

# Duck Tracks

By Leonard Turnbull



Click! The light is off! Hmmm—maybe it is one of the gizmos that just goes on dim—I wonder. Yep—the L.O.O.C. organization has lost a lot of steam since last Saturday afternoon at Berkeley. All this is driving at the Head Coach Oliver situation. The hot potato has not been dropped as yet, nor will it be dropped as long as the present smudging cloud hangs over the campus. Facts will be presented as they come up. A clear-eyed view can be gained only by a careful presentation of the many corners.

A copy of a telegram sent to Tex Oliver was received in the sports office yesterday. I quote: "The Oregon Duck Club assures you and the team wholehearted support. Club feels newspaper criticism unjustified and unfortunate."

## WELCOME HIGH SCHOOL WRITERS

This weekend the University plays the role of host to the annual High School Press Club. From all over the state representative students will journey to Eugene for the meeting, and a lot of sports writers will be in the group.

The year 1945 has witnessed an upsurge of power among the high schools in football. The sports department would like to give the fellows writing about these future collegiate aces a more than good-buddy glad-hand, and tell them to enter the Webfoots domain next year and bring a bit of that football material with them.

## STATE SITUATION LOOKS GOOD

Ducks are smoothing ruffled feathers this week, preening themselves for the homecoming clash with Orangemen from Oregon State. Hayward field was scene of light workouts Monday and Tuesday. This take-it-easy period comes as an extra relief to gridders, after being raked over the coals in long road trips, and the grueling grind of week-in-week-out practice sessions.

Over in the Beavers camp the story is different. This Saturday those lucky Orangemen smack into Trojans. Maybe the wooden horse will fall, but the point that interests this writer most is how much the wear and tear will affect State's preparations for the game of the year. The trip to Los Angeles is a long, hard haul and the clack-clack of iron wheels tears down a body, and the Webfoots are pointing for this game like my pre-war English Setter bird dog, sooo—

## FRUSTRATED IN DEMPSEY INTERVIEW

Last Friday night a long-awaited for opportunity came to reality, an interview with a top celebrity—Jack Dempsey. Colleges coaches and stars in the various phases of athletics are sometimes hard to get information out of, but Dempsey was really a tough nut to crack.

The 50-year-old "Manassa Mauler" has stock answers to all of the questions thrown at him. This can be laid to thousands of times Dempsey has been asked, "How about the 'long count', the Firpo fight, what of Carpentier," etc.

Dempsey hasn't been asked about the outcome of the Louis-Conn fight but several hundred times, so I popped this question. "Both Louis and Conn are out of condition," he replied. "They have been out of the game over four years. They've fought, yes, but it is a different kind of fighting. I think it would be foolish for anyone to try and pick the winner of next June's bout this early before Louis and Conn have a few preliminaries and a lot of training."

Branching off into advice for budding athletes, the ex-pugilist says, "be confident—there are thousands of great fighters and they all gained this greatness by having self-confidence in their ability." This from the ten million dollar casher of boxing receipts, and king of the pugilists' world from flattening of Jess Willard in 1919 to decision dropped to Tunney in 1926.

## BULL WITH BULL

Army plows into Navy this weekend for top game of the nation and watch those swabbies—Walt Donovan jumped to a tie for first place in the conference scoring parade after a two touchdown splurge against the Golden Bears Saturday—Senator Wayne Morris has invited the Webfoots basketball squad to a dinner in the Senate dining room when they fly across the nation for hardwood pounding in Madison Square Garden—KXL, radio station in Portland, is formulating plans for coverage of the eastern court games for broadcast from the net side—local Greeks claim they have no team entered in the intramural volleyball tournament because they want to give the other guys a chance to recover from smashing triumphs on the intra-gridiron.

## K-Falls Scene Of B-Ball Tilt

Hitting the trail again this week, the fast-playing Duck five entrains for Klamath Falls and the Marine training base. Still possessing their dead eye basket hitting form, the Webfoots will continue their policy of "the best defense is a rapid fire offense."

Those in the starting line-up for the Friday night ball game are: forwards, Jim Bartelt and Dick Wilkins; guards, Reedy Berg and Bob Hamilton; and center, Ken Hayes. Also making the trip will be: forwards, Ed Allen and Chuck Stamper; guards, Bruce Hoffine and Les Wright; and center, George Bray.

### Marines Set for Game

A complete workout is in store for the Hobson quintet in over Thanksgiving holidays with the traveling team engaging in dummy practice. Not much is known about the Marine basketballers, but that they live up to their rep of being prepared for all emergencies.

With the win against the Thunderbirds last week behind them, the Lemon and Green and

## Duck Grid Clan Practice Light For OSC Finale

Short and peaceful workouts are surprising the turf of Hayward field this week as the Webfoots rest from the grind of many days traveling and eight successive weekend games, with the cry of Beavers over a week away from the homecoming finale. Injuries on the Webfoot eleven are tapering down to the

breaks in the menu.

