

LSU postseason in jeopardy Injured star could miss tournament

BATON ROUGE, La. (AP) — What looked to be a promising postseason for the LSU men's basketball game now hinges on the fractured leg of Shaquille O'Neal.

O'Neal, the nation's leading rebounder, is out of this week's Southeastern Conference tournament and could even miss the NCAA tournament if the injury fails to heal in time.

"The doctors feel it's a situation that will have to be re-evaluated next week," LSU assistant coach Craig Carse said Tuesday. "He's walking on it, but it will be awhile before he can run and do the other things. The feeling is that this time next week, they will re-evaluate again, and we believe it will be fine."

"We feel real good about the NCAA."

Coach Dale Brown was unavailable for comment Tuesday, but said earlier, "If he has not healed 100

“ If he has not healed 100 percent by NCAA tournament time, he will not play. ”

Brown, LSU coach

percent by NCAA tournament time, he will not play."

The 7-foot-1 center, the SEC's player of the year, who averages 28.0 points, 14.5 rebounds and 5.1 blocked shots per game, suffered a hairline fracture of his left leg during LSU's game last Wednesday against Florida.

Brown held O'Neal out of the Tigers' final regular-season game last Saturday. O'Neal was replaced by

7-0 sophomore Geert Hammick, who had 20 points and 10 rebounds in his first career start.

It was believed that O'Neal's injury was a bruise and that he would play in the SEC tournament. A further examination by an orthopedic specialist Monday found a hairline fracture of the fibula near its juncture with the knee.

"Those who saw the Florida game saw he was limping real bad toward the end of the game," said Dr. J. Thomas Kilroy, who diagnosed O'Neal's injury. "We examined the area, and it was tender below the knee joint on the fibula head. We later did a bone scan of the area, and sure enough, it was a hairline fracture of the fibula head."

The 16th-ranked Tigers (20-8) are certain to be invited to play in the NCAA tournament, even if they falter in the SEC tournament.

PRACTICE roundup

Men's gymnastics: Coach Francis Allen said practice went hard Tuesday and will continue to be difficult until Sunday's match against sixth-ranked Arizona State. Freshman Summer Darling is recovering from an injured back, but is expected to compete for the fourth-ranked Cornhuskers against the Sun Devils. **Women's swimming and diving:** Practice went well for the Big Eight champions, Coach Ray Huppert said. He said the Huskers are just resting up for this weekend's Husker Invitational. "We're trying to flush out all of our sore-

ness," he said. Most of the Big Eight's swimming and diving squads will be competing at this weekend's three-day meet. **Men's tennis:** Challenge matches continued at Tuesday's practice for the Huskers, Coach Kerry McDermott said. After the challenges, Joey Salerno moved ahead of Anthony Kotarac, with Salerno and Kotarac switching at No. 5 and 6 singles, McDermott said. Salerno is recovering from a sore shoulder but will play against Iowa this weekend.

— Jeff Singer

NU to play Arkansas

The 6-2 Nebraska baseball team, after sweeping a three-game series against Western Illinois Sunday and Monday, will travel to Fayetteville, Ark., for a doubleheader against Arkansas today.

Arkansas is 12-3 and rated No. 8 by Collegiate Baseball.

"It will be a good early-season test," Coach John Sanders said. "It will allow us to evaluate ourselves."

Nebraska last played Arkansas in 1989, with Arkansas winning 4-1. The two teams split a doubleheader the year before.

Josh Bullock is scheduled to start on the mound in the first game for Nebraska. Bullock is 1-1 this year. Sanders said he hadn't decided on a starter for the second game and plans to use a split staff, giving many pitchers a chance to throw.

Seven Cornhuskers are hitting over .300, led by Gary Tackett at .429. Shortstop Dale Hagy has two home runs and 16 runs batted in.

— Nick Hytrek

Swimmer

Continued from Page 7

off probation . . . I patted myself on the back," Keller said.

Keller has turned around his swimming as well as his academics.

"I don't understand it. I'm not working half as hard this semester as I did (as a freshman)," Keller said.

With this sudden boost, Keller said he wants to qualify for the NCAA championships.

But Paine said Keller's time off last summer could make it difficult to make NCAA qualifying times.

"It's hard to say if he can get there without that training," Paine said. "One thing I do know, Steve is the kind of guy we build our programs around."

"He has that determination that we just can't teach. Who knows . . . that just may be good enough."



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Rec Scoreboard

Results from Monday's games.

Men's basketball

Fraternity B

Phi Gamma Delta B1 68, Chi Phi B2 48; Sigma Alpha Epsilon B2 47, Sigma Nu B2 45; Delta Tau Delta B1 63, Sigma Phi Epsilon B2 38, Phi Gamma Delta B2 49, AgMen 36.

Independent B

SS Squad 67, Step Brothers 63; Law Vover G.C. Brownstars; Looped Mortars advances, Bug Eaters out on sportsmanship; Cowboys 67, Lil Ed & 't Cruisers 62; The The 61, Cramdens 49; Lobos 55, Blue Wave 45; The Law 62, The Strabes 44; NA4 56, Hammer Time 46; Young Guns 77, Trousers 52; Bar Stools 58, Establishment 48; Midnight Blue 51, Law I 40; Misfits 67, Bus Drivers-Sheets 57; Falcons 52, Gravity Kings 46; Short-n-Sloppy 61, BC Boys 58 OT; Cather 7-Ind. 51, The Nads 46.

Independent C

Squid Row 64, Bus Drivers-Arc 37; Rag Attack by forfeit over Quack Attack; Good Morticians 64, Army ROTC 46; Primetime 49, C&S Express 38; Jager 40, Backcourt Surfers 37; 4 Jerks & A Squirt 44, Renegades 43 OT; Demolition 62, Gunners 56; HB 66, Tallboys 50; Court Gnomes 56, Flintstones 45; S&D 51, Super Jocks 46; Bork Beards 50, Lucky Draws 43; Muthas 42, Burns 29; Strange Brew 56, Your Mama 53; Geems

Jammers 50, Siloers 45; NROTC II 51, Syndkate 45; Swamp Rats 2 68, Rapidly Aging Slow Guys 46.

Women's free throws

1. Jane Bareiman 45; 2. Marie Srb 43; T3. Jody Robinson 42; T3. Deb Rovang 42; 5. Heidi Haeker 37.

Co-rec free throws

1. Marie Srb, Joe Kloppe 85; 2. Jane Bareiman, Cory Roth 62; 3. Gwyn Vaughn, Pat Erb 60; 4. Deidre Goodsell, John Mues 58; 5. Deb Rovang, Tim Hoffman 56.

Indoor soccer

Fraternity B

Phi Kappa Psi 4, Beta Theta Pi B1 1; Sigma Phi Epsilon 1, Kappa Sigma 0.

Fraternity C

Alpha Tau Omega 3, Chi Phi C 0.

Residence/Independent A

NU Tennis 4, International Stars II 1; Roscoe Rowders 6, FCA 1.

Residence BC

EX-PTG 2, Scorpions 0; Oatmeal 3, Fury 0.

Women

Alpha Delta Pi 3, Phi Mu 1.

