

THE Firing Line



By PAT FRIZZELL

All roads lead to Seattle this weekend, and the ears of all who don't take to the road will take to the radio. Our Webfoots shove off at 12:10 today, and they'll be heading toward the greatest series an Oregon basketball team has engaged in for a decade.

Every student on this campus should be solidly behind Hobby Hobson and his fighting lads. Both games will be broadcast over KORE and it's a 33-to-1 bet that most of the dials in Eugene will be tuned to one spot.

The lads CAN beat Washington. They've done it before and there's every reason to hope. It's been ten years since Oregon nabbed a northern division crown. In the same time the Huskies have won seven. It's our turn. It's just a hunch, but here's a prophecy that Hobby and Anet, Wintermute, Lewis, Johansen, Silver, Gale, and the rest of our fighting gang WILL do it.

On all sides they're telling us that the tip-off in basketball is doomed. A thousand gleeful voices are rallying to defeat it and they proclaim in raucous tone that it will be voted off by the rule makers this very season.

Probably so. Maybe it's on the way out for good. But where there's life there's hope that the "pause that refreshes," or, more aptly, the pause that emphasizes the dramatic moments of the grand old game, will not be eliminated.

Down in the southern division they go for no-tip basketball. They like the big scores and the continuous action. Hec Edmundson, a champion FOR the tip in the northern division, said when he was here last month that he didn't see how the tip could survive another season. Last year, he said, it was the opposition of eastern delegates that kept the coaches and rule manufacturers from turning their thumbs down on it.

This year they've been trying test games without it back east, heralding a new era and so forth. They've used no-tip rules in California for three seasons.

Stanford Quintet Captures Pennant

Indians Travel North for Final Play-off Contest In Three Weeks

The 1937 Pacific Coast basketball campaign will come to a ringing close this week-end, provided Oregon's Webfoots and the Washington Huskies come out of their series with a crowned champion.

Down in California the southern division championship is definitely settled, although the Friday contests remain to be played. Stanford's rampaging Indians clinched their second consecutive title last Saturday with a hard earned triumph over the second-place Southern California Trojans.

Tentative Dates Set
Stanford will come north this season for the usual two out of three game play-off against the as yet uncrowned northern division champions.

The Indians may play in Eugene, Seattle, or Pullman, depending upon Friday and Saturday's important contests. Tentative play-off dates are set for March 25, 27, and 28.

Oregon's McArthur court will be the scene of the final series providing the Ducks are able to twice down Washington. A split with Washington, and two victories by Oregon State over Idaho would send it into a three-way tie.

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Some of fans seem to like it, but, somehow, one wonders. The only glimpse of tip-off-less ball we've had here this winter was one half of the UCLA game, and that wasn't taste enough to leave much impression one way or another.

It seems to this humble commentator that eliminating the tip would take a lot of color out of the game. After a field goal in a crucial moment, or any moment, spectators need a pause to emphasize it, digest it, enjoy it.

The rush back to center of the players, with the lights glistening on their shining suits and sweating bodies, then the tense second as the centers crouch, the players anticipate, the fans thrill—these things will all be missing without the tip.

Also missing when the tip is gone, if such befalls, will be a lot of the last-minute rallies that make so many basketball games indelible memories to all who see them.

When a team four points behind in the final minute of play scores a field goal, instead of having another desperate chance to tie it up, it will be penalized, put on defense, as the team ahead takes the ball out of bounds and keeps it to stall away the time. The short-ender won't have that old fighting chance at the finish.

Elimination of the tip-off after free throws has, undoubtedly, speeded up the game and has probably helped it. But free throws are, in comparison with field goals, colorless. They count just half as much, and need of emphasizing and dramatizing them is less.

Phi Delts Win Double Victory In Volleyball

A Team Downs Sammies And BOutfit Trounces Betas; SPEs Dropped By Beta A Team

Phi Delta Theta proved its volleyball prowess when the A and B teams won games yesterday, and gained berths in the finals to be held tomorrow at 4:00.

