

A new treatment for toenail fungus

- Latest in laser technology
- Painless without anesthesia
- Board licensed physicians
- Free consultation
- As recently featured on The Doctors (CBS) and Good Morning America (ABC News)

Click Here

finally...

Barefoot LASER CENTERS




Site Web Search powered by **YAHOO! SEARCH**

PART OF THE BAYAREA.COM NETWORK

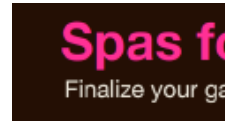
RSS | Mobile Edition
Newspaper Subscriber Services

[Home](#) | [News](#) | [Sports](#) | [Living](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Business](#) | [Opinion](#) | [Choose a Publication](#) | [Help](#)

[Shopping](#) | [Classifieds](#) | [Homes](#) | [Jobs](#) | [Cars](#) | [Post Ad](#)

Thank you for using NewsLibrary

[Click here for a printer friendly version of this article.](#)



Oakland Tribune, The (CA)

Reeling Cal searches for answers against UW

September 27, 2001

Section: Sports

Brian Higgins STAFF WRITER

BERKELEY -- Cal linebacker **Scott Fujita** and his wife, Jaelyn, were still groggy with sleep when their phone rang early Sunday morning. **Fujita** rolled over, eyeballed the Caller I.D. and pulled the covers over his head.

"I saw (Matt) Beck's name on there, and I didn't answer the phone," **Fujita** said, referring to his ultra-intense former mate in the linebacking corps. "I'm not ready to deal with Beck yet. Maybe in the bye week."

Four years ago, it was Beck, then an injured sophomore, who read his teammates the riot act after a 63-37 thrashing at Washington State. After the reeling Bears (0-3) received a similar beating in the same venue on Saturday, **Fujita** wasn't taking any chances with his wake-up call while his wife was within earshot.

The message Beck left was characteristically to the point.

"He says 'Fuj, this is Beck; what the (expletive) is going on?' and he hangs up."

It's a question that he's been hearing with alarming frequency of late. **Fujita**, a senior, inherited Cal's defensive leadership after linemen Andre Carter and Jacob Waasdorp matriculated. He's discovered that the role includes putting out a lot of fires -- including the four-alarm controversy that ignited when fellow linebacker Chris Ball's highly inflammatory comments about his teammates and the coaching staff were published last week.

"I met with Chris probably longer than anyone else," **Fujita** said. "I met with coach (Tom) Holmoe and I met with most of the players. I'm sick of the whole thing being an issue. It's a big distraction."

"I don't appreciate some of the things he did," **Fujita** said of Ball. "He made some mistakes. People are upset. People are mad. And they have a right to be. Chris dug himself into this hole. But I love him. He's my teammate and I'll back him to the core."

Ball threw gasoline on the issue by showing up late for a team meeting on Friday. He was benched during Cal's 51-20 loss to the Cougars.

"I'm trying to get everybody to come together," **Fujita** said. "I'm taking these individuals aside who are coming up to me with their queries and (I'm) saying, 'Just shut up and play.' Maybe I'm old school. Maybe coach Sent (Lyle Sentenich) and the others have got me a little brainwashed. But I believe in their system and wish everyone else could get on the same page."

The quicker the better, where the Bears are concerned. With 13th-ranked Washington coming to town Saturday, further dissension could turn a

nightmarish start into one of the ugliest Septembers in school history.

"This is a time when our patience and wit and dignity is tested to the core," Holmoe said. "It was pretty close last year (in Seattle) with pretty much the same guys. Our hope and dream is that we get it together this week."

Although Holmoe's team largely has the same cast -- with the notable exception of Carter and Waasdorp -- the Huskies have undergone some radical changes since rallying from an 11-point fourth-quarter deficit in a 36-24 victory last season at Husky Stadium. Gone is Pacific-10 Conference Offensive Player of the Year Marques Tuiasosopo, now a quarterback for the Oakland Raiders.

"It's a very different team -- no question," Holmoe said. "Marques' signature was all over that team. For the writers that cover the Pac-10, the biggest question was, 'How in the world is Washington going to come back without Marques Tuiasosopo?'"

The jury is still out on that one. Although sophomore replacement Cody Pickett has helped extend the winning streak that Tuiasosopo started to 10 games, Washington is ranked last in the Pac-10 in total offense -- a bit of an anomaly for a team that beat Idaho 53-3 four days ago.

Playing Cal -- currently ranked 113th of 115 Division I-A teams in scoring defense -- has proved invigorating for the offenses at Illinois, BYU and Washington State. But the Huskies' effort to get a leg up in that department could be hindered by the extensive casualties suffered in the rout of the Vandals.

Senior tailback Willie Hurst pulled a hamstring; UW coach Rick Neuheisel said Tuesday that "the likelihood is that Willie will not be able to play" against the Bears. Backup Braxton Clemens was lost for the season after breaking his collarbone. But the Huskies were loaded at tailback before Saturday's events -- Rich Alexis, who will start against the Bears for the second year in a row, was a Sporting News Freshman All-American last season after rushing for a UW freshman-record 738 yards.

Potentially devastating, however, is the loss of junior Jerramy Stevens, a consensus preseason All-American at tight end. Stevens could miss the rest of the season after breaking his foot.

"After the ballgame, I said, 'This is not the time to be making decisions,'" Neuheisel told Stevens, who informed reporters last month that he planned to enter the NFL Draft after this season. "I would say Jerramy is going to weigh out his options. But given this state of events, I would hope that Jerramy would come back for his senior season."

Cal obviously has its own issues, like the nation's second-worst turnover imbalance. So consumed are the Bears with restoring some semblance of order that talk of their 18-game losing streak to the Huskies barely surfaced in Tuesday's weekly media get-together.

"It's kind of chaotic," **Fujita** said. "There's a lot of whispering around campus. People are coming up to me and saying 'What's going on? What happened with Chris exactly? Why aren't these guys playing well?' It's little stuff like that that we've got to get rid of."

All content © 2001- Oakland Tribune, The (CA){PUBLICATION2} and may not be
republished without permission.

[Home](#) | [Classifieds](#) | [Real Estate](#) | [Jobs](#) | [Cars](#) | [Place An Ad](#) | [Advertise](#) | [Subscriber Services](#) | [Site map](#) | [RSS](#)

?© 2000-2010 ANG Newspapers | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Help](#) | [About Bay Area News Group](#)
MediaNews Group - Northern California Network