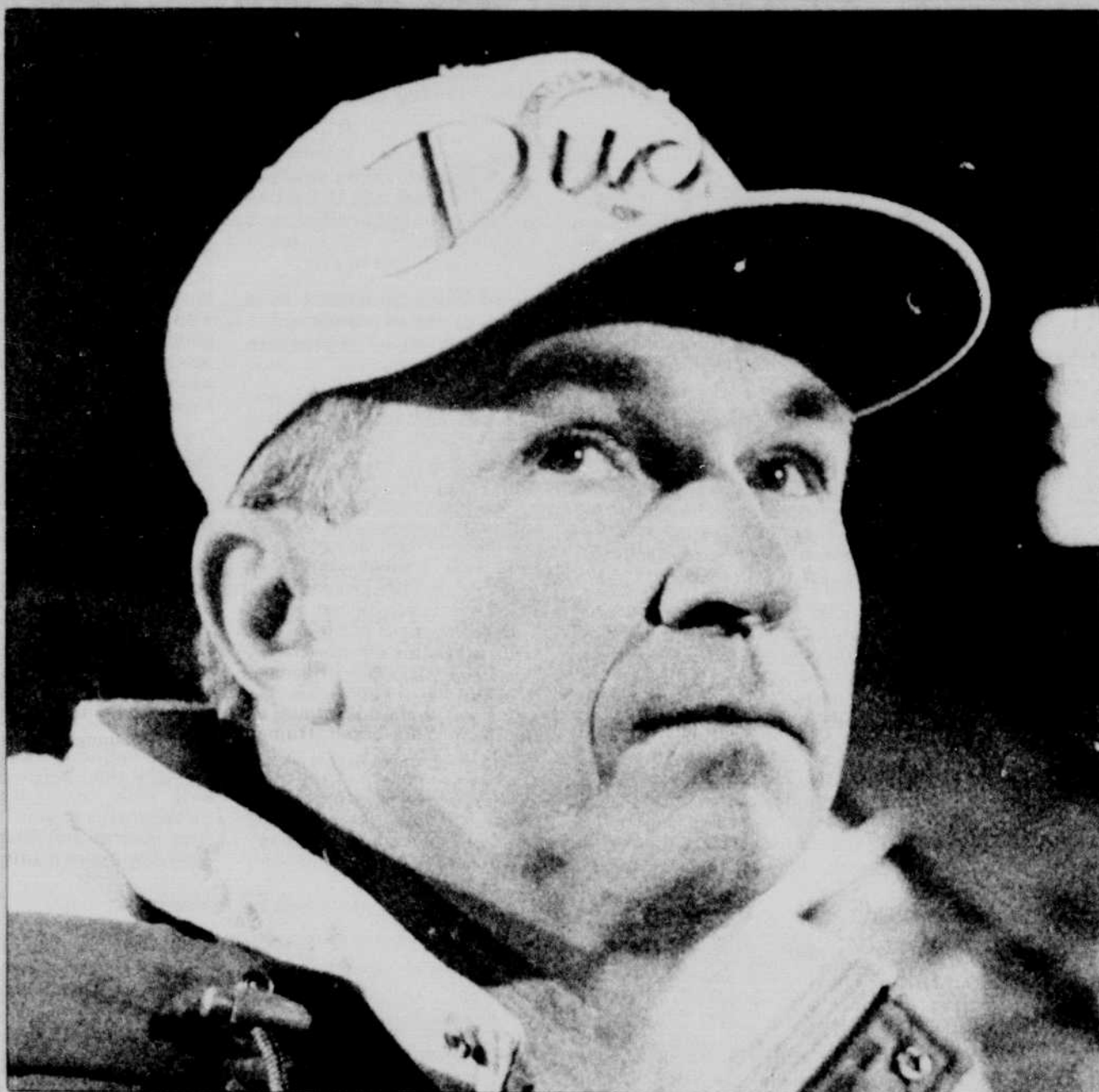




YEAR OF THE DUCK

RICH BROOKS



After 18 years at the helm of the Oregon Ducks, Rich Brooks' ultimate dream of taking his team to the Rose Bowl was realized in 1995.

Leading the Ducks to an improbable mid-season run for the Pacific-10 Conference title, Brooks guided the Ducks to a 9-3 regular-season mark, including a six-game win streak to wrap up Oregon's run for the roses.

