

# Duck Tracks

By FRED TREADGOLD  
Co-Sports Editor, the Emerald

A prayer to Jupiter Pluvius: "Please, Jupe, don't give us any (censored) today; Oregon's varsity Ducks have just one more game in which to prepare before they start out the conference season Friday. They need this game, but badly. Thank you."

Maybe this little request, coming deep from the heart, will turn the trick. Anyway, the Ducks are sadly lacking in game experience this season. Hobby Hobson, farsighted diamond mentor, booked six pre-season engagements, thinking that certainly in a half-dozen games his boys would be able to press out all the wrinkles in their throwing arms, recapture their old hitting eyes.

Then Hobby went to New York on a coaches' basketball mission, dreaming of the fine shape his boys would be in when he got back. He returned to find that just two of these tilts (both squeezed into the same sunshiny afternoon) had come off as scheduled. The rest were tossed out the window as torrents gushed from surly, over-hanging clouds. Even if the Ducks had had twenty practice tilts set, it is doubtful if they could have edged in many more than they did.

So you see, Jupe, it's pretty important that the defending champs get their chance today. They need the work as they run into Oregon State's tough gang Friday and those Beavers are never any snap. So, how about some nice Florida (California people are going to hate that!) weather today?

## A Shot in the Arm

Baseball, after being merely a drug on the sports market Portland for fully five years, at last is beginning to show signs of a little life, awakening from the dead as it were. This health tonic hypo is being injected into the prostrate Beavers by the skilled hands of "Bland Bill" Klepper and is backed by the bullion deposit of a group of wealthy northwest brokers.

After Portland's last big year in 1936 when Irish Bill Sweeney led the Bevos to the title, the hapless horsehiders from the Rose City have done nothing but sulk in the depths of last place, establishing marvelous losing records which probably will never be touched!

## Weak-Hearted Bosses

The Schefter family, which controlled the despondent Portland nine when it held the unbreakable lease on last place, was afraid to pungle out the necessary coins to keep the Beavers on a par with the rest of the league. Old men, definitely in their declining baseball years, and green kids, who hadn't or never would arrive, filled the roster. Two strikes were there before the Beavers went south for spring training. The third one came after about a month of league play . . . and "down and down they'd go . . ."

But baseball, good baseball, has been revived at Portland now under the wise ways of Klepper, giving metropolitan fans a hope—and a pretty stable one too—that the Beavers will be first division bound, shaking off the muck of the cellar en route.

## Hardy's Arm the Thing

One ex-U of Oregon lad, Bob Hardy, is expected to give the Beavers a little first class southpaw pitching, providing his arm doesn't go sour on him. Hardy was pursuing a right smart course along the baseball sea, grabbing off wins by the fistfuls for Class B and C leagues. Two years ago he developed an arm ailment, which he hoped to lose by laying out in 1942.

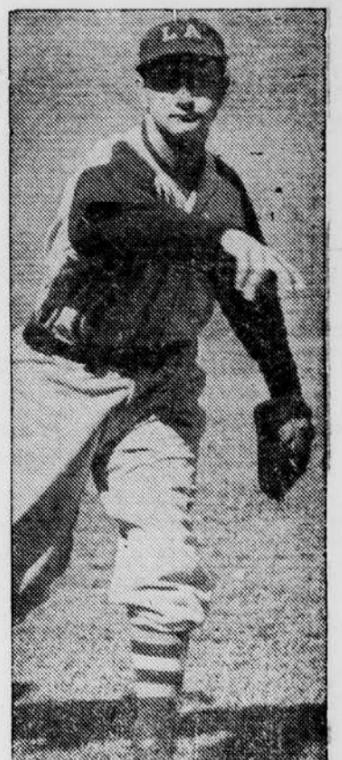
It was nothing but rest and regulated exercise for the precious left flipper, because it was figuratively and actually, worth its weight in greenbacks. So with some apprehension and a lot of hope tall, spindly Bob turns his steps southward to San Jose, site of Portland's spring training camp this spring.

From the latest reports Bob still is uncertain as to just what condition his arm is in, how much he can throw, or how much wear and tear it can stand. But if the Hardy "left wing" responds to the rough treatment given a hurling arm, you can count on the former Duck chucker to show up the big batting boys in this his first crack at double-A ball. For it was tall Bob who almost single-handedly twirled the Webfoots to the ND league pennant in 1938.

## Bob's Learned Lots, Too

Professional ball is much different, of course, than collegiate stuff but then consider that Hardy has been picking up a lot of little helpmates during his pro years and is dry behind the ears when it comes to baseball savvy.

