

Oregon Football

Ducks expect few redshirts

By STEVE MIMS
The Register-Guard

Willie Taggart hasn't informed any of his freshmen that they will sit out a redshirt season.

The new Oregon football coach is planning to use anybody who can help him on the field.

"I haven't thought about redshirting anybody right now," he said before practice Tuesday. "We are going to play our best players. We have got some pretty good freshmen on this football team. If they can help our football team in any kind of capacity, then we are going to play them."

Defensive linemen Jordan Scott and Austin Faoliu are possible starters as true freshmen along with cornerback Thomas Graham Jr. on defense. Wide receivers Darrian McNeal and Johnny Johnson III have lined up with the first unit during fall camp.

McNeal, receiver Jaylon Redd and running back Darrian Felix have returned punts during practice this week.

"Redshirt, I think those days are kind of old school now," Taggart said. "Kids are so much more developed

than they were back in the day. We're not going in saying we are going to redshirt anyone. If guys show us they are not ready to help us win ballgames, then we will do what is best for them and our program, but right now there is no intention of redshirting anybody."

McNeal, Redd, Johnson and Daewood Davis give Oregon four true freshmen at wide receiver while Demetri Burch has switched between receiver and quarterback.

"I think they will be ready to play," quarterback Justin Herbert said of the freshmen receivers. "The coaches have done a great job getting them ready. We have got complete confidence in them."

One position where Oregon will have an option to redshirt is at running back where true freshmen Felix, CJ Verdell and Cyrus Habibi-Likio are all likely behind Royce Freeman, Tony Brooks-James and Kani Benoit on the depth chart.

Oregon also has experience on the offensive line ahead of freshmen Cody Shear and Alex Forsyth.

"The guys up front on the offensive line, if anybody

has a chance (to redshirt), it would be there more than anything," Taggart said. "At all the other positions, there is a lot open and it is fun to see."

NEW NUMBERS, PLAYERS DEPARTED: Brenden Schooler arrived at practice wearing his third number of the spring.

Schooler wore No. 43 as a returning starter at safety before switching to No. 26 at WR. He was given No. 86 after switching jerseys with sophomore receiver Kyle Buckner, who is now No. 26.

The switch means that Schooler can play on special teams, or select defensive plays, alongside Khalil Oliver, a junior safety who also wears No. 26. Two players with the same number cannot be on the field at the same time.

Junior safety Mattrell McGraw changed from No. 27 to 21 while freshman LB Isaac Slade-Matautia switched from No. 41 to No. 43.

Two freshmen left the team including Riley Greene, a defensive lineman from Gladstone. Rocky Rainey, a 6-3 receiver from League City, Texas, is also off Oregon's roster.

BUCKAROOS: Start season with three home games against solid competition

Continued from 1B

especially in the weight room.

"We took pride this summer in the extra things, and the weight room was the No. 1 important thing," Davis said. "If we're going to be competitive especially with the big boys in the Special District 1 we need to be bigger, faster, stronger. We've been preaching for a long time for the kids to buy in and I think I have a group of 80 kids that bought in and you can see that in the way they practice, the way they condition and hit the weights."

"We have a better feel, a better overall vibe going in this year."

After an offseason full of weight room workouts and fundamental learning, these first few practices are an important step for the Buckaroos. And aside from the strategy that goes into season preparation, the coaches have scheduled practices for 7 a.m. for now to try and get the kids back into a routine like any other school day. Davis said he knows it's always tough for the first few days for the kids to get back into the flow of things once school starts after a summer



Staff photo by Eric Singer

Pendleton Buckaroo football players run through a tackling drill during Wednesday's practice at Pendleton High School while coaches Fred Phillips, left, and Wes Armstrong, right, look on.

of later wake-up calls, but with Pendleton's first week of school also being the first game week, they need the adaptation to start earlier.

The Buckaroos have another solid, challenging schedule right out of the gates this season, with three straight home games against La Grande, Putnam and then the league opener against Summit. The Buckaroos have more confidence going into the Special District 1 schedule this season, not only because 2016 powers like Summit and Redmond

lost a lot of firepower to graduation, but because of the progress made themselves in the offseason.

