

EMERALD Sports

Oregon Football Team Races Time To Get Ready for Shaughnessy's Feared and Famed 'T' Offensive

By BILL PHELPS

Coach Gerald "Tex" Oliver yesterday sent his Oregon football teams into their last week of practice before entraining for Palo Alto and the season opener against Stanford's defending champion Indians.

With a scant two weeks of practice behind his team, the Oregon mentor was racing against time in a desperate attempt to weld his squad into a formidable machine for Saturday's clash.

Riddled from end to end and all over the backfield by graduation, injuries, and the draft, the Ducks, highly regarded by pre-season observers, will serve as the Guinea pigs for Clark Shaughnessy's 1942 edition of the feared and famed "T" formation.

Practice Behind Locked Door

Nobody but Coach Oliver and his squad knows what the Webfoots will use to attempt to stop the Indians, for, except for two scrimmages, the Ducks have practiced behind closed doors since the season began. Certainly the Ducks will field an offensive team, for Oliver has never made it a secret that his own formula for victory over Stanford is to score more touchdowns than the Indians, a method

which, alas, has never been used.

But with just five days left to plug the holes which have developed this fall, Mr. Oliver will have to do some tall figuring as to just how to score those touchdowns.

However, the picture isn't as dark as it might be, and the

Ducks will probably go into the clash at almost even money. Nine of Oregon's starters are veterans from last year's eleven, and added to them Oliver has a collection of outstanding transfers and frosh that would gladden any coach's heart.

More Speed

Last year's glaring deficit, lack of speed in the backfield, is gone, with Jimmy Newquist, sensational sophomore, and Bob Koch, the far-famed Athertonized transfer from Stanford, heading a list of speedy backs. With them is a veteran backfield of Tommy Roblin and Frank Boyd, at left half; Curt Mecham at right, and Duke Iverson at quarter. Up from the frosh is Tom Oxman, and up from down south is Bill Dunlop, both of whom are staging fierce fights for first-string berths.

Draft, Injuries Hurt

So, while flashy Jake Leicht, who was drafted, and Frank Boyd, who is out for the season with injuries, and Roy Ell, who isn't back this year, all will be missed, the backfield situation is pretty well taken care of. And, in addition, the Ducks can field an almost all-veteran line. Bill Regner and Jim Shepherd at ends, Dick Ashcom and Ed Woshofsky at tackles, Steve Bodner and Ray Segale at guards, and Elliot Wilson at center, will probably open for the Ducks.

Warren in Dark Over Freshmen Football Squad

Oregon's Duckling football squad will open their 1941 season at Portland October 17, opposing their traditional rivals, the Rooks of Oregon State.

That leaves Coach "Honest John" Warren approximately three weeks to meet his prospective ball players; familiarize them with a new system of football; and ready them for the opener plus two and possibly four more clashes.

In addition to the initial game, the Washington Babes will travel to Eugene October 24 for their annual meeting. On November 7, the Frosh will play a second game with the Rooks at Corvallis. Meanwhile, two Air Corps outfits from Boise, Idaho and Portland have been dickering for dates, and there is a possibility that one or both of these teams will be scheduled.

All three regularly scheduled games will be played at night.

Warren in Dark

At present Warren hasn't the faintest idea as to whom will comprise the squad as freshman registration does not open until

Wednesday of this week. However, he expects to get a line on the club at the opening workout, to be held shortly after registration. Until that time all he can do is hope for a couple of triple-threat backs and some husky linemen.

To improve over last year's record, the present Frosh will have to raise their percentage just over the .500 mark, where last season's outfit finished.

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