

SPORTS

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Oregon strength coach suspended

Three players sick after workouts

By **KAREEM COPELAND**
Associated Press

The University of Oregon suspended football strength and conditioning coach Irele Oderinde one month without pay after three players were hospitalized following a series of intense workouts last week.

The school announced the decision in a statement Tuesday evening and detailed a review of the incident. It added that all future workouts have been modified and the strength and conditioning coach will now report to director of performance and sports science Andrew Murray instead of coach Willie Taggart, who apologized in the statement.

Oregon's statement detailed that players began an off-season conditioning program last Tuesday after six weeks away from "football-related activities" and Oderinde led those workouts.

Three days into the sessions one player complained of "muscle-soreness and displayed other symptoms



AP Photo/Thomas Boyd

Three Oregon players were hospitalized following a series of intense workouts last week. The strength and conditioning coach has been suspended for one month without pay.

of potential exercise-related injury." The medical staff took "appropriate action" and two other players later complained of the same symptoms.

"I have visited with the three young men involved in the incidents in the past few days and I have been in constant contact with their families, offering my sincere apologies," Taggart said in the statement. "As the

head football coach, I hold myself responsible for all of our football-related activities and the safety of our students must come first. I have addressed the issue with our strength and conditioning staff, and I fully support the actions taken today by the university.

"I want to thank our medical staff and doctors for caring for all of our

young men, and I want to apologize to the university, our students, alumni and fans."

A hospital spokeswoman confirmed that one of the players, Doug Brenner, was released from PeaceHealth Sacred Heart Medical Center at Riverbend on Tuesday and the other two were in good condition as of the evening.

"The university holds the health, safety and well-being of all of our students in high regard," director of athletics Rob Mullens said in the statement. "We are confident that these athletes will soon return to full health, and we will continue to support them and their families in their recoveries."

The Oregonian was the first to report late Monday that the players were hospitalized after being taken there late last week. The newspaper reported that the mother of one of the players said her son has been diagnosed with rhabdomyolysis, a condition that occurs when muscle tissue breaks down and leaks into the blood stream. The condition can cause kidney damage.

The University of Iowa said Friday it will pay \$15,000 to settle a lawsuit brought by a football player who was diagnosed with exertional rhabdomyolysis. William Lowe was one of 13 Hawkeyes hospitalized following a high-intensity 2011 workout.

Lowe's lawsuit alleged that coaches and trainers failed to properly supervise the January 2011 workout and didn't immediately offer medical care after he and others reported severe pain and symptoms.

Rainier sprints past Warrenton, 54-30

The Daily Astorian

RAINIER — Warrenton's Landree Mieth opened the game with a steal and a score, but the rest of the night belonged to Rainier, which posted an eventual 54-30 win over the Warriors in a Lewis & Clark League girls basketball game Tuesday at Rainier.

Warrenton senior Tyla Little made five 3-pointers, which kept the Warriors in the game.

But a 14-3 run by the Columbians to open the third quarter turned their 24-13 halftime lead into a 38-16 advantage.

"We started with a 2-0 lead, then we just couldn't score," said Warrenton coach Robert Hoepfl. "We ran the offense and executed really well, we just have to finish."

"Turnovers hurt us, and (the Columbians) are quick to turn turnovers into points," he added. "They have a great team and they're well-coached."

Little finished with 18 points to lead Warrenton, while junior Desirae Hansen scored 19 for Rainier.

Little connected on three 3-pointers in the fourth quarter for the Warriors, who fall to 3-4 in league, 8-6 overall. No. 9-ranked Rainier improves to 7-1, 13-2.

In the boys' game, Rainier defeated Warrenton 52-40, helping the first-place Columbians improve to 6-2 in league, 7-7 overall.



AP Photo/John Bazemore

Atlanta Falcons defensive tackle Jonathan Babineaux (95) sacks Seattle Seahawks quarterback Russell Wilson (3) during the second half of an NFL divisional football game Saturday in Atlanta. Seattle's offensive line has been a source of concern.

Don't expect big spending by Seahawks on offensive line

Skill set needed to protect Wilson

By **TIM BOOTH**
Associated Press

RENTON, Wash. — Being an offensive lineman for the Seattle Seahawks this season was a tough proposition.

