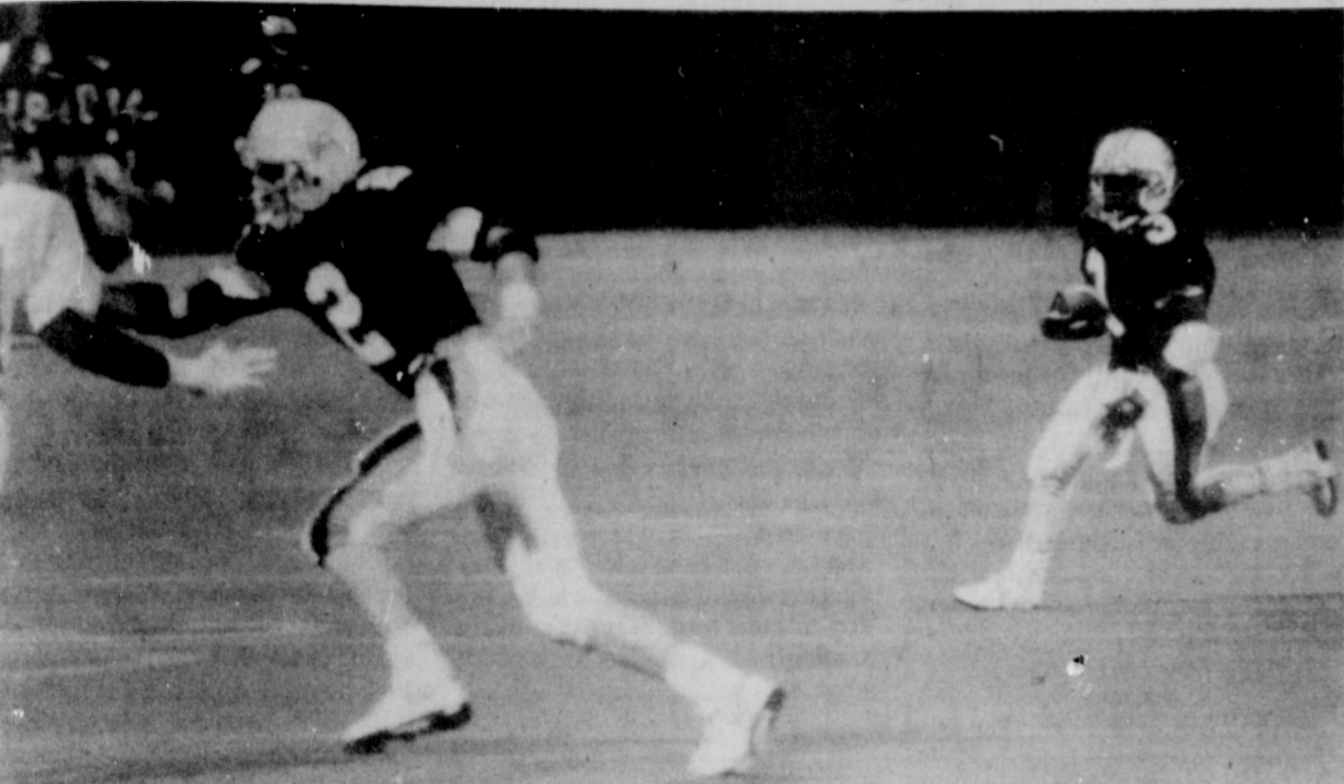


PSU's Delgado looks to make dream come true with the San Diego Chargers



by Aaron Fentress

When Curtis Delgado arrived on the campus of Portland State University, no one had any idea what kind of excitement the 5-5 150 running back from Renton Washington would bring to PSU football over the next five years. From 1986 to 1991, Delgado electrified Viking fans and frustrated PSU opponents en route to becoming the leading rusher, and all-purpose ground gainer in PSU history. Now Delgado takes his act to the San Diego Chargers.

Since the Pokey Allen era began at PSU in 1986 the PSU program went from a doormat team to a national contender. The Vikings posted a 6-5 record in 1986 then went on to post 12-2-1, 11-3-1 and 9-4 seasons in 1987, '88, and '89 with national championship appearances in '87 and '88. In 1991 the Vikings returned to earth. Ironically it was with probably their best team that the Vikings suffered through a dismal 6-5 '91 season.

Through those five seasons the Vikings produced many superstars. Some All-Conference, and some All-Americans. Chris Crawford, Darren Del Andre, Barry Naone, Tracy Eaton, Kevin Woolfolk, Brian Coushey, Tim Corrigan, Domonique Hardeman, Anthony Spears and Brent Napierkowsky all niched their place in PSU legend. But without a doubt, the success of the Vikings in the late eighties was largely due to the presence of Delgado. Because through all five winning seasons, Delgado is the only constant.

