

Duck Tracks

By FRED BECKWITH
CO-SPORTS EDITOR

A large stream of "bear" stories began floating out of Corvallis two days ago. Slats Gill, the very able Oregon State basketball coach, was shouting "Wolf!" to his Orangemen in respect to their approaching cage conflict with our own Webfoots. In a press release designed to lower the odds on Saturday night's game, Gill simulated ignorance of the true nature of the defeat the Hobsonmen suffered at the hands of Idaho Tuesday night.

The Oregon State mentor chalked up Oregon's loss to the fact that the team was handicapped by injuries. This statement is, in part, true. A badly trussed-up Hamilton was of no value on the court other than to inject some morale into his club, and Dick Wilkins, although cashing in on the point column, was far from his normal condition. He was only able to go a little less than half the route. But aside from all this, Oregon was out-played and did not deserve to win.

Coach Hobson has had a tough problem on his hands this year. Injuries have cut down key men at critical times. Just when one quintet of men are beginning to shed their kinks, a charley-horse or the flu bug steps in.

NOT FOOLING ANYBODY

Slats Gill has a fairly good idea of Oregon's actual strength at present. He isn't kidding anybody with these "bear" stories. He is merely trying to balance the current opinion of the fans, who have unofficially established the Beavers as 10 point favorites. Mr. Gill would enjoy the role of his boys playing underdog to the Ducks. He would be very eager to obtain that so-called psychological "lift." We are very much afraid that we will have to discourage Mr. Gill from carrying out his plan.

The Oregon cause is far from hopeless, but facts are facts, and you have only to re-check the performances of the two clubs in action against a common opponent, Idaho, to get the picture. It is true, however, that the Vandals turned in a far better game against the local varsity than their efforts at Corvallis.

So high is the current Idaho morale, that the kids from Moscow figure they have as good a chance as any of the other clubs to romp home a winner in the Northern division race. It is too early, of course, to side in with their beliefs, but certainly they enjoy the same mathematical chance as OSC, Washington, Washington State and Oregon.

RETURN TO FORM?

We believe, or rather, strongly hope, that the Webfoots will play the kind of ball against Oregon State that carried them to the Northern division championship in 1945. They will have to improve over the performance they gave against Idaho if they expect to match baskets with the Beaver boys. Collectively, Oregon State can field more man-to-man height than Idaho possesses. That means offensive and defensive back-board control.

Although the Hobsonmen have been "hot" in caging free throws in all of their practice sessions, they have not shined in the charity toss department in two contests already played. Believe it or not, those little points count up in a ball game. The rigid officiating thus far in league play, brings out the fact that with so many personal fouls being called, it behooves the players to be "on" their free tossing game. Idaho dropped their first game against OSC partly because of their inability to cage free throws. Look at the Vandals' record in their following three games. They had a high average of foul-conversions in each of these affairs.

John Warren has kept a tight censorship on the activities of his freshmen basketeers. Upon question, he maintained that it was too early in the season to tell exactly what material would develop in the first year men's team. According to all reports, he has a number of players who just couldn't make the varsity at the present time, and fit in better with the frosh than the newly formed junior varsity (super varsity).

RESERVE STRENGTH

Several of Oregon State's first-stringers from 1945, have had to absorb splinters on the bench while Andy Anderson and Glen Warren, a pair of returning veterans, have been leading the Beaver parade. Red Rocha, the gangling sophomore center, is the only member of the Orangemen's first string team of a year back, to hold down his old berth. That gives you a fair idea of what the Oregon State reserve strength is at the present time.

Dick Strite of the Register-Guard informs us that Gail Bishop, the ex-Washington State star, will probably not return to his alma mater this season, even though he receives that military discharge. Bishop may accept a professional baseball offer instead. If Washington State can bounce back from their twin trimming at the hands of Washington they will be in the thick of the race.

Omegas, Yeomen Win IM Hardwood Tussles

Fijis, ATOs Beaten As Hoop Race Opens

CORVALLIS COACH



Coach A. T. "Slats" Gill brings his big Beavers to McArthur court Saturday evening for the first of a series of four games against the Oregon Webfoots this year. Coach Gill's Orange squad rates one of the outstanding cage teams in the conference and has been chosen slight favorites in the initial tilt with the Ducks.

Ski Fans Prepare For Hoodoo Trip

Loyal Webfoot ski fans are busily engaged waxing hickories, greasing boots and preparing all necessary articles that will be needed this weekend on their two day outing at Hoodoo Bowl, popular skiers' resort, bedded in the heart of the Cascade range.

All members of the University Ski club and any others interested will rise at the crack of dawn to board busses that have been chartered for the sole purpose of whisking them to their anxiously awaited destination.

Good Weather

Weatherman assures good skiing over the weekend, with a fresh fall of powdery snow yesterday that will guarantee a fast even trail and smooth icy base. For the convenience of skiers, both lifts will be operating Saturday and Sunday.

Leaving at 7 a.m. Saturday, the two bus loads of skiers will have two full days to test their ski legs, snow-plowing, kristing, and sitz-marking down scenic North Santiam Pass, (no broken legs, please! The infirmary is full now) before returning to the campus Sunday evening at 8:30. An economical hint is offered for all budget skiers. Pre-prepared tasty snacks to answer the pang of hunger will cut down the expense of the trip considerably.

