

NBA owners and players negotiate

By Chris Sheridan
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Just when it looked like NBA owners and players might never speak again, they decided it wouldn't be a bad idea to try to save the season.

"Somebody had to call eventually, because we eventually had to get back to the bargaining table," NBA deputy commissioner Russ Granik said Tuesday after the sides announced that labor talks will resume Thursday morning.

It will be the first session featuring the owners' and players' full bargaining committees since Nov. 20, when the sides met for 9 1/2 hours and called it their most productive meeting to date.

But in order to facilitate this new session, the sides agreed to toss out any and all agreements made Nov. 20 and start from scratch.

That means the owners are back asking for a 50-50 split, the players want a 60-40 split and their movement to 52 and 53 percent (by the owners) and 57 percent (by the players) are null and void.

"I don't know that we'll find our way back to where we were,"

Granik said. "We may have to go a totally different path."

"Everything is negotiable and there's always flexibility, but we need to bring the percentage down and they don't really want to. And that's the problem," said Granik, who described himself as pessimistic.



Union director Billy Hunter, whose phone call to commissioner David Stern resulted in the resumption, did not make any public comments.

"We've agreed that everything is negotiable, there are no deal-killers or other preconditions, and neither side is now committed to anything," Granik said. "Whatever might have been put across the table at the last meeting is now undone, and on that basis we agreed to meet."

The news came as locked-out players were feeling another squeeze on their wallets as they missed their second payday.

For stars like union president Patrick Ewing, who was due to earn \$18 million this season, that meant another lost \$900,000.

"The unprepared players are the ones who are getting hurt," said Eric Snow of the Philadel-

phia 76ers, who would have had about \$35,000 directly deposited into his bank account. "If you paid attention to the threats, you planned ahead and saved more money than you ever thought you'd have needed."

Snow took his agent's advice and salted away as much of last season's \$700,000 salary as possible. His pay was supposed to go up to \$840,000 this season, but the length of the lockout means he'll lose at least one-third of it.

Snow figures he can make it another few months before deciding whether to liquidate some of his investments or take out a loan to meet his living expenses. Meantime, he knows he might never recoup the money he's losing.

"It's a big bite, but you hope the sacrifice is substantially worth it in the end," Snow said. "You take a hit now and hope it benefits you later."

Snow's salary is actually small by NBA standards, falling below the average salary of about \$2.4 million and the median of about \$1.2 million.

Since the season won't start until January at the earliest, players also will miss checks Dec. 15 and Jan. 1.

Bowden leaves Tulane with fond memories

By Mary Foster
The Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — Tommy Bowden is leaving Tulane, the team he coached to an 11-0 record this season, to become coach at Clemson.

"This was not an easy decision. Tulane and the city of New Orleans have been very good to me and my family both personally and professionally. I leave here with nothing but fond memories," Bowden said in a statement released by Tulane's athletic department.

Clemson said earlier that plans were being made for a Thursday news conference to introduce Bowden.

Bowden did not say when he would depart. The (Columbia) State newspaper said today, however, that Bowden will not coach his Tulane team in the Liberty Bowl.

Clemson reportedly has offered to pay half of Bowden's \$750,000 buyout clause, the newspaper said. Bowden

would become the school's 23rd football coach.

Bowden is a son of Florida State coach Bobby Bowden and brother of Terry Bowden, who quit as Auburn coach last month.

