

THE Firing Line



By PAT FRIZZELL

Making swimming officially a major sport here was a smart move. It had been on an unofficially major plane for seven or eight years, anyway, and when the lads go out and bring home championships year after year they're deserving of major awards.

The case for giving the splash sport major standing was not based merely upon the outstanding showing of Oregon teams, according to Coach Mike Hoyman. The big point is that swimming as a competitive collegiate sport has developed to a place where it can no longer be relegated to minor ranks.

Before the turn of the century there was practically no competitive swimming. It was all for recreation only. There were few pools and the sport could be carried on only a few months of the year. Since then swimming has grown by leaps and bounds. Pools have been built in schools and colleges all over the country. It is now a year-around sport.

Argument for making swimming a major sport was strong. Surveys, declares Hoyman, have proved that in many high schools it is the most popular sport. It has grown rapidly in A.A.U., interscholastic, and intercollegiate competition. Another factor is that, next to track, swimming is the most important Olympic sport.

As proof of swimming's great advance, Mike Hoyman points to the record for the 100-yard event in 1886—one minute, 16 2/3 seconds. By 1900 a few of the world's best swimmers could churn the century distance in a minute's time. Now the record is 51 seconds, and a man who can't make it in 58 or less is considered no sale as varsity material.

In contrast to this 26-second advance in the water is man's comparatively small progress on land. In 1886, the record for the 100-yard dash in track was around 10.3 of 10.4. One second has been lopped off in the fifty years since.

Mike Hoyman believes that Oregon, in elevating swimming to a definitely major status, is setting a precedent which may be widely followed. "Why wait until Yale or somebody does it?" asks Mike. "Why not start here?"

There should, unquestionably, be room for new major collegiate sports whenever the sports themselves become important enough in the public eye to be worthy of major rating.

What makes a sport "major"? For a good many years we've had football, basketball, baseball, and track as major sports in colleges and high schools. These are naturally the "big four" at the present time.

Hoyman believes points which might be used as a criterion for defining a major sport are the following:

1. General interest of the public.
2. Quantity and quality of competition.
3. Degree of skill necessary.
4. Period of training required.

Beaver-Webfoot Smoker Slated

Lief Jacobsen Appointed Promoter for Boxing, Wrestling Matches

Plans were made for the Oregon-Oregon State smoker to be held April 9, at the luncheon meeting of the Order of the O, yesterday at Kappa Sigma house.

Johnny Lewis, president of the club, appointed Lief Jacobsen as promoter of the boxing and wrestling matches, which will be held in the Oregon State gym. Tryouts for the squad are being held immediately, and persons wishing to try out are asked to get in touch with Promoter Jacobsen. Boxers in the 118, 125, 135 pound and heavy-weight classes especially are needed for the match.

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Thirteen Pre-Season Games Slated for Duck Ball Team

Fifty Gridders In Spring Drill Under Callison

Eighteen Lettermen Are Listed as Outstanding Prospects With Aid of Coming Sophomores

About 50 men have answered Prink Callison's call for spring footballists, including 18 lettermen, a like number from last year's frosh, and several valuable transfers.

There are two lettermen at Fullback, Dave Gammon and Frank Lacau. Gammon is playing baseball at present. Up from the frosh are Paul Rowe, now in the infirmary, and Frank Emmons, the Beaverton buster.

Don Kennedy, the Grapenuts Kid, is the only letterman at right half, but Connie Grabb and Bob Smith, sophomores, and Smoky Whitfield from the reserves promise to make things interesting for Kennedy.

Lasselle, Anderson Out
At present the other halfback position is a little weak, with both Steve Anderson and Dale Lasselle recuperating from injuries, and Jimmy Nicholson on the varsity baseball team. However, Jay Graybeal, frosh speedburner, and Matt Pavalunas, frosh basketball luminary, along with Ted Gebhart, transfer, are doing most of the ball carrying.

To bolster the blocking quarterback position, Coach Callison has shifted Hank Nilsen, letterman, from end to quarterback. Dennis Donovan, up from the frosh, is expected to furnish Arleigh Bentley and Ernie Berstein with plenty of competition for the starting assignment next fall.

It would take a miniature earthquake to cripple the end situation to any great extent. Lief Jacobsen, Bud Robertson and John Yerby, all lettermen, are returning, although Yerby at present is with the baseball squad. In addition to these Larry Lance and Vic Reginato, two of the best freshman end prospects in years, are also out. Bob Blenkinsop and Rod Speetzen, the former a sophomore and the latter a transfer, will also be present when the final reckoning is made.

The tackle situation is also well in hand, despite the graduation of Del Bjork, all-coast tackle. Elroy Jensen, outstanding frosh prospect, and Bill Foskett, at present putting the shot for Bill Hayward, apparently have the inside track here. Chuck Bracher, end letterman, had been moved to tackle, where Russ Inskeep, frosh, and Cliff Morris, and Merle Peters, varsity reserves, are also in the race for jobs.

Ten Squads Listed
Ten men are trying out for the guard positions.

Captain-elect Tony Amato has one position cinched, barring a minor catastrophe. Chan Berry, Bill Estes, Joe Huston, and Nello Giovannini, lettermen, are all returning. Ron Husk and Mel Passolt are the outstanding prospects from the frosh grid squad. George Jones, frosh, Cece Walden, moved from fullback, and Ed Robison, transfer, are the other men working.

Vernon Moore, two year letterman, is at present holding forth at center, although Denny Braid, reserve last year, is keeping Moore on his collective toes. From the frosh are Lloyd Beggs, Bill Stein, and Erling Jacobsen.