"I knew coming here that

this would be a good place for me to show my abilities," said Delgado. "Big schools weren't interested because of my lack of 'ideal size' but I knew I could play and PSU gave me the shot and because of that I'm getting the shot I always wanted, and that's to play in the NFL."

Twenty years ago, before the advent of computer scouting, Delgado would be a lock as a draft pick. With his quickness and break away 4.4 speed, Delgado is a threat to go the distance every time he touches the ball. But because the NFL Ideal running back size is 6-1, 220 pounds, Delgado's 5-5, and now, 170 frame, is wiped off the board. Despite his talents.

"Curtis is a good small-college back. He's awfully short, and not only short, but only 160 to 170 pounds," says one NFL scout. "He's got a big heart. He's got good speed and quickness, but I'm not sure enough to compensate for his lack of height."

Last season there were close to 20 players in the NFL at 5-8 or even 5-7. Most notable are Chicago's Johnny Bailey (5-8, 180), New York's Dave Meggett (5-7, 180) and Houston's Tony Jones (5-7, 140). All three made significant contributions to their teams success last season. So where does Delgado fit in amongst these three players?

Delgado can probably relate best to Bailey, who like Delgado, is the product of an NCAA Division II football program, Texas A & I. Bailey and Delgado went head to head three times during their college careers. Bailey is bigger but Delgado is a little faster and a better receiver. Bailey led the NFC

in punt return average last season, finishing second in the NFL.

Meggett has become the prototype small NFL back. Signing for the NFL minimum of \$80,000 out of Towson state in 1989 Meggett has become one of the games superstars. Meggett is used as a running back, receiver and finished third in the NFL in both punt and kick off return average in 1990.

Jones is probably the biggest mystery of the three and the one Delgado can point to most for inspiration. Although Jones is two inches taller than Delgado (So the Oiler's roster says), he is 30 pounds lighter. Jones' only real attribute is his 4.3 speed.

Which brings us back to Delgado. Does his size really matter? I don't think so. If Delgado is going to make it to the NFL it will be because he's good enough to stick with San Diego. If he doesn't make it, it will be due to the opposite. It will be because he wasn't good enough. Not because he wasn't big enough.

The Chargers placed no one near the top ten in punt return average last season. Charger Donnie Elder finished second in the NFL in kick off return average, but he's a defensive back. Delgado will fit in nicely with the talented running backs the Chargers already have.

Marion Butts has become the most feared full back in the NFL and Rod Bernstein provides good depth at full back. Ronnie Harmon is the probable starter at tail back but there's no one on the Chargers who can take it the distance with a pass form out of the back field a la Meggett. Delgado may be that man.

Learning Center to Open

On August, 12, 1991, the Alberta Learning Center will be opening its doors to youth/adults who have for one reason or another have not had the opportunity to complete their high school education. The Alberta Learning Center is a community based center serving North/Northeast Portland.

The purpose of the Learning Center is to create an environment that makes the attainment of knowledge possible and positive for all and to support the associated needs attributed to learning. The primary function of the Learning Center is educational. While working on the General Educational Diploma (GED), students will also have an opportunity to participate in other training sessions such as: preparing for job interviews, how to fill out job applications, etc. There is also an opportunity for those interested in the Oregon National Guard to be able to interact with active guard members and prepare for the ASVAB exam.

The goal along with the purpose and function is to serve as a magnet that allows our community to be enriched and benefited through the attainment of succeeding through education and to provide support services, training, and instruction (including tutoring) in either group or individual sessions.

The Center will be open Monday through Thursdays, 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm. The Learning Center is located at 3010 N.E. Alberta. The Learning Center is being supported by Oregon Outreach Inc., Alfred Yaun Youth Care Centers,

Inc., and the Oregon Army National Guard.

They are planning an open house for Monday, August 19, 1991, at 6:00 pm at the Center location.

The Coordinator for the Learning Center is Regina Davis. Regina will be a graduate from Portland State University in December, with a B.S. in Social Sciences and Speech Communication and a Certificate in Black Studies. Regina comes highly recommended for her active services, dedication and contributions to Portland State University in her role as Coordinator of Portland States Black Cultural Affairs board.

As Coordinator for Oregon Outreach Regina will also have an active role in the development of the Learning Center. Regina feels that the majority of the students served will come because it will not be set up as a traditional classroom in that it will be structured to the individual and that the services will be free. The Learning Center will not take away from what Portland Community College or the other community Colleges have to offer but deal directly with those individuals that need compassionate learning. In cases where students are school aged, Regina will work as a liaison between the home school and the Center to ensure that students are receiving their educational needs.

Regina attributes her success to God, her mother, and positive role models. Sharing in her many accomplishments are her daughter Brandi 13 and Tiffany 2 1/2.