Oregon's baseball schedule this season is a queer one, necessitated by the war-time cut-down of travel. The Ducks play all clubs on their home lot the first half of the campaign, and then spend all the second part of the season on the road! Naturally, there's the old six-games-in seven-days pet peeve when the Ducks go on the Inland Empire trip.



A TRIO OF CHUCKERS TRYING TO "DO RIGHT" IN THE MAJORS . . . Three twirlers, two of whom are trying to make the grade again, are from left, Paul "Daffy" Dean, Steve Sundra, and Julio Bonetti. Dean, brother of the more famous "Dizzy" Dean, and Sundra are property of the St. Louis Browns. The "Daffy" one is up from the minors where he was trying to get his arm back into shape. Bonetti has been called up by the Chicago Cubs from Los Angeles, and hopes to make the grade.

## Coed Tennis Players

Entry blanks for coed singles and doubles tennis entrants must be turned in to the Gerlinger hall cage by 4:30 today. This is absolutely the deadline for the entry blanks, WAA officials announced.

# Huskies' Stars Hear Army Call

By BILL DYER

Tabby Graves, baseball mentor of the Washington Huskies, is just keeping his fingers crossed these days. For nearly all of his horsehide prospects are subject to call before the current season is over.

Lost from the squad via ERC are stalwarts Bob Bird and Boody Gilbertson, experienced fly chasers, on whom Graves had counted as a nucleus for this season's nine. Only two experienced players answered the opening call, pitchers Phil Schwartz and Bud Davidson. These juniors turned out with the varsity last year and were numeral winners as freshmen. However, both are reservists.

### Frosh Counted On

Sophomores and freshmen are counted on to carry the brunt of this season's attack. Up from last year's frosh crew are seven numeral winners which constitute a large portion of this year's squad. Outstanding members of this group are Jack Crockett, last year the frosh's top hurler; Fred Warren, center fielder; Jim Bruce, first baseman; and Bob Comoning, third sacker. Three of these boys are in the Marines and Bruce is in ERC.

The catching staff will be large but green. Four receivers reported opening day, but none had had any college training. Leading candidate for this position is Don McIntosh, the red-headed footballer. Freshmen Kung, McCormick, and Anderson are fighting it out for the second string berth.

Still more freshmen who show promise are Len Tram, a high school all city shortstop in Seattle, and "Nig" Kafer an outstanding prospect but with no previous college mound work. Sophomores Bob Graham, second sacker; and George Keiter, an outfielder, both with no experience, complete the roster.

Like all Northwestern clubs the Huskies are bewailing the large amount of rain, but the spirits were heightened with the return of Doug Ford, the tall basketballer who is one of the top flingers in the conference.

Western Maryland college now gives pre-flight training.



DUCK CHIEFTAIN . . .

. . . Howard Hobson, back from basketball coaches meeting in New York City, will get his first glimpse of his varsity Ducks in action today against Willamette at 8 o'clock.

The University of Texas student employment bureau last year found part-time work for 2,155 students, paying \$140,000.

# Coed Tennis Tourny Entries Due Today, WAA Announces

By PHYLLIS LLOYD

Final entries for the tennis tournament will be accepted until 4:30 o'clock this afternoon. It is urged that you see the WAA manager of your house and sign up immediately. Please turn them into the cage at Gerlinger, Miss Petrosky, or to Claire Wrenn.

Phyllis Root and Claire Wrenn, co-chairmen, have announced that a fair number of entrants have signed up and that the plans for the coming tournament are well under way.

Skies have cleared and the house teams are urged to take advantage of the break in the weather with a little softball practice. Susan Campbell's team was using the comparatively dry field behind Gerlinger yesterday afternoon. Betty Rogers is building up a lingo that all good catchers should have. Besides, she has the ability to handle the ball with sureness and speed. Mary Delsman was limbering up her right arm as the only prospect for pitcher for the Susie team.

### Practice Hints

If the house teams have not already thought of it, Miss Petrosky and Josie Reginato put their heads together and made several suggestions for places to practice softball. Make use of the front lawn was the first, and that is exactly what the team at Hen Hall is doing. Evelyn Marshall, manager, has the girls out every evening after dinner when the sky is free from rain clouds.

Number two suggestion was that the teams make use of the out-door gym or even the green to the west of Gerlinger if the softball field is still too muddy.

Josie Reginato has hopes of starting the tournament on the date formerly planned, which is April 13. That date is just seven short days away and as yet some of the teams have not gotten into the spirit of the sport.

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