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Two Webfoot Golfers



Coach-Captain Sid Milligan, who holds numerous divot crowns, is showing Bill Watson, his teammate on the Oregon varsity, a pointer to help his putting in the above picture. Milligan was second in the team qualifying round, with Watson fifth.

Freemen Take Chi Psis; Theta Chis Victorious

Casciato Leads Seven Man Team to Victory Over Lodge; Theta Chis Trounce Sigma

RESULTS OF YESTERDAY'S GAMES

Theta Chi 13, Sigma Hall 2
Oregon Freemen 13, Chi Psi 0
Beta Theta Phi vs. Yeomen, postponed.

TODAY'S GAMES

4:00, Diamond 1—Alpha Tau Omega vs. Phi Sigma Kappa
4:00, Diamond 2—Canard Club vs. Pi Kappa Alpha
5:00, Diamond 1—Omega hall vs. Zeta hall
5:00, Diamond 2—Delta Tau Delta vs. Phi Delta Theta.

Don Casciato's colorful Comets, playing with only seven men, completely outlasted the Chi Psis, 13 to 0, in one of two intramural games played yesterday.

Phenomenal outfield support on the part of Tommy DeFreitas and F. Jones was mainly responsible for the showing made by the Comets.

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Pluvius Keeps Duck Baseball Team Indoors

Coach Hobson Talks to Squad and Has Short Drill for Battery; Pre-Season Slate Given

Baseball's pet bugaboo—rain—invaded the Oregon baseball stronghold yesterday afternoon, ruining all chances of an outdoor practice for Coach Howard Hobson and his athletes.

All activity yesterday was confined to a little battery work by pitchers and catchers on the maple boards of McArthur court. Coach Hobson also lectured to his players on the strategic side of baseball.

Open on Saturday
J. Pluvius and his rain can well do Oregon's baseball team no little good as the season's opener is but three days away. Weather permitting, the Webfoots are slated to open 1937 competition Saturday afternoon in a doubleheader against Willamette University on Howe field.

The Willamette games are only a brief appetizer for the list of games Oregon will tackle next week. All in all, the Ducks play seven games in the short space of five days, all but two coming on Friday and Saturday.

Open Against States
Northern division competition gets underway just three weeks from tomorrow when Oregon faces Oregon State at Corvallis. The following day, Saturday, April 24, the teams play in Eugene.

Changes are always possible up until the final day, but Coach Hobson's first string infield includes Gale Smith, Jack Coleman, Jack Gordon, and Ralph Amato. Ford Mullen, who is out with a hand injury, and Phil Thompson are other leading prospects.

Outfielders Listed
Bill Courtney, Andy Underhill, and Jimmie Nicholson are the regular outfielders flanked by Don Anderson, Ken Battleson, Masu Kato, Bill Crosbie, John Yerby.

Oregon's pre-season schedule follows:
April 3—Willamette U. here

In Mike's Footsteps



Frank Emmons, center, and Paul Rowe, right, were attentively listening to Mike Mikulak, left, when the above football picture was snapped. Emmons and Rowe are promising young fullback candidates for Prink Callison's varsity, while Mikulak, now Oregon backfield coach, was an all-American fullback on Oregon's 1933 team. They're all working in spring practice.

(doubleheader).
April 6—Oregon Normal at Eugene.

April 7—Oregon Normal at Monmouth.

April 9—Portland here (doubleheader).

April 10—Portland, there (doubleheader); Consolidated Freights (nite) Vaughn St.

April 13—Linfield at Eugene.

April 14—Willamette at Salem (doubleheader).

April 20—Linfield at McMinnville.

Warren's Frosh Work In New Gym

Batting and fielding practice occupied the Duckling baseball squad's time yesterday during a

light workout in the unfinished part of the new gym. The pitchers are whipping their arms into shape for the coming games with Grant high of Portland on Friday and Milwaukee on Saturday. Bunting was also stressed.

The traveling squad has not been announced as yet for the Portland trip, but about twelve men will be picked by tomorrow for the jaunt. John Linde and Bill Garrett, former Grant high stars, will probably carry the pitching burden in the first game against Grant. Wimpy Quinn, another former Grant star, may also be playing against his former school. John Dick, Tom Cox, and Dick James may make up the rest of the infield. Outstanding outfielders are King, Heilig, and Goode.

Hitting has improved to a great extent as some of the players are regaining their batting eye.

Frosh Golfers Better Varsity Divot Scores

Freshman Ben Hughes Heads Qualifiers With Sub-par 275; Portland First Opposition

Qualifying rounds for positions on Oregon's 1937 varsity and frosh golf teams saw four freshman golfers turn in par and sub-par scores for the 72-holes to better scores of varsity qualifiers.

Ben "Snob" Hughes, freshman, knocked 13 strokes off par on the frosh team's stamping ground, Laurelwood, with 275 to take No. 1 position on the Duckling squad. Behind him was Don Coles, all-campus champion, with 276.

The tougher Eugene country club course sent varsity qualifying scores soaring over par, with Walt Cline's 300, 12 above, leading the pack. Behind Cline were Sid Milligan, playing coach, with 301; Dave Hamley, 306; Doug Ramsey, 307; Bill Watson, 311, and Bill Stockton, 314.

Meet Portland Saturday
These six varsity golfers meet Portland university Saturday in Portland for Oregon's first team-match of the 1937 season. Eight matches will follow this, besides the northwest conference championship in Seattle at the end of the season.

Although both varsity and frosh teams carry ten men, only six compete in matches against outside teams. The remaining four varsity qualifiers—unless last-minute unknowns turn in better scores before tonight's qualifying deadline—are Dick Pierce, Louis Cook, Bob Speer, and Stanley Peterson.

The only frosh matches scheduled so far are two with OSC. Pickup matches will be played with local high schools during the season.

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