

DUCK TRACKS

By ERLING ERLANDSON

The Spotlight is on Tennis

Quiet, please. The house lights are dimmed, the curtain parts, and . . .

Oregon's 1942 tennis team steps in front of the footlights this afternoon for the season's opening matches against the Irvington club.

Coach Russ Cutler has no net sensation this year. Last year it was Len Clark who blazed the glory trail. So today he'll send in a team of mildly-mannered, good, but not spectacular players.

There'll be Olympia's Frankie Baker, No. 1. Baker is a steady player with a bullet-like mid-court smash. There'll be Johnny Williams, potentially a top-flight ace, in No. 2. There'll be Jim Ricksecker plugging No. 3, and small but hard-playing Joe Rooney has the No. 4 post. In the No. 5 hole we'll see Allen Gard, a Eugene boy.

The conference race gets under way April 18 when Oregon trades blows with University of Washington at Seattle.

Looking over the Loop

And now for a look at the other division teams. Both Washington and Washington State should do well. Washington, defending champions, has powerhouse Bob Odman, somewhat slow but nonetheless a star, in the No. 1 ranking. Then there's the Eden twins and Lefever to round out the favorites.

Washington State college has the best individual player in the loop in Merlin Miller, the California boy. No. 2 for the Cougars is Bob Guiteau, another top net performer.

Idaho and Oregon State College are not expected to show much.

Black fate stabbed the tennis teams in the back when John McCliment, the rampaging racket man who rose to the No. 1 role, was declared ineligible because of scholarship. Not only McCliment but also first and third-ranking freshmen, Fred Howard and Ken Hamilton, must also step out of the picture. Not only McCliment, Howard, and Hamilton . . . but also "Smokey" Stover and Loyd Manning.

Gad, what a nightmare to turn into a reality!

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So, come out, sunshine . . . 'cause it's tennis time.

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Of Athletics and Athletes

"Whitey" Lokan, on the mound for the frosh against Franklin high school yesterday, looked strictly high class. "Whitey," although he doesn't mix his pitches much, has a pretty good high-speed curve, a hard straight one, and good control . . . Drama hit yesterday's Hayward Relays when at least twice the anchor man crumpled to the cinder path after breaking the tape in the marathon dashes . . . Young Pesky, the University of Portland's sophomore hurler of the baseball Peskys, deserves honorable mention for his 6-4 cleaning of our Webfoots . . .

But the 21-gun salute for the week's sports effort goes to Colonel Bill Hayward, originator, and Fritz Kramer, coach of Eugene high, who was in charge, for yesterday's extremely worthwhile and highly-organized Hayward Relays.

Parade rest!

By FRED TREADGOLD

Apologies are in order to Coach Hobby Hobson. When we told of Hobby's great pitching feat Thursday where he tamed his slugging first stringers by a 6 to 5 count, carelessly (and purely accidentally) we forgot to make mention of a slashing three base blow which the Duck boss powered out. It was a Herculean smash which went winging out between left and center fields, and if Hobby had been in base-running form, he would surely have completed the circuit with plenty to spare.

Like most pitchers, Hobby was mighty proud of that swat, and rightly so, and henceforth, Mr. Hobson, we assure you that we will not slip up again when you bang out your next triple.

Just to prove that his twirling performance was no quirk of fate, Hobby announced this week that he would again assume the mound duties against the Duck varsity. Monday he will sling the horsehide in his repeat performance in for the Oregon freshmen at the Webfoots and he promises to "clip them again."

Banter From

Vince Pesky held up to his name and really proved himself "pesky" yesterday when the Ducks hit a snag for the first time this year, going down before the Pilots. Like Brother Joe, who has proven a boon to the Boston Red Sox with his scintillating fielding and hitting, Vince was really in Pitcher Bob Rieder's hair when it came to "offensive attitudes." The younger Pesky poked out three hits in four trials, scored two times.

Dick Burns, who opened in right field in place of Hank Burns, no relation, made a very successful debut. Just a sophomore, the lithe lefthander picked up a pair of blows, driving across two Oregon runners.

SPORTS



LES STEERS . . .

. . . it will be a long time before Coach Hayward finds another like him. Steers is seen here clearing the bar at 6 feet 10 and 25-32 inches.

TRACK

Preppers Run

Salem, Molalla, and Vernonia high schools captured first places in the three classes entered in yesterday afternoon's sixth annual Hayward Relays which saw six meet records broken.

Salem's track and field team, in Class A competition, turned on the power to roll up 26 points. Grants Pass was second with 15 and Eugene high school finished third with 13 points.

