

Sports Talk

by Ron Sykes
Sports Editor

Oregon State football, after two straight shutouts 45-0 to Arizona State, and 41-0 to the Huskies is at an all time low. After dropping two straight, you would normally expect some changes especially when your quarter back puts no points on the scoreboard.

But Coach Craig Fertig has disdained such a move at the present. "We believe Scott Richardson is our best at the position and we would like to show him our confidence". Anyone's sports expert will tell you that judging talent is one thing that a successful coach must be able to do. And therein, perhaps, could belie the OSU problem. Remember last year's starting quarterback, Steve Smith? Smith was very instrumental in attaining the two wins the Beavers achieved last season.

Now Steve finds himself relegated to the bench and last Saturday he wasn't even on the Beaver traveling squad. Smith drew raves from Fertig last year, and possessed some of the qualities of Oregon's Reggie Ogburn - quick feet and an exceptional runner. OSU's offense is about as potent as a firecracker that's been soaked in water for 72 hours.

The quarterback is generally accepted as the hub of a team's offense, and if the quarterback can't move the team he's usually replaced. Richardson was very ineffective against the Huskies, yet Fertig left him in and was severely punished by the rushing Huskie defensive line.

Richardson was twice intercepted; one netted the Huskies a touchdown, the second was turned into a field goal.

OSU's program is dismally weak, to say the least. The key to rebuilding is obvious...quality athletes.

The question now is can coach Fertig and his crew recruit them, and one has to wonder if the present staff can recognize them?

Not to knock the program, but in reality there are really few blue chippers competing for OSU, and it's almost impossible to win in the PAC-10 without them.

Coach Fertig, if he remains another year, must actively recruit the good ones. That means going tete a tete with the Oklahoma's, USC's, and the likes.

Oregon's Rich Brooks did and picked off some blue chippers, and is now competing well. Fertig cannot acquiesce, he must become an aggressive recruiter. For instance Oregon's reserve quarterback Andy Page was recruited by USC, UCLA, Michigan and Washington. He chose Oregon.

Garrett Earle: OT, 6'5", 258, sophomore was recruited by UCLA, USC and Washington. He chose Oregon.

OSU should take note of what's happening in Eugene. The fans of Corvallis who are usually loyal are now starting to show a good deal of

concern. Fertig is 0-5 after losing to Kansas State, and New Mexico. You can't figure on the Beavers winning any of their next six games and they will probably go 0-11 for the season. To win at the college level you must have quality athletes at the skill positions, i.e. quarterback, wide receivers, running backs. Steve Coury, 5'9" with less than blazing speed he poses no threat to defending teams.

He has good hands, but hasn't caught anything deep all year, and it's a good bet that he never will. Which leads us to ask what ever happened to that "wide-open-offense" OSU installed during Spring drills? And where are the "speed-burning-backs" it was supposedly installed for?

Well, in retrospect what Oregon State needs is simply some good quality ball players.

Craig Fertig has the good background. He played his collegiate football at USC and later coached under McKay. He spent one year in the now defunct WFL before landing the job in Corvallis. So the credentials are there; so the problems must certainly be elsewhere. Whatever, if football under Fertig is to survive, then somewhere, somehow a change has 'gotta' come.

The upcoming World series should be a good one. My sentimental choice is Pittsburg. What with all those familiar faces, they just have to be the ghetto choice.

However, look for Baltimore, on stronger pitching, to win in six games.

Remember...Tommy Hoarne, he just might be the best welterweight in the game today. Reggie! Reggie! Reggie! Hooray for the Ducks super quarterback, who was named as PAC-10 player of the week. Ogburn rushed for 100 yards and threw for a hundred in Oregon's 19-14 win over California.

Remember David Lewis (CAL) and Kevin McMillan (Stanford), both of whom were actively sought by Rich Brooks? Well, David is second string defensive end, while Kevin is a starter at cornerback for Stanford.

Whatever happened to Pickle Lewis? Portland is set to begin another year, and Larry Steele is still around. Unbelievable. Just wonder what some of this years good rookies thought after being released, and to see Larry Steele remain?

And what happened to "the Cannon Shannon", that promising young Portland heavyweight? Last heard from he was "traveling South ta Florida." He apparently has temporarily cast his boxing fate to the wind.

Portland hosts women's rugby

Portland's own women's rugby team will host the first annual Martha Cleveland Autumn Rugby Tournament, featuring teams from Oregon, Washington and British Columbia.

The Zephyrs, fresh from a string of victories over the Seattle Seabirds, Seattle Elliot Bay, and the Cor-

vallis cosmos, will be strong contenders for the tournament championship. Featuring a strong, experienced scrum, and a quick, controlled back line, the Zephyrs have been a formidable team all season.

The tournament will be held on October 20 and 21 at Delta Park.

PUC schedules PGE rate hearing

Hearings Officer Leon Hagen has scheduled hearings in Portland and Salem to receive public testimony on the request of Portland General Electric Company for a 21.1 per cent increase in electricity rates.

The first hearing will be a 7:00 p.m., October 16th in the Corinthian Room on the second floor of the Masonic Temple, 1119 S.W. Park Avenue, in Portland. The second will be at 7:00 p.m., October 18th in the Council Chambers of the Salem City Hall, 555 Liberty Road S.E., IN Salem.

PGE filed its rate increase request with Public Utility Commissioner John Lobdell on June 1st.

The Commissioner's staff has recommended an increase of 9.22 per cent initially, then a second increase of about 19.7 per cent when the company's Boardman coal-fire plant comes on line in about August of 1980.



President Jimmy Carter greets baseball great Lou Brock during his visit to the White House recently. The St. Louis Cardinals outfielder was at the White House to be congratulated by the President following Brock's reaching 3,000 hits in August.

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