

Oregon Nine Opens Pennant Defense Today

Orangemen Furnish First Opposition for Division Champions

State Baseball Team Under New Mentor, Ralph Coleman; Many Former Rooks Will Bolster Beaver Squad

By BILL NORENE

All decked out in new gray uniforms trimmed with a dazzling, brilliant red, Oregon's defending northern division baseball champs will open their title defense this afternoon at 3 p.m. against OSC's revamped and rejuvenated Beavers.

Last year the Beavers—with Idaho—were the weak sisters of the league, but now hustling Ralph Coleman has taken over the club and this year's edition of the Orange baseball team bids fair to step in conference competition.

Take Four Tilts

Oregon's title holders last year took four straight from the Beavers, but the OSC nine has undergone an extensive change.

Several freshmen from last year's Rook team have stepped into jobs with the varsity, and holdovers from last year's varsity compose the rest of the team.

Coach Coleman has one of the biggest pitching staffs in the northern division. Five lettermen form the nucleus of the Oregon State staff.

Takami or Earl

At present Takami and Earl McKinney, member of last season's rook team, have established themselves as the cream of the Orange hurling crop. It is expected that one of the two will start today's game.

At first is Leonard "Pat" Patterson, with either Arland Schwab, up from the rooks as is Patterson,

or Fred Lewis.

Bill Meyer and Joe Grey, both lettermen, hold up the left side of the Beaver inner defense. Meyer holds forth at short, Gray at third.

Bob Bonney, heavy-hitter on the rook club last season, apparently has centerfield fortgaged, but Eldon Wright, Al Petrella, and Rod Simms, the latter two up from the rooks, have been staking a big battle to date for the other two outfield jobs.

Two Catchers

Bernie Orell and Fred Soller, both lettermen, have done most of the catching to date.

On the Oregon side of the ledger is Bob Creighton, big right-hander from Marin junior college. He has been selected by Coach Hobson to start today.

Behind the plate will be Cap-

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DUCK TRACKS

By ELBERT HAWKINS

By official proclamation of Mayor Elisha Large, today has been designated "Baseball Day" for Eugene.

Umpire Spec Burke's cry of "Play Ball!" will officially open the 1938 northern division baseball race—Oregon and Oregon State stealing a five-day march on the rest of the conference.

Following 1937's last game, Spec Burke, the popular arbitrator who works in the operator's license bureau for the state, announced that he was retiring from baseball umpiring.

But Spec gave an understanding wink when reminded that baseball is a lifelong disease, so today you'll find him as active as ever, and as feverish about opening day as the players themselves.

* * *

Coach Hobby Hobson said yesterday Oregon's new uniforms weren't here yet, but promised them for today's gala opener. The Webfoots will blossom out in gray suits with red trimmings—similar to the Portland Beaver's traveling regalia, if you've ever seen them.

On April 23, last year, two untested teams opened proceedings in Corvallis, Johnny Lewis right-arming the Ducks to a win before about 2200 persons.

Beaver officials had promised to outdraw Eugene's first-day crowd but 24 hours later on Howe field approximately 2300 fans watched Fireball Bill Sayles pitch Oregon to another victory. The Staters lacked man-power, the while Hobby's sophomores out-lived expectations and went on to win their third northern division title in four years.

* * *

Today the situation is different. Oregon State's Coach Ralph Coleman has an experienced team which won seven consecutive pre-season games, headed by six experienced flingers—Earl Younce, Arnold Fenger, Otto Houdek, Ralph Takami, Fred Cramer, and Earl McKinney.

Oregon doesn't have Bill Sayles or Johnny Lewis, but Bob Creighton and Bob Hardy have proven a capable pair of mound replacements.

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'If Diz Can Do It I Can', Says 'Modest' John

"Who is this guy Dizzy Dean? What's he got that I haven't got, or rather what have I got that he hasn't besides a good 30 pounds?"

This, ladies and gentlemen, is Honest John Warren speaking. For Saturday morning on the Warren mud-flats, the saga of "Zipper" Warren will be enacted.

Warren, who once broke a pane of glass and thought he was a pitcher, will twirl for his Frosh nine against a whirlwind aggregation of athletic managers.

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Entry Deadline Set For Sigma Delta Psi

Russ Cutler of the physical education department announced that all teams that are entering for Sigma Delta Psi must be signed up by May 1.

The scoring is to be 10-point decathalon style. Ten points will be the limit that any man will be able to make. Every team must have three men and will get 30 points for entering. The winning team will get 75 points, and 45 points will be distributed over all the other teams.

Contestants must sign up at Hayward field and work their workouts up.



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