



Former Gaucho signs on with Green

The Oregon men's program stepped back into the big-man market Monday as Rob Ramaker, a highly recruited prep three years ago from Santa Barbara, signed a national letter of intent to play with the Ducks, head basketball coach Jerry Green announced Monday.



The 6-foot-9 center played one year at UC Santa Barbara, emerging as one of the top freshman in the Big West conference in 1993-1994 in making the all-freshman squad. He paced the team in rebounding (7.6) and improved on that mark in Big West games with 8.5 boards a game while scoring at a 7.7 clip.

Ramaker set a UCSB freshman rebounding mark with 213. He either led or shared the lead in rebounding 15 times, including the first four games and seven of the final eight games two years ago.

"Rob is a very skilled big man and will fit in very well into our system," Green said. "He can hit the 19-footer as well as go inside and score."

"He is a tremendous rebounder, and we will expect him to make an immediate impact for us."

An ankle injury sidelined the 230-pound Ramaker for all of 1992-1993. He began this season with the Gauchos but transferred mid-year to Santa Barbara City College and did not compete in basketball. He will enter Oregon in the fall as a junior and have two

years of athletic eligibility remaining.

Ramaker, a three-time all-CIF selection, earned all-Santa Barbara County and all-Channel League honors all three years at San Marcos High School while establishing 15 school records. He averaged 24 points, 10 rebounds, three blocked shots, three steals and two assists as a senior. Ramaker was honored by the school as its male athlete of the year in 1992.

"Rob is a quality young man and a good student — just the kind of person we're trying to recruit into our system to help our program," Green said.

Ramaker joins incoming freshman Donte Quinine and spring signees Terik Brown and Churchill's A.D. Smith as new members of the Ducks.

TUESDAY

April 18, 1995
Volume 96, Issue 134

Women's tennis finishes third in Pac-10 North

The Oregon women's tennis team won two singles matches Sunday but finished third as Washington State dethroned Washington and its 12-year hold on the Pacific-10 Conference Northern Division women's tennis title with a victory Sunday evening.

Oregon freshman Allison Sosnow and Caryn Coyle upended Washington State and Washington players respectively to claim Oregon's lone victories Sunday as the Ducks finished with five points.

Oregon concludes the dual season with home matches Friday vs. Portland State and Saturday against Seattle. The Ducks then complete the season by venturing to the Open Collegiate Championships in Ojai, Calif., April 27-30.

NCC star named to All-America team

Northwest Christian College's Ty Lockard, a North Eugene High School graduate, has been named to the National Small Colleges Athletic Association All-America Team.

Lockard was a key factor in the Crusaders' second-place showing at the NSCAA National Tournament in Amarillo, Texas, in March.

Velarde 'trips' Dodgers

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. (AP) — Randy Velarde had an unassisted triple play for the New York Yankees in the ninth inning of a 7-2 loss to the Los Angeles Dodgers on Monday.

Reggie Williams was running from second and Eddie Pye from first when Mitch Webster hit a soft liner that Velarde snared near second base. He touched the bag and then tagged out Pye.

"You've got runners at first and second and you've got guys moving," said Velarde, who was playing shortstop. "Obviously, the ball was tailor made."

Only 10 major leaguers have had unassisted triple plays in regular season games. The last was by John Valentin of Boston last July 8 against Seattle.

Velarde didn't put much stock in the event. "You can go 5-for-5 or do whatever down here and it doesn't matter," he said.



FILE PHOTO

Ki-Jana Carter figures to be the No. 1 pick in the 1995 NFL draft, but which team will draft him remains the million-dollar question.

Panthers ponder Carter's worth to first-year team

NEW YORK (AP) — The people who run the Carolina Panthers are realists.

They know Ki-Jana Carter is the best player in Saturday's NFL draft, but they also know that the offensive line an expansion team will put on the field is likely to be hazardous to his health.

So while it's almost a sure thing that the Penn State running back will be the first player taken in the NFL draft, it's a lot less sure that the Panthers, who hold the pick, will have it at noon EDT Saturday, when it comes time to use it.

So Carter could end up as a Redskin, Brown or Viking. And Kerry Collins, his Penn State teammate, could go to the Panthers, learn his trade and quarterback Carolina to a Super Bowl in ... say 2005, when Carter's career is winding down.

"We're here. We're listening," says Bill Polian, the Panthers' general manager. "What will happen is another story."

Since last season, when the Panthers found out they would have the No. 1 pick, Polian's line has been consistent. Why, he asks, take a running back or quarterback who will get battered behind a weak offensive line?

Polian's thinking hasn't really changed, although the signing of Frank Reich and the acquisition of Jack Trudeau in the expansion draft means he can break in a young quarterback behind a veteran journeyman, who will take his beating for him. He likes both Steve McNair of Alcorn State and Collins, but most people think he prefers Collins.

What does that do for Carter, who is considered in a class with the top running backs to come out in the last 26 years, from Marshall Faulk last year to O.J. Simpson in 1969?

It could send him to Washington, Minneso-

Turn to CARTER, Page 10A

Umpires lower raise proposal, remain skeptical

NEW YORK (AP) — Baseball umpires made a new proposal Monday, but the negotiator for owners said he thought there was little chance for a deal by opening day next week.

Umpires, who make from \$60,000 to \$175,000 per season, asked for a 40 percent raise, down from 53 percent in their previous proposal and 60 percent in their initial plan.

Owners, who have locked out the umpires since Jan. 1, last Thursday offered a 10 percent increase, up from a cost-of-living increase in their previous

proposal.

Umpires union head Richie Phillips called management's offer "shameful" and said it "exhibits a lack of respect for the umpires, their profession and their contribution to the game."

Owners have been using replacement umpires during spring training and intend to use them during the regular season if there isn't an agreement.

"While he did make a new offer, it is not significantly enough lower to give me encour-

agement that we can make a deal in the near future," said Robert Kheel, the management lawyer who negotiates on behalf of both leagues. "Forty percent is not something we can make a deal around."

Phillips said he hoped his latest proposal "would stimulate bargaining on their part."

"If they bargain in good faith, I think we can get a deal before opening day and have the regular umpires back," Phillips said.

Umpires prefer to receive the entire increase in the first year

of a contract. In the deal reached on the opening day of the 1991 season, the pay for starting umpires was raised from \$41,000 to \$60,000 and the pay for umpires with 25 or more years in the majors was raised from \$100,000 to \$175,000.

In addition, most umpires receive \$20,000 each from the postseason bonus pool under the expired deal. The umpires originally sought to double that amount because of the increase in playoff games, and Phillips said the sides have been talking about the pool money.