Brooks led the Ducks to a 67-60 record over the last 11 seasons and produced four bowl appearances since 1989.

As a result of his coaching efforts, Brooks was awarded, as the St. Louis Rams scooped up the veteran collegiate coach to the tune of a \$2.5 million, four-year contract as its head coach. As the Ducks' head coach, Brooks compiled a 91-109-4 mark since 1977.

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Seattle's Sounders sinking?

SEATTLE (AP) — The majority owner of the Seattle Sounders says the A-League soccer team is losing more money than expected, and he's concerned about the future of the league.

"I'm hoping that the loss will be less than half a million dollars," said Scott Oki, a former Microsoft Corp. executive who owns 85 percent of the club. "We need an eight-team league and we need more fans to come to the games."

He said management expected to lose money in its first season last year but he denied that the loss was nearly \$1 million.

Last year the American Professional Soccer League had seven teams, but three folded in the offseason — Toronto, Fort Lauderdale and Los Angeles. The holdovers in the renamed league are defending champion Montreal, Colorado, Vancouver and Seattle. Atlanta and New York are fielding new teams this year.

Three-run blast gives Miami CWS win

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Danny Buxbaum's three-run homer in the first inning gave J.D. Arteaga all the lead he needed and Miami went on to beat Florida State 4-2 Sunday in a winners' bracket game at the College World Series.

Florida State had won four of six games between the teams this season, but the second-seeded Seminoles (53-14) couldn't get past Arteaga (11-2) this time. Arteaga, who had been involved in two no-decisions against Florida State earlier this year, scattered seven hits with three strikeouts and no walks.

The win gives third-seeded Miami (48-15) off until Wednesday as the last unbeaten team in its bracket. Florida State drops to the elimination round and will play Sunday night's Oklahoma-Southern Cal winner on Tuesday.

Spratlin wins one for the road

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Auburn's Chris Spratlin, who had never won a college tournament, won the last one of his career with rounds of 67, 71, 70 and a closing 3-over-par 75 for a 5-under 283 at the 98th NCAA Championship at Ohio State's Scarlet Course on Saturday.

Oregon, Jones stumble in NCAA efforts

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Oregon's Camara Jones finished third Saturday in the 400 finals of the NCAA track championship, falling onto the track at the finish.

Jones, a two-time all-American, led until the final two strides of the race when Kansas State's Nicole Green nosed ahead of her on the inside.

Attempting to catch Green, Jones fell across the finish line and crashed hard to the track on her hip and face. Her mishap allowed Louisiana State's Charlene Maulseed to sneak into second.

Only four-hundredths of a second separated the top three runners as Green was timed in 52.01, Maulseed 52.03 and Jones

52.05.

"It's hard for me right now," said Jones, holder of the Oregon school record at 51.44. "I made some simple mistakes which cost me the championship. It hurts because I believe I'm one of the better runners out there and I didn't prove it today."

Oregon assistant coach Mark Stream wanted Jones to wait until 150 meters were left to make her final push. But Jones, who was in lane six, felt Nebraska's Shanelle Porter come up on her at the 200-meter mark and she couldn't help herself.

She reacted and it cost her at the finish.

"I took off too early," Jones said. "And then over the last 20

meters, I felt Nicole coming up and instead of relaxing, I tied up. That's too bad. I'm going to relive that race for a long time."

In the 1,600 relay, Jones turned in a 50.8 split to pull the Ducks into fifth place overall with a 3:33.90 clocking. That ranked as the second fastest time in school history, trailing only the 3:33.11 mark set in Thursday's semifinals.

Nilka Thomas, subbing for Jamila Godfrey, ran the first leg (55.8), followed by Nicole Commissiong (52.9) and LaReina Woods (54.3) before Jones' anchor leg.

In team standings, the Oregon women finished in a tie for 24th place with 10 points, while the

Oregon men deadlocked with five other schools in 47th place with five points.

Oregon freshman Pat Johnson tied for last in the 100 meters with a time of 10.32, his best performance in three races at the NCAA meet but still slower than his PR of 10.26 set at the Drake Relays.

"I feel kind of bad since I got last place," said the 18-year-old. "But I still ran in a final in my first NCAA meet, and I scored a point for the team. Maybe next time I'll just try one event. I guess I learned the hard way."

Johnson, a flanker on the Oregon football team, said he will decide Monday whether he will redshirt for the 1995 football season.