"I think there is going to be a lot of parity this season, but I feel that we fit right in," Davis said. "Before, I felt like we were looking up a mountain, and now I feel like we're on that peak to where we could and should compete throughout."

Contact Eric at esinger@eastoregonian.com or 541-966-0839. Follow him on Twitter @ByEricSinger.

LLWS: Mid-Atlantic team averaged 10.8 runs in regional tournament

Continued from 1B

informed with teaching mechanics and selection and hitting philosophy."

Grosse Pointe's 6.6 runs per game during regional play was actually among the lowest offensive output among the teams taking the field this week. The Mid-Atlantic team from Jackson, New Jersey, averaged 10.8 runs across four regional games, the best mark of any U.S. team.

The international teams averaged more runs during regionals than the United States teams did, though the competition levels of the different regions vary. The Asia-Pacific Region's representative from Seoul, South Korea, outscored its regional opponents 45-2 in the four-game span. Canada scored more than 20 runs in back-to-back regional games, averaging nearly 14.3 runs across seven contests. Japan won its final regional matchup 17-0 and averaged more than 13 runs per game.

"We've got some power in our lineup," said coach Chris Shaw of Hills Little League from Sydney, Australia, which will face Japan on Friday. "If you look back at our (regional) tournament, we didn't rely on the home run. We just relied on batting for average, looking to hit the ball in the gaps."

"We look to hit the ball hard. If the ball goes out, it's an extra bonus," Shaw said. Australia averaged 12.3 runs per game across seven regional games, third best among international teams behind Canada and Japan.

Hills is one of two teams returning to the series for a second straight year, along

with Emilia Little League from Italy. That could be an advantage because they've already experienced the hype.

"They're so excited to be here," Shaw said. "They're one team that just likes to relax, and they want to have fun. I think they should be having enough fun so the nerves won't really take over."

LOOKING AHEAD

Two key matchups are coming up in the opening days of the tournament.

— Fairfield, Connecticut (New England) vs. Jackson, New Jersey (Mid-Atlantic) on Thursday: The highest-scoring offense among United States teams, New Jersey will try to hand Connecticut its first loss this summer as Fairfield won each of its 18 games. New Jersey has a connection with New York Yankees third baseman and 1998 Little League World Series Champion Todd Frazier, who played for Toms River, New Jersey. Both Jackson and Toms River are in the Ocean County and this team's players have honed their skills in practice with Frazier and his two brothers.

— Australia vs. Japan on Friday: This game is expected to showcase the offensive firepower on the international side of regional play. Japan outscored its opponents 53-6 in regionals, showing it can dominate both at the plate and on the mound.

Matt Martell is a journalism student at Penn State. Penn State is partnering with The Associated Press to supplement coverage of the 2017 LLWS.

MARINERS: Start 12-game road trip Friday in Tampa

Continued from B1

base hit with a sensational diving catch in right field.

Diaz struck out Jonathan Schoop, but then hit both Trey Mancini and Mark Trumbo to force in another run. Rzepczynski relieved and fanned Davis on three pitches for his first save, and just the second in his career.

"I've come in with the bases loaded, two outs plenty of times, but never in the ninth with the game on the line," said Rzepczynski, whose only other save in 466 appearances was with Cleveland in 2014. "One other career save, and it was a four-out save, so it was a little different. But, I've come in plenty of times with the bases loaded, so I kind of just treated it like that."

Tony Zych (6-3) pitched 1 2/3 scoreless innings in relief. Ubaldo Jimenez (5-8) allowed six runs in 4 1/3 innings.

The breaking balls weren't there since the beginning of the game," Jimenez said. "The first couple innings I was able to control the fastball down in the zone, but then the slider and the splitter were up."

The wild card-contending Mariners won their



AP Photo/Elaine Thompson

Seattle's Jean Segura, right, slides safely into home as Baltimore catcher Caleb Joseph waits for the ball in the fifth inning of Wednesday's game in Seattle.

second in a row and capped a 2-5 homestand, their only games at Safeco Field in August. Seattle opened the month with eight games on the road, and now heads out on a four-city, 12-game trip.