Program Focuses on Elderly

"Legal and Financial Update for the Elderly," a program for caregivers and health professionals, will be offered at Good Samaritan Hospital & Medical Center on Wednesday, Sept. 11, 7-9 p.m. in Peterson Hall (formerly known as the Administration/Education Auditorium), 2255 N.W. Northrup.

The presenter will be Tim Nay, a social worker and attorney who is the founding president of National Academy of Elderlaw Attorneys. Nay will discuss the issues of living wills and power of attorney for health care. He will address recent legislative developments affecting seniors and discuss how to be proactive in the face of ballot measure 5.

For more information, please call Good Samaritan Education & Family Support Services at 229-7348.

Ahmadiyya Muslim Community of Portland

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Islamic pint of view about Jesus's (peace be upon him) life and mission will be presented. Ideas about crucifixion and second coming will be reviewed and the Ahmadiyya Muslim concept in this regard will be discussed.

Saturday, August 17th, 1991 2:00 p.m.

Oregon National Guard Armory
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The Blue Heron Music Festival

The Blue Heron Music Festival returns to Cathedral Park on the banks of the Willamette River, under the St. John's Bridge, on Sunday, August 18th, from noon to dusk. Sponsored jointly by the Bureau of Parks and Recreation and Friends of Cathedral Park, this second annual day-long event is funded by a grant from Peninsula Neighbors. The Blue Heron Music Festival will feature the hot jazz, cool blues, and social satire of many long-time Portland musicians, and nationally known performers, as well as players new to the local music scene.

Opening at noon will be Alaska Card Room, a new collaboration playing "young, funky blues." The Jim Mesi Band, voted "most popular new blues band" at the Rose City Blues Festival in 1990, will take the stage at 1:30 in the afternoon, followed by Dr. Jazz at 3:30. Led by John Ward, Dr. Jazz plays '20's and '30's non-traditional swing jazz with washboard. At 5 p.m. The Holy Modal Rounders, a leg-

endary band which has toured worldwide since the mid-sixties, will let loose with their own unique psychedelic country rock style laced with social commentary. If you miss the '60's or missed the '60's this band could bring it all into perspective for you. And to wrap up the festival at 6:30 will be Billy and Co., led by Billy Hults, 1990's activist and washboard artist, former leader of the Fly By-Nite Jazz Band and Billy Foodstamps and the Welfare Ranch Rodeo.

The Blue Heron Music Festival is designed to deliver a long day of grooving to the music while soaking up those precious summer rays. So pack your picnic, bring the family, and come on down to check it out. Take either Willamette Boulevard or Lombard west to the St. John's Bridge, or from the West side take Highway 30 to the St. John's Bridge. The park is located underneath the bridge on the East side of the river. The festival is free to the public. Everyone is invited.

Town Hall August 1991 Schedule

August 11 Girls & Gangs

Gang problems are no longer just boy problems. School officials and police are alarmed by the marked increase in girls' involvement. Girls are selling more drugs, carrying weapons, and more prone to violence. What happened to the girl next door?

August 18 Nowhere To Hide

On March 22, Joel Jones tracked down his estranged wife, rammed her car, then shot and killed her--one day after he was released from jail, where he'd been serving time for harassing her and violating her restraining orders. Women living in fear of their partners want more than "paper" protection. What can be done when there's nowhere to hide?

August 25 Men: Tired Of Being Blamed

Men who feel they are unfairly blamed are standing up for men's rights. Hear from men who say they are victims of sex discrimination, and hear how women respond!

Portland Youth Philharmonic Auditions

Auditions for the Portland Youth Philharmonic and the Preparatory Orchestras are scheduled for Saturday, September 7 at Glencoe Elementary School, SE 51st & Belmont in Portland. Conductor Jacob Avshalomov will hear the musicians trying out for both groups. Of particular interest are those students playing the string bass, bassoon and viola.

Applicants wishing to make an appointment to audition should call the Portland Youth Philharmonic Office at 223-5939, between 10 AM and 5 PM weekdays. Those trying out should be prepared to play a short piece or a movement from a sonata or concerto, and some scales and arpeggios. They will also be asked to do some sight reading. Minimum age for string players is 10; for winds, brass and percussion, 13.

Both orchestras, the Portland Youth Philharmonic and the Preparatory Orchestra are established off-campus learning experiences for which players are eligible to receive academic credit at the schools they attend.

Rehearsals begin in the fall in preparation for the 68th concert season which begins November 16. There are three concerts in the season, and the Sing-Your-Own Messiah on December 9, 1991. Tickets are available at the Association Office, 1119 SW Park Ave. 223-5939.

Portland Cable Access

The Portland Cable Access Board of Directors Executive Committee is scheduled to meet at 6:30 pm on Wednesday, August 21st, 1991 at 7343 S. W. 28th Avenue. No public input will be taken.

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