

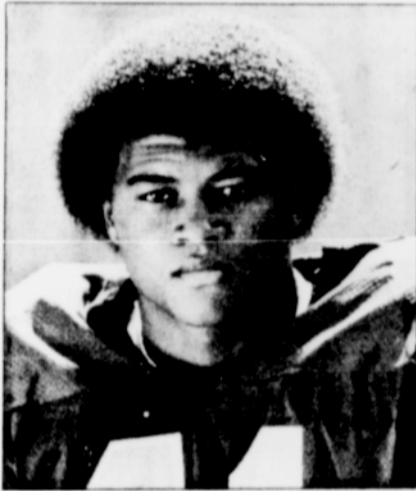
# OREGON

(Continued from Page 19)

Brooks considers Vince Williams one of the premier fullbacks in the nation. He missed eight games last year (the NCAA granted him another year of eligibility), but still gained 205 yards and is just 723 yards short of the Oregon career rushing record. Junior Terrance Jones and sophomore Ladarja Johnson will spell Williams.

"I think we're in good shape at the running back position," Brooks says. "We have good talent and good depth."

Almost enough to take Brooks' mind off his lack of depth on the offensive line. The Ducks have what they consider one of the nation's best centers in senior Mike Delegato, and are solid at one guard position with Stuart Yatsko filling the bill.



Vince Williams

"Delegato is a bonafide all-America candidate," Brooks says. "He's started for three years and is 10 pounds bigger and stronger than last year. Stuart is definite pro prospect."

That still leaves an open guard spot which will be filled by the likes of Paul Sanborn, Brian Castle, Randy O'Rourke or Craig Kaylor.

Both of 1980's starting tackles are gone, but Brooks is high on 260-pound Garrett Earle and 285-pound Rick Price.

Oregon's most improved player a year ago may have been Greg Moser, a sure-handed junior who walked on to the team, originally, and wound up leading it in receptions (32 for 611 yards) last season. "Moser showed last year he was one of the finest receivers on the West Coast," Brooks says. "For a team that didn't throw as much as some of the others he still ranked up pretty high in receptions. He had one of the highest yards-per-catch averages in the country."

Mark James, a sprinter on the Duck track team last fall, caught 15 passes last season as a freshman and frosh Osborne Thomas earned a starting spot in spring drills.

At tight end, a battle will be waged between Senior Greg Hogenson and junior Tim Tyler, who split the job last year.

Brooks is looking for a punter to replace the graduated Mike Babb, but has two solid place-kickers in Doug Jollymour, who will probably handle field goals and extra points, and Paul Schwabe, who will take care of the kickoffs.

Even an untried front line doesn't dampen Brooks' enthusiasm about his defense. "We lost a lot of people (on the line)," he says, "but I think we've got some fine, young talent, although it will be a little inexperienced at first."

The No. 1 man up front is junior defensive end Mike Walter. "We expect big things from him," Brooks says. Walter, at 6-4, 226 pounds a pretty big thing himself, made 50 tackles last year and is the only returning starter on the line. On the opposite end should be sophomore Gary Zimmerman, a backup center last year who earned the starting end position during spring drills.

That fine, young talent Brooks was talking about comes in the form of Bill Lowder, a part-time starter at tackle a year ago, and probable starters Ed Rhone and Mike Gray, Oregon's only junior college transfer. Gray, a 6-4, 250-pounder, has all-America potential.



Kevin Lusk

The linebacker position is crammed full of talent and experience. "It's one of the strengths of our team," Brooks says.

In middle linebackers Chris Cosgrove and Ed Hagerty, Brooks has two men who could probably find a starting spot on any team in the conference. Instead, they give Oregon as

potent a one-two punch as there is. Cosgrove missed last season, but led the team in tackles, with 140, the previous year. Hagerty had 90 last year, putting him second in the team totals.

Flanking them will be senior Andy Vobora on one side and either Mike Berkich or Dwight Ford on the other.

The Ducks also are deep in the secondary. Potential all-America Steve Brown anchors one cornerback position. He had six interceptions in his first two years. He'll also handle kick returns. Two other players who have seen starting duty at the corner are Dennis Clay and Ross Gibbs.

As if the Duck's lineup, alone, wasn't enough, they also got some help from the schedule makers; enough, in fact, that Brooks has already said his team has the potential to win every game it plays. Oregon opens with Fresno State, Kansas and Pacific, then entertains Washington at home.

"I've lived with them all," Brooks says. "I'll live with this schedule, too."

These days Brooks and his Ducks can live with just about anything.

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