No players drew more ire and more criticism from analysts and fans than the ones responsible for protecting quarterback Russell Wilson. Much of the criticism was justified. The main reason Seattle ranked 25th in the NFL in rushing and allowed Wilson to be sacked 41 times was issues by a young, inexperienced group up front.

But all those hoping the Seahawks would start over and spend big to bring in a completely new offensive line next season were given a dose of reality by Pete Carroll this week.

It's not going to happen. "We're going to work really hard this offseason to make sure that we make that spot really competitive again. We're not going to rest on anything or set back, we think we've got it now. We'll continue to work," Carroll said. "There's opportunities, of course, in the draft and free agency and all of that, that we're open to. We'll never turn away from any of those chances. But if nothing happened these guys are coming back, and they're going to get after it."

That's not necessarily what Seattle fans wanted to hear: The Seahawks are attempting to reconstruct a position group using young players rather than spending resources.

It's a risky proposition if you miss on the right players, but can be a huge success if done correctly and allows for money to be spent elsewhere.

"We're not going to go out and spend a ton of money in free agency,

on one guy to try to save the day. That's not how we function at all," Carroll said. "We bring the young guys up, developing them and make them a part of this program. Then as they go and they earn their opportunities, then we'll reward them as we can. I hope that it's really clear that that's the way we've done this with a really clear intent."

Because of their youth, the Seahawks had the lowest-paid offensive line in the NFL, spending just over \$6 million on its inexperienced unit. Seattle ended up starting a converted basketball player at left tackle, a rookie at right guard, a second-year player with one previous game at left guard and a center on his third position in three years.

Seattle's offensive line was bound to struggle. In Carroll's eyes, that also means he sees the potential in their future as a united group.

"I think we have a chance now that this is maybe one of the two or three years, of the seven or eight,

that we have a chance to come back with kind of the same group and have a chance to build," Carroll said. "We're going to try to, but we're going to challenge the heck out of those guys, too."

The anchor for that group will be center Justin Britt. After playing right tackle and left guard his first two seasons, Britt found a home at center. He was a Pro Bowl alternate and the most consistent of Seattle's linemen.

Britt will be one of the certainties for next season along with rookie Germain Iffedi, whom Carroll intends on keeping at right guard despite his experience as a tackle in college. Left tackle George Fant was a basketball player less than two years ago and left guard Mark Glowinski had one start prior to this season.

"The good thing about being a young group is we will be together a long time," Britt said. "So the longer we're together the better we will get together."

SCOREBOARD

PREP SCHEDULE

TODAY

Wrestling — Knappa at League Meet, Vernonia, TBA

THURSDAY

Boys Basketball — Astoria at Valley Catholic, 6 p.m.; Seaside at Scappoose, 6 p.m.; Warrenton at Clatskanie, 8 p.m.; Ilwaco at Willapa Valley, 7 p.m.

Girls Basketball — Astoria at Valley Catholic, 7:45 p.m.; Seaside at Scappoose, 7:45 p.m.; Warrenton at Clatskanie, 6 p.m.

Swimming — Seaside at Tillamook, 4 p.m.

Wrestling — Seaside at Astoria, 5:30 p.m.; Warrenton at League 4-Way, Willamina, 5 p.m.

FRIDAY

Boys Basketball — Knappa at Gaston, 8 p.m.; Jewell at C.S. Lewis, 7 p.m.

Girls Basketball — Knappa at Gaston, 6 p.m.; Jewell at Seaside JV2, 6 p.m.; Raymond at Ilwaco, 7 p.m.

Wrestling — Gary Seaney Tournament, Tillamook, TBA; Seaside at Nestucca, 5 p.m.

SATURDAY

Boys Basketball — Astoria at Seaside, 6 p.m.; Raymond at Ilwaco, 7 p.m.

Girls Basketball — Astoria at Seaside, 7:45 p.m.

Wrestling — Knappa at Gervais, TBA

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Rainier 54, Warrenton 30

WAR (30): Tyla Little 18, Miethe 4, K.Blodgett 3, Dyer 3, Diego 2, Bussert, M.Blodgett, Morrill, Alvarez, Heyen.

RAI (54): Desirae Hansen 19, As.Norman 8, Taylor 7, J.Crape 6, Schimmel 5, Gray 4, Harkleroad 3, Sanchez 2.

Warrenton 5 8 5 12—30

Rainier 15 9 17 13—54