

Vandal Notes: Coach: Chalich hasn't talked about leaving Vandal program

Theo Lawson/Lewiston Tribune

MOSCOW - Three days after a report surfaced stating Idaho quarterback Chad Chalich had plans to transfer from the school, Vandal coach Paul Petrino said that the redshirt sophomore had not broached the subject with him, nor expressed any interest to him about transferring.

"That's something he has not told me," Petrino said Tuesday.

SWX's Sam Adams posted the following on Twitter Saturday evening, noting that a couple of Big Sky suitors had showed interest in the Coeur d'Alene native.

"@SWXSamAdams: Anonymous source: Former CdA quarterback Chad Chalich will transfer from Idaho. Big Sky is likely landing place... Idaho State or Montana."

Petrino caught word of the report and asked Chalich about it during the team's practice Monday, which was closed to the media.

"I actually asked him last night because I heard the same thing. I said 'Did you tell people you were transferring?' He said, 'Somebody just posted that,' " Petrino said. "Everything this day in social media is always out there. I don't know. All I know is what I know. As far as I know, that's not the case."

Chalich started in seven games for Idaho in 2013 before suffering a shoulder injury against Arkansas State that sidelined him the remainder of the season. He subsequently lost his starting role to redshirt freshman Matt Linehan at the tail end of the team's fall camp.

Chalich, a two-time 5A Idaho Player of the Year at Coeur d'Alene High, got the first significant snaps of the 2014 season against New Mexico State on Oct. 18, relieving Linehan, who suffered a concussion during the opening drive.

Chalich started at San Diego State two weeks later, but sustained hip and groin injuries that would make him unavailable for Saturday's Sun Belt contest against Troy.

The Vandals have a bye this week and will close out their 2014 campaign at Appalachian State on Nov. 29.

With an ailing hip and "a real bad pain in the groin," Petrino assured Chalich wouldn't be ready to play if the Vandals did play this weekend, but will play in Idaho's finale if healthy.

"Right now we're going to go and try to win this game and if Chad's healthy he's going to play in the game and we're going to try to win it," Petrino said.

Chalich was limited during Tuesday's session, the team's only open practice of the week.

"He couldn't move, he couldn't do anything tonight," Petrino said.

PARHAM NO LONGER WITH TEAM - Cornerback Delency Parham has left the program, Petrino confirmed Tuesday.

The senior hasn't played since the Vandals played host to Arkansas State on Nov. 1 and wasn't listed on the team's roster in games against San Diego State and Troy.

"Yeah, he left," said Petrino, who noted that Parham was still enrolled at UI. "I mean he didn't leave school or anything, he left the program."

Parham played in nine games last season and started four of those. He totaled 20 tackles in 2013. The Oakland, Calif., native played in eight games this season and recorded a season-high six tackles against Louisiana-Monroe.

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