

Jenkins will start for Arizona

Redshirt freshman QB Ortege Jenkins will fill in for the injured Keith Smith against Stanford

The Associated Press

TUCSON, Ariz. — Arizona coach Dick Tomey may not want to admit it just yet, but there appears to be a quarterback controversy brewing.

Following a three-touchdown, 285-yard effort by redshirt freshman Ortege Jenkins last week against San Diego State, the question is who will start at quarterback when the Wildcats play No. 16 Stanford in Tucson Saturday night — Jenkins or sophomore Keith Smith?

"OJ will start and I hope Keith by the end of the week can come in and play," Tomey said Tuesday.

Smith started 13 straight games before injuring his throwing shoulder in the second half of Arizona's

game with UCLA Sept. 27. He did not play in the Wildcats' 31-28 come-from-behind victory over the Aztecs.

"If [Smith] would have come into the game last weekend, we would have just handed off," Tomey said. "I don't think he could have taken a hit. Hopefully, by the end of this week he will."

If Smith is not available, Jenkins proved he could do the job. Not only did he direct the team back from a 21-0 first quarter deficit for the last-minute victory, but Jenkins also completed 17-of-32 passes and did not throw an interception.

Before getting hurt, Smith completed 47 percent of his passes and threw only three touchdowns in the first four games. He also had four interceptions.

Smith completed a school-record 60.6 percent of his passes after taking the starting position away from Brady Batten in the third game of 1996.

Maryland asks court to reverse ruling

Releasing the parking records of athletes is prohibited by law, the university says

By Tom Stuckey
The Associated Press

ANNAPOLIS, Md. — The University of Maryland told the state's highest court Tuesday that federal law prohibits it from releasing records on parking tickets and rules violations by student athletes.

The university asked the Court of Appeals to reverse a circuit court ruling ordering it to release parking records to the student newspaper, *The Diamondback*, which was looking into reports that basketball players routinely parked in spaces reserved for the handicapped and received prefer-

ential treatment from university officials.

The newspaper also sought records of correspondence with the NCAA about parking tickets and asked for the parking records of basketball coach Gary Williams.

Dawna Cobb, an assistant attorney general representing the College Park campus, said the university could, if it releases the records, lose money under a federal law that allows funds to be withheld if colleges and universities have a policy of releasing educational records.

"There is no basis under (the federal law) to release these records," she said. "Students have an expectation that their records will be private and confidential."

Lee Levine, lawyer for the newspaper, said the university is trying to hide behind a federal law that

does not apply in this case.

"The university does not like adverse publicity. It especially does not like adverse publicity about student athletes," he said.

The Diamondback made its request under the state public information law in February, 1996, when Duane Simpkins sat out three basketball games after the university reported to the NCAA that he had borrowed money from a former coach to pay his parking fines.

The NCAA said efforts to police college athletics would be hampered if universities have to release correspondence relating to infractions of rules by athletes.

The Diamondback was supported by five national press organizations, including the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press and the Maryland-Delaware-D.C. Press Association.

UCLA coach deals with players' suspensions

Johnson's and McCoy's suspensions leave the UCLA coaching staff with a young team

By Beth Harris
The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — If a new college basketball season is around the corner, UCLA coach Steve Lavin must have some sort of adversity facing him.

The latest trouble in Westwood involves swingman Kris Johnson and center Jelani McCoy, who were suspended indefinitely last month for violating unspecified athletic department policies and team rules.

"It's kind of like, now what?" Lavin said Tuesday at a gathering of Division I coaches from several Southern California schools.

Nearly a year ago, the season began in an uproar created by Jim Harrick's firing for lying on and about an expense report.

That paved the way for Lavin's elevation to the top job. He wound up taking the Bruins within a game of a Final Four berth.

"Nothing could be more difficult than last year in terms of what we had to overcome," he said.

"Because I don't know any different to this point, you just keep trying to come up with solutions and keep trying to learn

from the experiences."

Though school officials have refused to elaborate on Johnson's and McCoy's offenses, a published report said the players were suspended after "repeated" positive testings for marijuana during their UCLA careers.

"As we've seen recently, when social begins to interfere with academics and athletics, then you have your priorities out of order," Lavin said.

Currently, Johnson and McCoy are not allowed to participate in workouts or team functions. Practice begins Oct. 18.

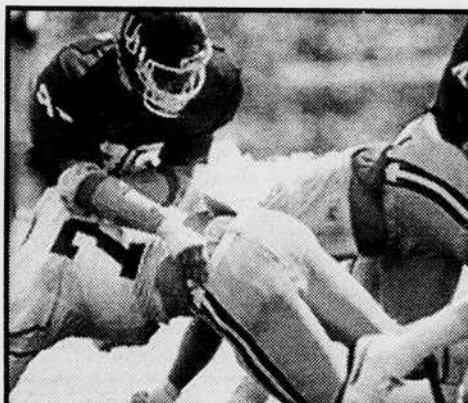
"We talk to them very regularly," Lavin said.

However, he declined to comment on whether they have agreed to meet guidelines for reinstatement set by athletic director Peter Dalis.

"Legally, you cannot speak to anybody in regards to the specifics because you open yourself up for lawsuits. I'm not sure if people fully understand that," Lavin said.

"It's not like we're trying to hide or it's a circle-the-wagons or it's a paranoid thing, you can't do it unless you want to be sued."

No one is saying when or if Johnson and McCoy will return. Their absence suddenly makes UCLA a very young team, with seniors Toby Bailey and J.R. Henderson the only full-time returning starters



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