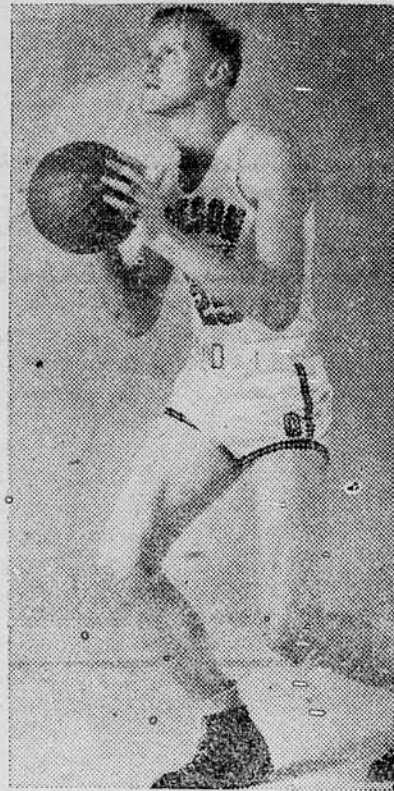
Female Scribe Joins

Lo and behold the heavens shine, and a lady sports scribe has joined the staff of the Emerald as of 20:30 last night in the big room of the Journalism building that usually contains male characters tearing out batches of hair.

Fran Haffner, Alpha Chi Omega newcomer, appeared with a sporting technique and many ideas for covering the activities of the Women's Athletic association. Coed team managers are urged to contact Fran at the Alpha Chi house for publicity on games played.

The new lady writer has a world of information concerning athletes and athletics in all fields. The blonde-tressed sportswoman urges cooperation from the different coed team managers.

RESERVE MAN



Another of the many outstanding basketball players from the city of Astoria is Ted Henningsen of the Oregon State Beavers. Ted ranges above the 6 foot 4 mark and is one of Coach "Slats" Gill's dependable reserves on this year's Orange team.

OSC Harriers Strong In 1946

When Grant "Doc" Swan starts building his first Oregon State track team since 1943 this spring, he will have four lettermen on hand as a nucleus. They are Bob Stevens, defending Northern division champion in the shot-put; Bill Blackledge, who will be trying a comeback in the shot-put and discuss after five years as an officer in the navy; Marilyn Waarvick, javelin thrower; and Bob Reiman, shot-putter and discus thrower.

Don Bower, hard hitting second baseman from Salem, registered at Oregon State winter term and so far is the only baseball letterman in school. Bower played a leading role in bringing Coach Ralph Coleman's Orangemen a tie with Oregon for the Northern division championship in 1943, the last year the Beavers fielded a baseball team.

Infirmary List Rising; Influenza Top Villain

Hitting an all time high for this school year, the campus rest-camp is almost overflowing with 18 victims bedded between its walls. Although 8 students went home within the last few days, their places have been taken mainly by influenza victims.

Those listed on the infirmary rolls are Dorothy Carlson, Eunice Friedland, Lois Emerson, Jean Carpenter, Margaret Ellertsen, Betty Clark, Helen Hackleman, Dorothy Davis, Henry Tobey, Bob Hanlock, Claude Buckley, Bob Anderson, Harold Larson, Kenneth Bakkum, Jay Matteson, Don Campbell, Ronald Harris and Bob Hamilton.

Intramural basketball got away to a big start yesterday afternoon in the men's gymnasium, when Omega Hall and Yeomen quintets pulled a double win over the Fijis and ATOs. In the curtain raiser, the Omega gang annexed a convincing 33-21 game from the fraternity boys.

Dave Van Zandt split the Fiji defense wide open to cage 16 points, which not only made him the game's high scorer, but the entire day's point king. Caviness of the losers managed to ring the bell for 6 digits. It was the Hall boys' game all the way, and they gave strong indication they would be in the thick of the championship fight all the way in the "A" division.

Tau Rally Short

After holding a 14-8 lead at half-time, the Yeomen managed to stave off a late ATO rally, and go on to win, 26-21. The Yeomen's mainstay was Henry Kokko, who contributed 8 points to the victory tide. Little Mo Thomas bagged 8 for the Taus, and he was closely followed by teammate Dick Steinhoff, with 7 points. The play was a bit ragged due to the fact that neither of the teams had played together before. Both clubs showed promise, and will offer stiff competition for the rest of the league teams.

Scheduled games for today include the 4 p.m. clash between the "A" teams of Delta Upsilon and "The Bums." At 4:45 p.m., Sigma Hall "A" takes on the Beta "A" team.

Line-ups and point summary on the two games:

Omega Hall (33) Fijis (21)	
Adams, f, 3	Taylor, f, 4
Van Zandt, f, 16	Caviness, f, 6
Pickens, c, 10	Benham, c, 4
Reed, g, 2	Pond, g, 2
Van Vactor, g, 2	Ralston, g, 3
Malator	Anderson, f, 1
McDonald	Lewis, g
Bryant	Lonigan, g, 1
Marcotte	

Yeomen (26)	ATO (21)
Gardner, f, 6	Fendell, f
Beier, f, 4	Wilson, f, 4
Callahan, c	Bocci, c, 2
Derrickson, g, 6	Thomas, g, 8
Dennison, g, 1	Steenhoff, g, 7
Kokko, f, 8	George, f
Brown, g	
Holland, c, 1	
Helier, g	

Golf Set For Action Again

Golf will again put in an appearance on the University campus when the Northern division schools go into action again this year after a wartime layoff, Anse Cornell, athletic manager, notified the Emerald recently.

Oregon's schedule opens April the 13th against Washington in Seattle, followed by Oregon State at Eugene, April 20; Idaho at Moscow, May 3; Washington State at Pulman, May 4; Oregon State at Corvallis, May 11.

Northern division championships will be played in Eugene May 25 at the Eugene country club.

Young man, where is your chivalry?

Just turned it in for a Buick.