

Seahawks' Dion is eager to test his grid prowess

by Gil Lyons
Times staff reporter

Terry Dion will have a better chance to work off his aggression and frustrations, and to move up in the football pecking order.

The defensive end from Oregon, chosen in the National Football League draft's fourth round, was activated yesterday by the Seattle Seahawks. Dion had spent a month rehabilitating his injured left kneecap.

"I'm exhausted right now," Dion said after his first workout with the team. "But I'm really happy."

Dion was given the green light by team doctors yesterday and will make the trip to San Francisco tomorrow, although he probably will not play Saturday against the 49ers.

Terry's new status has given him a fresh outlook. "There's a definite pecking order on a football team," he said. "The scum of camp are the ones who are always in the training room. I'd like to move up a little."

Dion said it is time for him to begin "hitting someone." "I've got a lot of aggression," he said. "This is the time of year you rid yourself of all that. I haven't had a chance to get in any good hits. You like to earn the respect of your compatriots."

After a steady diet of weightlifting, swimming and riding a stationary bike, Terry was given approval five days ago to begin running. He beat his September 1 target date to begin workouts by nearly two weeks.

"I'm really an unknown quantity, but I still feel I have a chance to contribute this year," he said. "There are the unseen possibilities. I want to be ready for anything that presents itself. I'm not going to count this year off. I've never been a patient person. Persistence is what it's all about."

Dion underwent surgery on the kneecap last January and had an arthroscopy in June for further correction. He played all last season at Oregon with severe pain, he said.

"Last year was pretty bad. I never want to go through that again," he said. "It gets pretty sore by evening, but it's very bearable right now."

Dion said team doctors told him the kneecap "is as good as it'll get for quite a while. They said there will be some swelling and there may be some pain, but not nearly like it was in college. I'm pretty confident it'll hold up." Dion looks the part of a defensive lineman, big and tough at 6 feet 6 inches and 260 pounds. The significance of his progress increased considerably when the Seahawks lost another rookie defensive lineman, Daniel Jacobs, in Monday's game with Miami. Jacobs, out for the season, suffered a severe ankle break.

As part of his rehabilitation, Terry said he lifted weights harder than he ever had.

"I'll take a while for me to get in playing condition," he said. "I may not be ready to play Saturday, but I'll be traveling."

QUICK KICKS: Jim Zorn was on the field yesterday and threw a few passes. But the No. 1 quarterback still was limping a bit and is a doubtful participant Saturday against the 49ers. Sam Adams will get his second quarterback start. Dan Doornink returned to practice yesterday but two other running backs, Jeff Moore and Tony Benjamin,

Eugene pro rallies to win N.W. Open

BEND, Ore. — (AP) — Craig Griswold faltered in the morning round but recovered yesterday afternoon with a 3-under-par 69 to claim a four-stroke victory in the Northwest Open golf tournament. Griswold, assistant pro at the Emerald Valley Golf Club in Eugene, Ore., finished at 282 for 72 holes. He won \$3,700. Chris Mitchell, Spokane pro, was second at 286 and won \$2,350.

Griswold went into the final 36 holes with a four-stroke lead. But he shot a 77 in the morning round over the 6,793-yard Bend Golf and Country Club course and lost the advantage to Mitchell.

Mitchell shot a 69 and led Griswold by three strokes going into the final 18 holes. As Griswold returned to his earlier form in the tournament, Mitchell dropped to a 76 in the final round.

Jeff McMillen, Burlington, Wash., amateur, finished third at 72-76-288.

Kirkland Little Leaguers advance to semifinals

SAN BERNARDINO, Calif. — The Kirkland, Wash., Nationals beat Nevada, 7-4, with three runs in the top of the seventh yesterday at the Western Regional Little League tournament.

The victory advances Kirkland to tomorrow's semifinals. Clay Carlson hit a three-run homer in the second inning for Kirkland. Greg Hunter and Nick Wharf each had two hits. Todd Coleman, Kirkland pitcher, threw a four-hitter.

Blazers' third pick signs 4-year pact

PORTLAND — (AP) — Michael Harper, the Portland Trail Blazers' third-round draft choice, said yesterday he has signed a four-year contract with the National Basketball Association team.

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1/2 liter. Regular: \$5.75 **Sale: \$4.45**

1 liter. Regular: \$6.50 **Sale: \$5.45**

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Low profile, lightweight aluminum case. White gas. Regular: \$41.95 **Sale: \$35.95**

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