

SPORTS BRIEF

Injury could hinder White's Olympic preparations

SAN JOSE, Calif. — World champion sprinter Kelli White has not trained for four months because of a knee injury that could hinder preparations for the 2004 Summer Olympics.

Coach Remi Korchemny told the San Jose Mercury News that White, of Union City, Calif., had knee surgery last month to correct a bone-tissue problem and will not compete during the upcoming indoor season. White left Thursday to stay with fiance Boris Henry, a javelin thrower in Germany, where she plans to continue treatment. She did not respond to an e-mail request for an interview.

If the problem persists, it could affect White's ability to prepare for the U.S. Olympic trials in Sacramento in July and the Summer Games in Athens in August.

White, 26, became the first American woman to sweep the sprint races at a world championships when she won the 100 meters and 200 titles in Paris

last year. But since the August meet, she has been ensnared in a drug scandal involving a Burlingame nutrition company and its owner, Victor Conte Jr.

White tested positive for the controversial medication modafinil, which drug-testing officials classify as a mild stimulant. A physician formerly connected to Conte's Balco laboratories said he gave White samples of the medication to combat narcolepsy, which White and her mother suffer from.

White faces the loss of her gold medals in Paris, as well as \$120,000 in prize money. She also tested positive for the drug at the U.S. nationals in Stanford in June and faces the loss of her American titles as well.

Modafinil was not on a banned list last summer, but officials are using a clause in the drug code — "related substances" — to prosecute athletes caught with the medication. The World Anti-Doping Agency, which sets the standards for Olympic drug testing, added the medication to its banned list last week.

— Elliott Almond
Knight Ridder Newspapers

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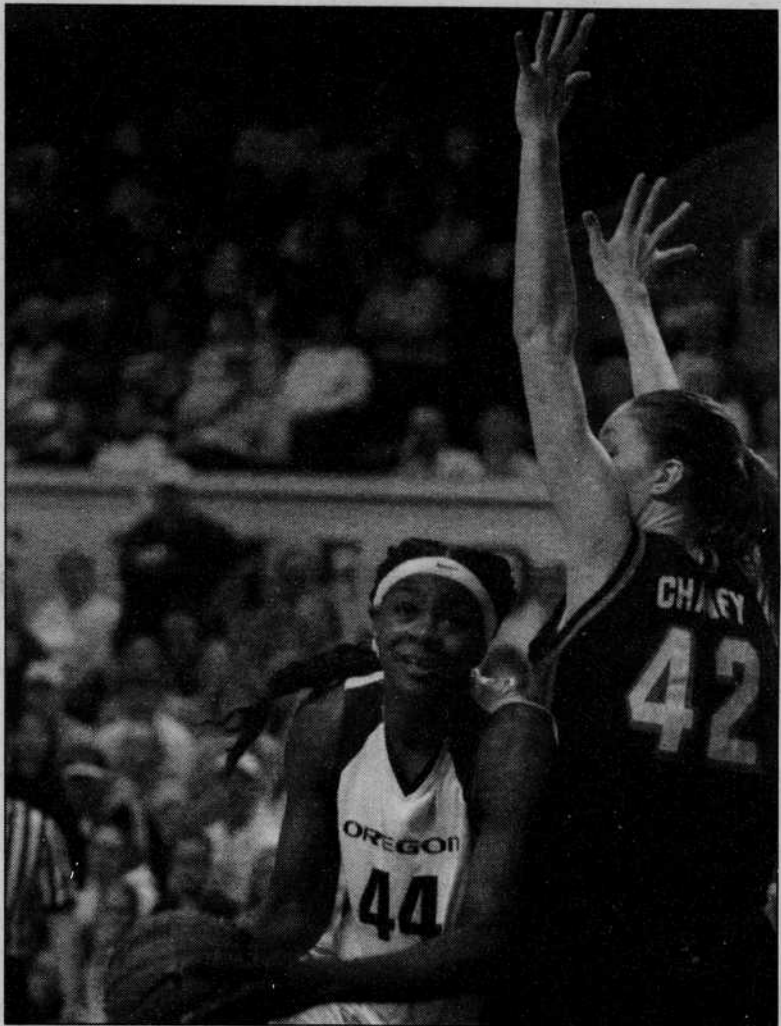
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Adam Amato Photo Editor

Senior center Brina Chaney (42) leads Oregon State with 32 blocks this season.

SENIORS

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all-time career leader at Oregon State, and those could come at any time. Chaney's single-game career high — which also tied a school record — is eight in a victory against Oregon last season.

For the three, records aren't as important as Oregon State having a

successful season.

The seniors want to show that their team can run with the top of the conference, and the 3-1 start gives them something to support their opinion.

"I really believe," Spoelstra said Tuesday, "that every Pac-10 opponent is equally as tough, and on any given day, could be beaten."

Contact the senior sports reporter at mindrice@dailyemerald.com.

Today's crossword solution

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