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# Oregon State football: It's bad news for tight end Joe Halahuni, who will have surgery on injured shoulder

Published: Wednesday, May 04, 2011, 7:30 AM Updated: Wednesday, May 04, 2011, 7:57 AM



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Motoya Nakamura/The Oregonian

OSU tight end Joe Halahuni could be out as long as six months after shoulder surgery Wednesday.

## Wednesday, with Oregon State football

The news was not good for Beavers' senior tight end Joe Halahuni when he went to visit Dr. David Chao - who does work for the NFL San Diego Chargers - in San Diego on Tuesday.

Halahuni learned that he would need surgery on the left shoulder that has been bothering him since last season.

Halahuni noted on Twitter yesterday, "Bad news. Tomorrow morning."

Meaning his surgery was scheduled for

Wednesday.

OSU head coach Mike Riley, who was in Phoenix Tuesday for league meetings, was not immediately available for comment.

It is not known how long Joe "The Tank" will be out. He is one of several high-profile OSU players who face long rehabilitations to get back on the field, joining WR/kick returner James Rodgers, slotback Jordan Bishop and TB Jordan Jenkins among others.

Some estimates say it could be mid-September before Halahuni returns, meaning he would miss at the very least OSU's season opener against Sacramento State Sept. 3 at Reser Stadium and the Beavers' game at Wisconsin on Sept. 10. ... OSU has an off week following the Wisconsin game and plays its Pac-12 opener Sept. 24. vs. UCLA at Reser.

Playing a tight end/H-back role, the 6-foot-2, 258-pound Halahuni was the team's fourth leading receiver in 2010 with 30 catches for 390 yards and six touchdowns. He was first-team all Pac-10 named by Phil

Steele.

Halahunu seemed unclear as to when the injury happened.

After watching the Spring Game on Saturday, he told media, "I hurt it during the season. It really started bothering me at the beginning of spring ball, and more lately. ... during certain plays it will bother me more than others."

- **Paul Buker**

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