

# Bear QB suspended for season

By Rick Gano  
The Associated Press

LAKE FOREST, Ill. — Jim Miller says he was only trying to save some money on a dietary supplement. It ended up costing him a suspension for the rest of the season and about \$100,000 in pay.

The Chicago Bears quarterback was suspended for four games by the NFL on Wednesday for violating its drug policy in what he admits was a "dumb mistake."

Miller contends he did not read the label on an over-the-counter dietary supplement that his agent

said contained nandrolone. The banned substance is listed in the league's policy under anabolic and androgenic steroids.

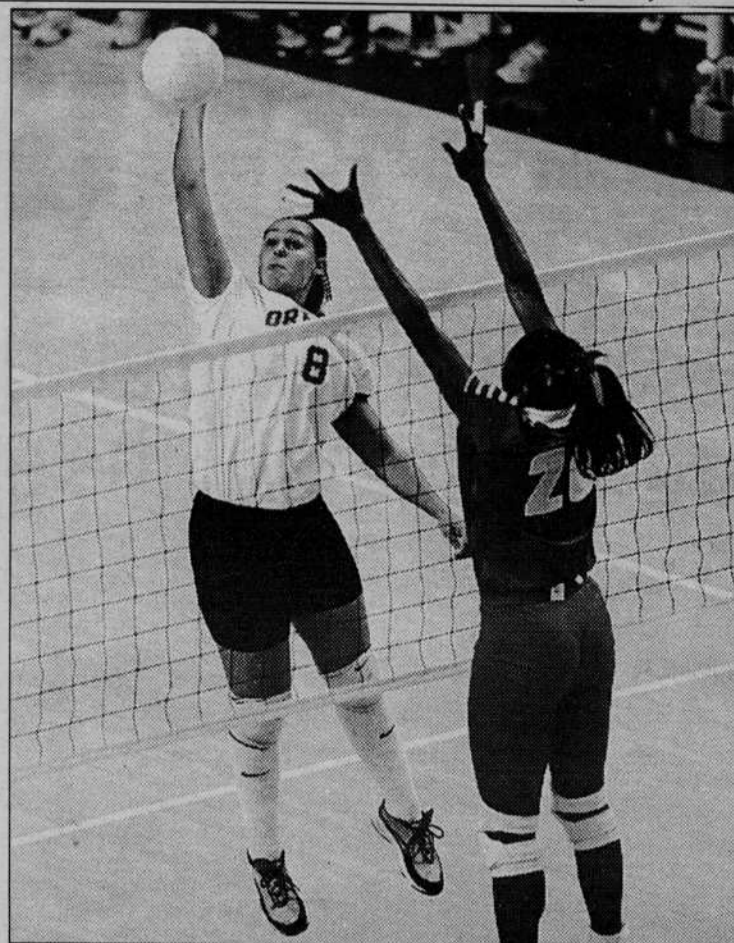
"It was in no way, in any means done knowingly," said Miller, who has gone from third string to starting quarterback this season. "And I think anybody who knows me knows I would never take steroids or anything like that, obviously playing the quarterback position. ... I'm normally very conscientious. I made a dumb mistake."

"I can't explain how disappointing this is. ... Of all the peo-

ple to let the team down, I thought I would be the last to do it."

Miller said in late September he ran out of his normal over-the-counter supplement he used before working out. He said he decided to wait for a 20 percent discount at a nutritional center before replenishing the supply.

During the four-day wait, he turned to another supplement he had. Several days later on Oct. 4, he underwent a random drug test. On Nov. 10, he was notified he had tested positive.



Jeffrey Stockton Emerald  
Freshman Nicole Allen is part of a Duck team that returns 14 players next season.

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## Volleyball

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n't make up for what the season was. Early on, there was a great feeling on the floor, but we definitely lost that."

Injuries to key players did not help Oregon's failing chemistry. Sophomore Monique Tobbagi, who finished with 210 total kills, sat out most of the conference season with stress fractures in her legs and was relieved by freshman Heather Gilmore.

Sophomore Annie Pogue saw an increase in playing time when Gilmore suffered a late-season ankle injury. Gilmore returned to play a few more matches but only saw scattered minutes.

Chute and sophomore Julie Gerlach split time at the setter position. Chute held the edge in assists with 486 compared to Gerlach's 401.

Junior Amy Banducci led the Ducks in scoring with a total of 248 kills. Next season, when the Ducks plan to return everyone except senior Shellie Nisle, Banducci should be Oregon's most experienced player.

"I would like to leave here with a winning season," Banducci said. "Being one of the older girls here, being here the longest and playing the longest here, is something

where I'd like to continue and help lead people. I want to keep enjoying the game."

Since their season-closing loss against Arizona on Nov. 19, the Ducks have begun team workouts and have held a team meeting about expectations for next season.

"There was talk about all three of our coaches," Banducci said. "But ... we need to look at ourselves and what we need to change. More than anything else, that's what we got out of that meeting."

Chute said the players are optimistic about returning to Pac-10 play next fall.

"We're looking forward to the new change in coaching," Chute said. "It's a fresh start, and there's nothing hanging over our heads."

Although the Ducks may appreciate a new coach, Chute said there was never any tension between Nelson and the players.

Banducci said the Ducks are glad the disappointing season is behind them, and the squad has a lot to prove next season.

"With the serious changes we've been making as a program in general, for the first time since I've been here, there's actually big progress being made," Banducci said. "Hopefully by the end of this winter season we'll begin to see all of that coming around."



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