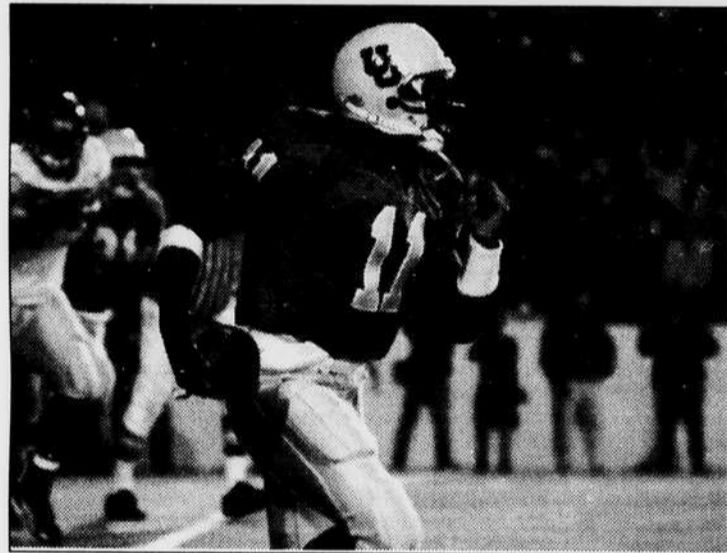
Clemson and Florida State are in the Atlantic Coast Conference.

The wait for a decision was hard on Tulane assistants.

"It's just one of those things you go through in coaching," said Tulane offensive coordinator Rich Rodriguez. "We're just trying to take care of business and see what happens."

Bowden is replacing Tommy West, who was fired just before completing a 3-8 season last month. The Tigers reportedly are offering Bowden a yearly package of between \$750,000 and \$800,000.

Bowden, who led Tulane to a perfect record this year, toured the Clemson campus Monday and met with school President Constantine "Deno" Curris for about two hours.



Akili Smith rushes for a first down in the Ducks' 17-13 victory over Southern California. Nick Medley/Emerald

Moseley

Continued from Page 7

ly led them to the promised land — also known as the nation's top 10. He had possibly the greatest individual season in school history.

McNown took a team that is perennially one of the most talented in the nation and succeeded in not screwing things up, nothing more.

Not only did the Pac-10 deem McNown worthy of sharing the conference player of the year award with Smith, but the Bruin is among three finalists for the Davey O'Brien Award as the top quarterback in the nation. Conspicuously absent from the list of three nominees: Akili Smith.

Joining McNown are Kansas State's Michael Bishop and Tim Couch of Kentucky. Bishop is no doubt a deserving candidate and should take the award. Couch and McNown are not so worthy.

Couch has put up some awesome numbers, but he throws to one of the best receivers in the country. Kentucky's offense with Couch under center is reminiscent of Florida's "Fun-n-Gun" teams of recent memory.

It comes down to Smith falling victim to Oregon's lack of national prominence and respect from coaches and media alike. This is the winningest team in the nation's best conference over the last

five years, yet it can't seem to get respect from the teams it has been beating since 1994.

So it seems that, come late December, most likely in the Holiday Bowl, the Ducks will beat another top-25 team on national television, just as they have countless times in the past. Smith will direct a few two-minute touchdown drives covering 80 yards, Bellotti will make the personnel decisions necessary to ensure victory and still no one outside of the state of Oregon or San Diego, Calif., will notice.

It begs the question: If the No. 17 team in the nation fell to the Oregon Ducks, would anybody hear it?

Berg's Ski Shop

10% OFF ALL REGULAR PRICED CLOTHING* EVERY DAY

Purchase any North Face Goretex Jacket from Berg's and get a North Face Vest FREE! *A \$69 value.

Hours Mon-Sat 10-7 • Sun 12-5

*Excluding snowboard clothing. **While supplies last.

13th & Lawrence • Eugene • 683-1300



LARGE TWO-TOPPING PIZZA
Carry-Out or Delivery

\$6.99
On Campus only

\$8.99 Off Campus

1856 East 13th

343-3030

With College I.D.
No Coupon Necessary
Price Subject to Change

anthropology
art his

gy
history
cliff notes
computers
design
drama
ucation
film

hobbie
investmen
lan-
guage
my
teries
natu

orient
philosophy
plays
reference
romance
science
self help
study guides
theatre
universe

westerns
zoology

art

Cash

for textbooks, paperbacks,
study aids, magazines

We buy books
at fair prices every day
throughout the year
at both locations . . .

Smith Family Bookstore
A campus alternative since 1974

Text & General Books
(One block from campus)
768 E. 13th Ave.
345-1651



General Books
(across from the Post Office)
525 Willamette St.
343-4717