"It's definitely nice," said Alonso, who entered hitting .192 in his first seven games with Seattle. "Obviously, I'm enjoying my time here and enjoying the opportunity for this whole team and what's at stake. We're excited and it was a good team. Definitely a good one, especially winning the series, so now we can enjoy our off day and get ready for a long road trip."

After Baltimore erased

a 3-1 deficit with three runs in the fifth, the Mariners answered with three in the bottom half to go back in front 6-4. Jean Segura singled to open and Guillermo Heredia was hit by a pitch, setting up RBI singles by Robinson Cano, Alonso and Danny Valencia.

The Orioles bunched five consecutive one-out hits to go up 4-3 in the fifth. Joey Rickard and Caleb Joseph had consecutive singles. Rickard scored from third on a wild pitch and Craig Gentry followed with an RBI triple to left-center. Tim Beckham singled in Gentry.

"It's one of those games

where you look back, there's seven or eight things during the course of the game that could have changed it," Orioles manager Buck Showalter said.

Beckham opened the game with his 17th home run, his second leadoff homer of the series. The Mariners tied it in the third on doubles by Mike Zunino and Heredia.

TRAINER'S ROOM

Mariners: 3B Kyle Seager missed his second straight game with what was described as a stomach virus. Valencia made his first start of the season at 3B. ... RHP James Paxton, on the 10-day DL (strained left pectoral muscle) continues to improve. "Paxton was seen by the doctor yesterday, moving along in the right direction. He'll start really picking up his activity now and trying to strengthen things," manager Scott Servais said.

UP NEXT

Mariners: After a day off, RHP Erasmo Ramirez (4-4, 4.73) returns to Tampa Bay to open the three-game series on Friday. Ramirez, acquired from the Rays on July 28, makes his fourth start for the Mariners. He has allowed five homers in 14 1/3 innings with Seattle.

SEAHAWKS: With Shead still out, team searching for starting cornerback to pair with Sherman

Continued from 1B

said 11 other teams had reached out about Brock, but he had an interest in staying on the West Coast.

"The process and everything is under the rug and I'm just moving forward from that situation," Brock said.

Brock started 31 of 32 games over the past two

seasons for the 49ers, but was released following his arrest.

Seattle is looking for a starting cornerback opposite Richard Sherman after DeShawn Shead suffered a major knee injury in last season's playoffs. Rookie Shaquill Griffin and veteran Jeremy Lane have been the two most likely to step in for Shead, but Brock adds

to the competition with his experience as a starter.

"I know what I've got to do. I have to come in and make plays that (are) going to make me a part of the team and keep me a starter," Brock said.

NOTES: Seattle signed LB Rodney Butler on Wednesday. Butler is an undrafted rookie out of New Mexico State who led the

country in tackles last season with 165. The Seahawks waived wide receiver Jamal Johnson and waived/injured safety Jordan Simone. ... OL coach Tom Cable said Mark Glowinski will start at RG and Germain Ifedi will start at RT in Friday's exhibition game against Minnesota but that rookie Ethan Pocic is still in the competition for both spots.

SCOREBOARD

Baseball

AMERICAN LEAGUE				
East Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Boston	69	51	.575	—
New York	64	55	.538	4½
Tampa Bay	60	62	.492	10
Baltimore	59	62	.488	10½
Toronto	58	62	.483	11
Central Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Cleveland	65	52	.556	—
Kansas City	61	59	.508	5½
Minnesota	59	58	.504	6
Detroit	53	67	.442	13½
Chicago	45	72	.385	20
West Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Houston	74	46	.617	—
Los Angeles	62	59	.512	12½
Seattle	61	61	.500	14
Texas	59	60	.496	14½
Oakland	55	68	.438	21½

Wednesday's Games
Cleveland at Minnesota, p.p.d.
L.A. Angels 3, Washington 2
Kansas City 7, Oakland 6
Seattle 7, Baltimore 6
Toronto 3, Tampa Bay 2
Boston 5, St. Louis 4
N.Y. Yankees 5, N.Y. Mets 3
Texas 12, Detroit 6
Houston 9, Arizona 5
L.A. Dodgers 5, Chicago White Sox 4