The record-breaking program saw the Salem winners shatter the old meet time to 13 minutes 51.7 seconds when they galloped the three-mile distance in the distance medley relay. Cottage Grove's Class B distance medley relay team chopped nine seconds off the meet's record when they finished in 14 minutes 36.8 seconds. Broken also were the Class B 440 and relay by Vernonia; the Class B sprint medley by West Linn; the Class C distance medley by Willamina; and the Class B 440-yard medley relay by Beaverton.

Thirty Teams Enter

Entered in the Relays, originated by Colonel Hayward in 1937, were some 30 schools and 300 athletes from throughout the state. This year, for the first time, the meet was sponsored by

the Oregon High School Athletic association and Vancouver, Washington, last year's Class A winner, was not allowed to compete. "Fritz" Kramer, Eugene high school coach, was in charge of the meet and University athletes served as officials.

Next year, because of a recent state board ruling, the Hayward Relays will be held at Corvallis, alternating from now on between the University and the state college.

Thinclads Clash

For the first time since the Portland-Oregon track duals began in 1938, the Duck thinclads are rated underdogs. When the two forces meet this afternoon at two o'clock on Hayward field, it will be the opener for both squads.

The Duck mentor is faced with the situation of finding a track team from three returning lettermen, a few veterans who failed to make their letters last season, and a flock of sophomores. Hayward remarked Friday that he was like all other track coaches, when he has a poor team, he tries to build character.

On the other hand, Pilot Coach George Philbrook is graced with the return of five lettermen, and

Uhle Fielding

Fielding standout for the contest was Pilot Third Sacker Uhle, who was all over the left side of the infield, spearing drives left and right, turning "sure hits" into outs. Donnie Kirsch, the pounding Duck second sacker who is leading the Webfoot sluggers with an average well over .400, was deprived of a base blow in the first inning by the agile Uhle. Kirsch met the sphere squarely, sending it scampering down the third base line with plenty of steam. The wiry Uhle came over fast, making a wild stab at the fleeting pellet. It was a beautiful "get" and a quick relay to first to mercilessly cut Kirsch off from a hit.

It looks like the umpiring situation around Eugene is definitely on the upswing. Summers and Husband, two newcomers to collegiate ball, turned in good jobs and as long as they don't regress to a "Speck Burke complex" they will be able to keep the games well under control.

SOFTBALL

S.R. Rides High

Interdorm League Standings

| | W. | L. | Pct. |
|-------------|----|----|------|
| Sherry Ross | 4 | 1 | .800 |
| Alpha Hall | 3 | 2 | .600 |
| Gamma Hall | 3 | 3 | .500 |
| Omega Hall | 2 | 3 | .400 |
| Sigma Hall | 1 | 4 | .200 |

Sherry Ross kept high atop of the interdorm league leadership by bombasting an inept Sigma team into submission, 22 to 9. Sigma fell apart in the field after their spectacular 2 to 1 victory over Gamma the day before. Today Alpha meets Gamma and Sherry Ross and Omega tangle in morning games.

Bobby Blair was on the mound for the Rossmen and went the route, although he ran into a last-ditch Sigma uprising in the final frame. Thompson stuck out the full distance for Sigma, although he was battered from pillar to post by the slugging Sherry boys.

Sigma was hampered by the loss of "Lippy" Lipke and were ineffective in the field and at the bat. Dick Bennett made five beautiful running catches in left field and Johnny Crawford and Dick Rogers drove in the Sigma runs, but it was all a Sherry Ross runaway.

Coach Comments

"This really opens the kids' eyes to what real competition is."

"I thought it was an exceptionally good meet. There's lots of interest in it. I'm sorry to see it go to Corvallis."

"It was a very well-conducted meet. A tribute to Bill Hayward."

Here are some of the comments made by the competing high school coaches on the 1942 Hayward relays:

"It was one of the best meets we've ever had."

has an all-around well-balanced squad.

Homer Thomas, one of the three returning lettermen, should place well in the pole vault. Zenas Butler, another letterman, is a capable hurdler, and is also entered in the broad jump. The other letter winner, Francis Tucker, has shifted from the quarter mile to the half mile. He will face Leslie Peake, one of the state's best high school half-milers last season.

Harvard university will receive \$750,000 from the estate of an attorney-philanthropist who died recently for "training young men for the federal service of the government of the United States."

SENIORS

Caps, Gowns, and
Commencement
Announcements
should be ordered at

the 'Co-op'

AT ONCE

All Orders Must
Be in by April 18