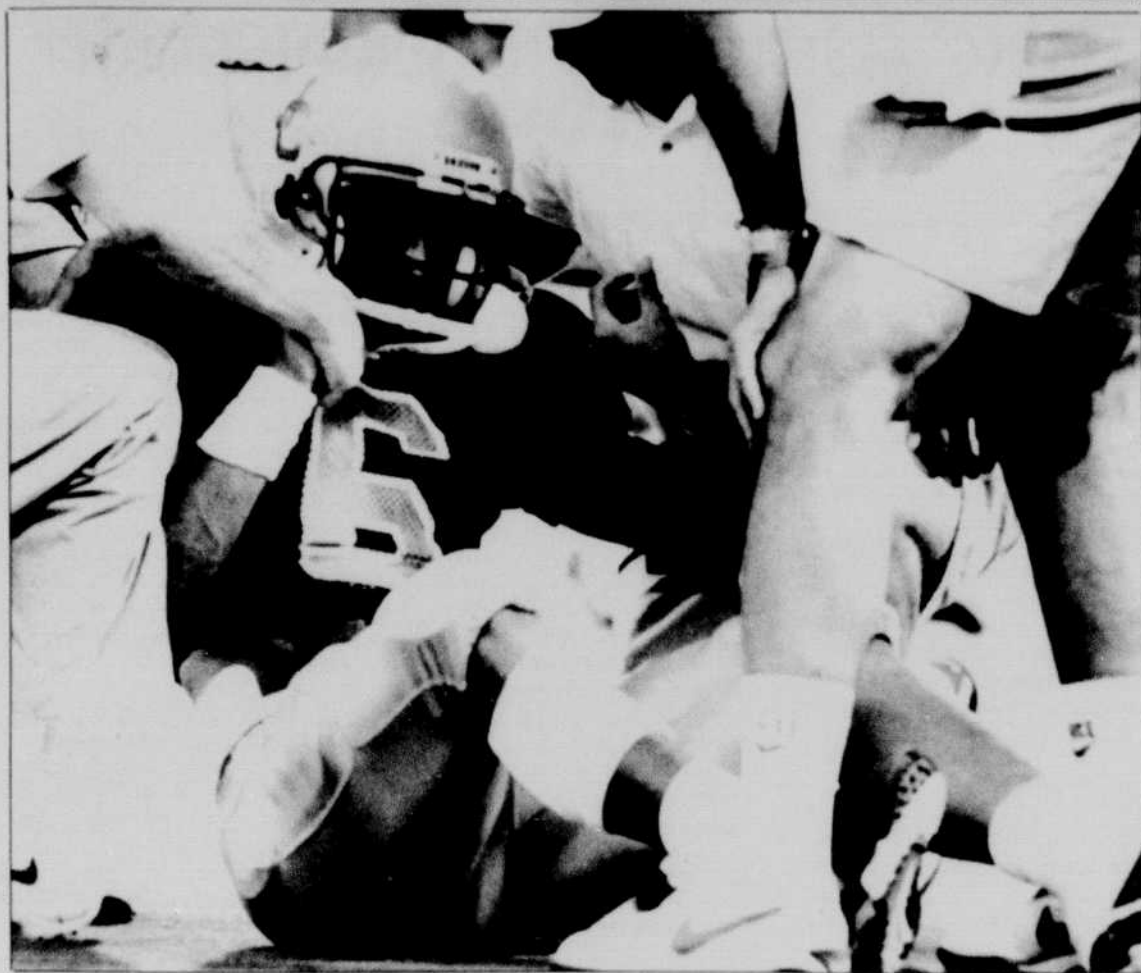


FOOTBALL

OREGON VS PACIFIC



EMERALD

The Oregon football team has sustained many injuries over the course of the season, but with the depth the Ducks possess the coaching staff isn't worried.

Bailey, Jelks out for Pacific game

INJURY REPORT: The injuries are plentiful, but the Ducks feel they're ready

By Mark McTyre
Assistant Sports Editor

The 17th-ranked Oregon football team has had nearly two weeks to lick their wounds and prepare for this weekend's game against visiting Pacific.

The layoff, however, has proved to be not enough time for the Ducks to mend all of their injuries in preparation for the Tigers.

"I don't think our health situation is all that good or improved despite a week off," Oregon football head coach Mike Bellotti said.

Of the injuries sustained, the biggest losses the Ducks will have to endure this weekend is that of fullback Aaron Jelks and defensive end Troy Bailey. Jelks has a stress fracture in his left foot and a shoulder injury, while Bailey has a strained left knee which he sustained during the Ducks 28-21 loss to Stanford.

"It may be two or three weeks before we get Jelks back," Bellotti said. "Troy is doubtful for this weekend and hopefully will try to go next week in California."

The loss of Jelks leaves a major

SEASON INJURIES

Below is a list of Oregon injured players. From left: position, name, injury and expected return.

SS	Jaiya Figueras	right leg	season
DE	Troy Bailey	knee	doubtful
LB	Jeremy Asher	knee	questionable
FB	Aaron Jelks	shoulder	questionable
FL	Cristin McLemore	back	questionable
FL	Damon Griffin	collarbone	questionable
C	Mark Gregg	knee	unknown
K	Matt Beiden	thigh	doubtful

dent in Oregon's offense. The sophomore who tipped the scales at 253 pounds prior to preseason drills started for the first time at UCLA and responded with 81 yards on nine carries, leading to a touchdown. Then, he went out of the game at Stanford after just 18 plays with a bruised shoulder.

Replacements Pulou Malepeai and Eric Winn played well in relief, but Jelks had added a new dimension to the offense. However, offensive coordinator Al Borges believes that his squad will live on.

"I think we have got capable replacements and if you are going to make a season out of it — if you are going to have a good year — you've got to have some capable

replacements," Borges said. "Somebody is going to get hurt sometime or another and you have got to be capable to replace them."

On the defensive side of the ball, the Ducks lost their vocal and emotional leader in Bailey. The senior compiled one of his best outings for the Ducks in his career, but Oregon is now left wondering when he might get another opportunity to oust his feat.

Bailey didn't inform medical personnel he had damaged his right knee until after the Ducks contest. During it, he finished with nine tackles, including a quarterback sack and another tackle for lost yardage.

"He's a big loss for us," outside linebacker Derrick Barnes said. "He was our leader on defense, but now we'll just have to step it up. We're ready."

In the same frame of mind as Barnes, Borges said that the Ducks are ready even though the losses are noticeable.

"The last game we played we didn't win and it was a week and a half ago," Borges said. "I think the kids are hungry to play again [and] I think now we are ready to go."

The Ducks will find out how ready they are Saturday.



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