Thursday's Games
Cleveland (Clevinger 6-4) at Minnesota (Berrios 10-5), 10:10 a.m., 1st game
Arizona (Corbin 9-11) at Houston (Fiers 7-7), 11:10 a.m.
Tampa Bay (Archer 8-7) at Toronto (Rowley 1-0), 1:07 p.m.
Cleveland (TBD) at Minnesota (TBD), 4:10 p.m., 2nd game

N.Y. Yankees (Severino 9-5) at N.Y. Mets (Matz 2-6), 4:10 p.m.
Chicago White Sox (Lopez 0-0) at Texas (Ross 3-2), 5:05 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE				
East Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Washington	71	47	.602	—
Miami	58	61	.487	13½
New York	53	65	.449	18
Atlanta	53	65	.449	18
Philadelphia	43	75	.364	28
Central Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Chicago	63	56	.529	—
Milwaukee	63	59	.516	1½
St. Louis	61	59	.508	2½
Pittsburgh	58	62	.483	5½
Cincinnati	50	71	.413	14
West Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Los Angeles	85	34	.714	—
Colorado	67	53	.558	18½
Arizona	66	54	.550	19½
San Diego	54	66	.450	31½
San Francisco	48	74	.393	38½

Wednesday's Games
L.A. Angels 3, Washington 2
Miami 8, San Francisco 1
Milwaukee 7, Pittsburgh 0
San Diego 3, Philadelphia 0
Boston 5, St. Louis 4
N.Y. Yankees 5, N.Y. Mets 3
Chicago Cubs 7, Cincinnati 6
Houston 9, Arizona 5
Colorado 17, Atlanta 2
L.A. Dodgers 5, Chicago White Sox 4

Thursday's Games
Arizona (Corbin 9-11) at Houston (Fiers 7-7), 11:10 a.m.
Cincinnati (Feldman 7-7) at Chicago Cubs (Lester 8-7), 11:20 a.m.
Atlanta (Gims 0-3) at Colorado (Hoffman 6-4), 12:10 p.m.

St. Louis (Wainwright 12-5) at Pittsburgh (Taillon 7-5), 4:05 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees (Severino 9-5) at N.Y. Mets (Matz 2-6), 4:10 p.m.
Washington (Jackson 3-2) at San Diego (Chacin 11-8), 7:10 p.m.
Philadelphia (Nola 9-7) at San Francisco (Samardzija 7-12), 7:15 p.m.

Wild Card Standings				
AL	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	64	55	.538	+3
Los Angeles	62	59	.512	—
Kansas City	61	59	.508	½
Minnesota	59	58	.504	1
Seattle	61	61	.500	1½
Texas	59	60	.496	2
Tampa Bay	60	62	.492	2½
Baltimore	59	62	.488	3
Toronto	58	62	.483	3½
NL				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Colorado	67	53	.558	+1
Arizona	66	54	.550	—
Milwaukee	63	59	.516	4
St. Louis	61	59	.508	5

Northwest League

North Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
x-Vancouver	13	8	.619	—
Tri-City	12	9	.571	1
Everett	12	9	.571	1
Spokane	10	11	.476	3
South Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Boise	10	11	.476	—
Eugene	10	11	.476	—
x-Hillsboro	9	12	.428	1
Salem-Keizer	8	13	.380	2

x-first-half champions

Wednesday's Games
Vancouver 6, Spokane 2
Salem-Keizer 12, Boise 3
Eugene 3, Hillsboro 2
Everett 4, Tri-City 1

Thursday's Games

Vancouver at Spokane, 6:30 p.m.
Boise at Salem-Keizer, 6:35 p.m.
Eugene at Hillsboro, 7:05 p.m.
Tri-City at Everett, 7:05 p.m.

