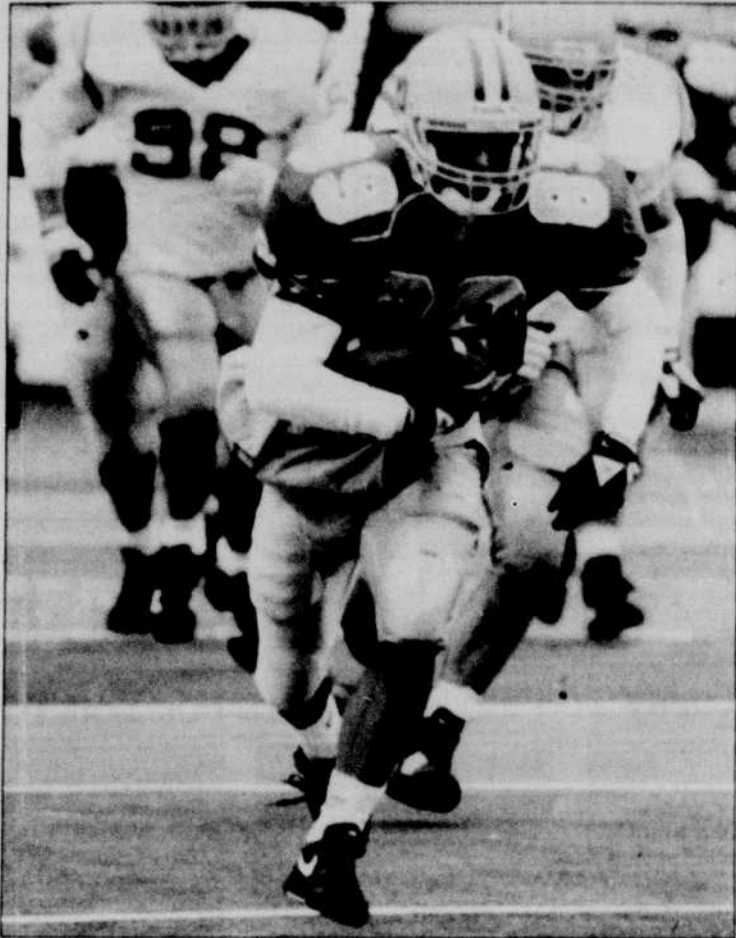
Senior Derrick Deadwiler is the only returning receiver who started last year. Deadwiler started eight games in 1992 and caught 29 passes for 414 yards and a touchdown. The rest of the field is made up of two seniors, two sophomores and two redshirt freshmen who have combined to start one game for the Ducks.

"As a group we are learning a lot," said Deadwiler, who also said his shoulder injury from a year ago has healed. "But we need to get more consistent. I need to work harder because I know all the spots are open."

Oregon offensive coordinator Mike Bellotti said he expects the experienced Deadwiler to lead the young group of receivers.

"Derrick has really matured," Bellotti said. "He has a good temperament and is a positive example."

Redshirt freshman Dameron Ricketts has excited the coaching staff and fans with his flashy play at receiver. Ricketts, a 5-foot-9, 160-pounder from Culver City, Calif., was third on the depth chart at flanker entering the spring, but a good perfor-



Cristin McLemore is one of seven Oregon receivers vying for a starting position next fall on the Duck football team.

mance in the team's scrimmage last week should move him up.

"I know the plays, but it seems to be coming along slowly," Ricketts said. "I know expectations are high for me, but that will have to wait. The job is open, so I am not worried about that."

Ricketts played quarterback and defensive back in high school and has had to adjust to wide receiver at Oregon. Ricketts was slowed by knee surgery last season and did not practice until midway through the season. Another redshirt freshman,

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Grass Volleyball	C	6	April 26	April 28	April 26, 4pm	\$30
ONE DAY EVENTS						
Track Meet	M-W	4	May 5	May 7	-	\$15/team
Swim Meet-open	M-W-C	4	April 22, 3pm	April 23	-	\$15/team
International Aerobics	M-W	1	-	April 29	-	NC
Golf Tour.	M-W-C	2	May 10	May 16	-	!
TWO/THREE DAY EVENTS						
3x3 Basketball	M-W	3	May 6	May 8 & 9	!	!

* M=Men, W=Women, C=Coed
+ Intramural sport—under IM regulations (See Handbook)
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