The Phi Delta team encountered little difficulty in disposing of the Sammies in straight games, 15-3, 15-6. The Sammies were unable to cope with the effective kill shots of the Phi Delts, and had considerable difficulty in setting up their plays.

Betas Upset SPEs
Beta Theta Pi pulled one out of the bag when they defeated the highly touted SPE A team in easily earned games. Scores were 15-11, 15-6.

Jim Hurd and Vern Moore accounted for a good many of the Beta points with their accurate kill shots.

In the opening of the B league semi-finals, the Phi Delts ousted the Betas 15-1, 15-4. The Betas were unable to get going, and faulty set-ups were the main reason for their one-sided losses.

SPE B Team Wins
In the day's thriller, the SPE B team edged out a close victory over the Pi Kaps, 15-13, 14-16, and 15-13. Neither team had any particular advantage, and relied on the breaks to win points.

In tomorrow's championship contests, the Phi Delts will face the Betas for the A league crown. Owing to their excellent showing throughout the season, the Phi Delts are favored to cop the title.

In the B league final, the Phi Delts will tangle with the SPEs for the minor league championship. Again, the Phi Delts are favored to walk off with the bacon.

Look forward to ASUO afternoon dances for spring term card holders.

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Oregon Paddlers Meet OSC Here

Return Dual Meeting Slated for Gerlinger Pool; Hurd, Sexton Lead Webfoots

Oregon's varsity swimming team will hold its first dual home meet this Saturday afternoon in Gerlinger hall pool when they paddle against Oregon State's men.

The Webfoot swimmers hold one victory over the Beavers, gained two weeks ago at Corvallis. Oregon has never dropped a dual meet this Saturday afternoon in two schools started swimming competition.

Hurd Leads Ducks
Expected to lead the Ducks is Jim Hurd, undefeated on the coast in the short sprints, who took first places in the 50 and 100 two weeks ago at Corvallis. There is a probability that Hurd will also swim in the 220 Saturday.

Harold Sexton, veteran 440 man, has been turning in exceptionally fast time in practices this week, and is expected to garner first place in his specialty. Oregon's other entry in the longer distances will likely be Jack Levy, fast-moving sophomore.

Meyers, Chilton Improve
Chuck Reed, veteran breast stroker, Jim Smith, and Len Scroggins are other definite Oregon entries. Coach Mike Hoyman has not yet named his entire squad.

Leading the Beaver contingent is Bob Brownell, expert free-styler, Henry Burns and Art Brugger speedy back-strokers, and Ted Fisch, sophomore sprint man.

Order of O Votes Swimming Major

The Order of the O, in a meeting at the Phi Delta Theta house, yesterday recommended that swimming be considered a major sport at the University. The recommendation was made by a decisive vote, but it will not be official until passed upon by the executive council.

The lettermen also decided to meet with Oregon State in a boxing and wrestling smoker either here or at Corvallis next term.

George Varoff, Oregon's double world champion pole vaulter, was voted in as a member.

Gill's Orangemen Spill Idaho 28-23

Vandals Drop Third Game To OSC in Final Home Stand After Scrap

Slats Gill's traveling Oregon State basketball team downed Idaho at Moscow last night for the second consecutive time, 28 to 23, sinking the lowly Vandals deeper in the northern division cellar.

Oregon State held a narrow 14-to-12 lead at half-time, and triumphed in the final minutes behind the scoring of Elmer Kolberg and Mal Harris mainly through a superior edge from the foul line.

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Clark Edits Quarterly For Historical Society

Robert C. Clark, head of the history department, has been appointed editor of the Oregon Historical society quarterly as the result of the clause in the appropriation bill for the society requiring that a member of the faculty of this University be appointed editor.

The March issue of the quarterly will be the first to be edited by Clark.

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