LITTLE LEAGUE
Little League World Series
At South Williamsport, Pa.
Double Elimination
Thursday's Games
Game 1: Maracaibo (Venezuela) vs. Tarnaulipas (Mexico), 10 a.m.
Game 2: Jackson (N.J.) vs. Fairfield (Conn.), 12 p.m.
Game 3: White Rock (British Columbia) vs. Emilia (Italy), 2 p.m.
Game 4: Lufkin (Texas) vs. Grosse Pointe (Mich.), 4 p.m.
Friday's Games
Game 5: Tokyo vs. Sydney, 11 a.m.
Game 6: Walla Walla (Wash.) vs. Rancho Santa Margarita (Calif.), 1 p.m.
Game 7: Pontezuela (Dominican Republic) vs. Seoul, 3 p.m.
Game 8: Sioux Falls (S.D.) vs. Greenville (N.C.), 5 p.m.

Soccer

MLS

Wednesday's Game
Montreal 3, Chicago 0

Friday's Game
New York at Portland, 7 p.m.

Saturday's Games
Columbus at Orlando City, 4:30 p.m.
Real Salt Lake at Montreal, 4:30 p.m.
Toronto FC at Chicago, 5 p.m.
F.C. Dallas at Sporting K.C., 5:30 p.m.
D.C. United at Colorado, 6 p.m.
Houston at Vancouver, 7 p.m.
Philadelphia at San Jose, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday's Games
New England at New York City FC, 3 p.m.
Minnesota United at Seattle, 7 p.m.

Basketball

WNBA

Wednesday's Games
Los Angeles 95, Washington 62
Minnesota at Seattle, 7 p.m.

Friday's Games
New York at Connecticut, 4 p.m.
Phoenix at Washington, 4 p.m.
Indiana at Minnesota, 5 p.m.
Los Angeles at Chicago, 5:30 p.m.
San Antonio at Seattle, 7 p.m.

Golf

PGA TOUR

Upcoming schedule
WYNDHAM CHAMPIONSHIP
Site: Greensboro, N.C.
Course: Sedgfield Country Club. Yardage: 7,130. Par: 70.
Purse: \$5.8 million. First prize: \$1,044,000.
Television: Thursday, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. (Golf Channel); Friday, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. (Golf Channel); Saturday-Sunday, 12-3 p.m. (CBS).
Defending champion: Si Woo Kim.

Tennis

Western & Southern Open
Wednesday
At The Lindner Family Tennis Center
Mason, Ohio
Purse: Men, \$4.97 million (Masters 1000); Women, \$2.54 million (Premier)
Surface: Hard-Outdoor

How Seeds Fared

Singles
Men
Second Round
Grigor Dimitrov (7), Bulgaria, def. Feliciano Lopez, Spain, 7-6 (5), 6-4.
Juan Martin del Potro, Argentina, def. Mitchell Krueger, United States, 6-4, 6-4.
Pablo Carreno Busta (11), Spain, def.

Women

Second Round
Madison Keys (16), United States, def. Daria Gavrilova, Australia, 6-2, 6-1.
Svetlana Kuznetsova, Russia, def. Yulia Putintseva (8), Kazakhstan, 6-3, 6-4.
Anastasija Sevastova (15), Latvia, def. Roberta Vinci, Italy, 6-2, 7-5.
Ashleigh Barty, Australia, def. Venus Williams (9), United States, 6-3, 2-6, 6-2.
Caroline Wozniacki (6), Denmark, def. Elena Vesnina, Russia, 6-2, 6-4.
Dominika Cibulkova (11), Slovakia, def. Alize Cornet, France, 6-1, 6-4.
Ekaterina Makarova, Russia, def. Angelique Kerber (3), Germany, 6-4, 1-6, 7-6 (11).
Sloane Stephens, United States, def. Petra Kvitova (14), Czech Republic, 6-2, 6-3.
Elina Svitolina (5), Ukraine, def. Lesia Tsurenko, Ukraine, 6-1, 6-4.
Karolina Pliskova (1), Czech Republic, def. Natalia Vikhlyantseva, Russia, 6-2, 6-3.

Football

NFL

Preseason Glance
Thursday's Games
Buffalo at Philadelphia, 4 p.m.<