### Beaver Vendetta Next

Pounding and bruising workouts are in store for the post-turkey preparations for the homecoming. Ducks will be pointing for a reversal of form shown in the 19 to 6 loss to the Staters in the first of home-and-home series.

High scoring Walt Donovan continued in fine form in the workouts. Two tallies in the win over the Golden Bears boosted the lemon and green wearer into a tie for first-place scoring honors in the Pacific Coast conference.

Ticket sales for the Beaver clash opened yesterday at the McArthur court ticket office. Orders for many of the 16,000 available reserved seats still remaining. Four thousand, five-hundred general admission tickets for the 1945 finale will go on sale at Hayward the day of the game.

### Iron Men in Top Form

Three 60-minute players in the California duel joined in the workouts this week. Tackle Gene Gillis, End Bob Anderson and Halfback Jake Leicht proved none the worse for their iron man stunt Saturday.

Today's session will hit the training grind a little heavier as the Ducks turn to short scrimmages and work on the blocking dummies. Lengthy squad meetings have also tripped the heavier play for

quintet will be eyeing up the eastern pre-season games. Much is expected from the Hobson-coached squad because of their sensational flare last year.



DARRELL RIGGS, end



ROBERT WATSON, fullback



GLENN BOSTWICK, halfback

## Medford Black Tornado Strikes Climax Game of Heavy Scoring Grid Season

High school football swerves into a seething cauldron during the knives meet turkey holiday season with the unbeaten eleven from Medford tangling Grants of Portland for a spotlight grabbing mighty tussle on the southern city's home field Thursday.

The Thanksgiving day affair at Medford will not decide the high school championship. The Oregon crown will not be felled until December 1, when the winner of the Hood River-McMinnville tiff, also on Thanksgiving day, comes forth to offer a championship challenge. Multnomah stadium has been set tentatively for the scrap.

### 19-Game Win Streak

Flapping high and wide against fellow high school gridders, the swirling Black Tornado of Medford has racked up a 19-game winning streak, allowing only three tallies by opposition during the colossal '45 season. Eugene Axemen scored one and the North Bend Loggers added two pay-dirt plays last week.

Fullback Bob Watson is the leading buster, scorer and point-after man in the Medford backfield. He serves as the point for offensive tactics which also send Earl Stelle, Jerry Ross and Jerry Clark into high-speed running plays.

Outstanding broken field artist of the pack is Glenn Bost-

wick, but a shoulder injury kept him out of the North Bend fray and his services are not assured during the fracas with Grant. Rugged Darrell Riggs, captain of this year's squad, is billed as one of the finest ends in the state, having been on the payoff end of numerous end-zone passes.

### Grant Smooths Roughness

Coach James "Mush" Torson's Grant charges are putting the finishing touches to a highly vaunted T-formation. The Generals have tolled 164 victory points against scrappy Portland elevens, while allowing only 24 points to be scored against them.

Grant's title-holding gridders stake most of their victory hopes on fast-breaking, highly confusing offensive trickery, built around Quarterback Tom Shaw, Halfbacks Gerry Smith and Pat Duff and Fullback Bill Gabriel. Don Stamm and Roland Curtis offer glue-fingered reception for aerial thrusts.

Medford men will outweigh Grant as much as 15 pounds per man. Team average of the Black Tornado totals up to 186 pounds, and local rooters claim this beef and local roots is good enough to bowl over many college outfits in the northwest.

### Tornado Howls Long

High school teams have felt the

brunt of scoreboard-blackening Tornadoes for three years with the 1945 season staggering them still more—68 to 0 over Albany, 40 to 0 over Marshfield, 52 to 7 over Eugene, 38 to 0 over Eureka, Cal., 51 to 0 over Klamath Falls, 73 to 0 over Grants Pass, 78 to 0 over Bend, 52 to 0 over Ashland and 26 to 13 over North Bend.

Football is taken with the coffee by Medford citizens. Prince "Prink" Callison, later to build the University of Oregon Webfoots into big time, had the most amazing coaching record at Medford—40 wins, one loss and one tie in six seasons of ball from 1923 through 1928.

Callison's initial year at Medford saw the Tornadoes drop a 13 to 6 decision to Salem and his next year's team tied Ashland 7 to 7. From this point on, the gridmen record of 23 straight games, since up a 6-year mark of 1495 points to 174 for opponents.

Al Simpson, now 29, has a record of 21 straight games, since he won four before leaving Ashland to take the Medford job. Simpson is in his third year of coaching high school football and also coached three years at Ashland junior high. He is a graduate of Eureka, Cal., high school, Southern Oregon College of Education and the University of Oregon.