

Duck Tracks

By ART LITCHMAN
CO-SPORTS EDITOR



This is el foldo, men.

Probably won't be able to find this in the columns for the ads—but this is the one that pays the freight.

Coach Hobby Hobson will be out after number five next year with practically the same nine. Rumor has Bob Santee on his way to USC for an engineering course.

Outside of that one possible loss, the Ducks will be back intact. The club fell on its ear in three out of four games with the Beavers but all the boasting the Corvallis lads do about this won't take the pennant off the Oregon dressing room wall.

Next year Oregon could stand help behind the plate. Dick Rodiger turned in a fine job, but catching an entire season is rough work.

If Spike Johnson's arm doesn't come around, help can be used at the initial sack. Johnson led the league in runs batted in, but his weakness on defense was costly in several games.

With Walt Lozoski at short, either Rannie Smith or Al Cohen can learn to take over the duties at third. Jim Norvell and Tony Crish will be back in the outfield. One spot open there.

Hal Saltzman, a seven-game winner this season, will get help from John Day, a lefty back from the 1943 club. Dick Lehl and Homer Brobst may come along to give the Ducks a powerful hurling staff.

Saltzman has two more years of eligibility left, but will only use one—his credits have piled up and he will be graduated before he can use the other year.

TRACKSTERS MAY BE TOUGH

If Colonel Bill Hayward falls heir to somebody who can run farther than 880 yards in a creditable time and some field event men, Oregon's track team will be a power to reckon with.

The performance at Seattle was more than the other squads in the loop figured on and the Ducks came very, very close to pulling the biggest upset in the history of the event.

Colonel Bill has the amazing knack of making something out of what looks like nothing.

On non-Oregon track—Roy Cochran, a better-than-average quarter miler who ran under Indiana colors while in college turned jet-propelled in the invitational meet held in the Los Angeles Coliseum last Saturday. Cochran, running anchor for the LAAC, made up 30 yards on the USC man and was clocked in 45.8.

Figure a running start, the possible error on the part of the timer and it still adds up to three-tenths of a second under the world's record for the 440.

This is el foldo dos.

Last issue of the Emerald this season, last Emerald Litchman does Duck Tracks—period.

Bernie Hammerbeck takes over come September and this nose goes to work on a grindstone that has a payoff slot.

TRIVIA FROM THE MAJORS

FOR THE BIRDS . . . The American league DiMaggios keep a "robbery book." Dom and Joe keep track of the number of times each robs the other of a base hit when the Red Sox play the Yanks. Dom is leading at the present, 32 to 21 . . .

Detroit is really shaking up the 1945 world's champions.

Rudy York went before the season started. Now Pinky Higgins, last of the 1940 championship infield has been sold to the Red Sox, Barney McCoskey went to Philadelphia for George Kell and Billy Hitchcock was purchased by Washington . . .

Hitchcock cost the Tigers \$40,000 and two players four years ago and the Detroit club certainly didn't get that much in use or cash for him.

Mickey Harris, usually called "Himself," is a retiring sort of a soul. When asked what he had on the ball, Harris replied, "I don't have a thing except a fast ball that scorches their whiskers when they crowd the plate, a hell of a curve and a damn good change of pace."

That's it men.

Cindermen Stage Comeback; Place Third in Division Finals

It looked as if Oregon track and field squad was hitting a low season up to the Northern Division meet—the team had lost every dual meet in conference competition and fell to Oregon State 6-2 in a pre-season relay meet held on Hayward field. The team, represented by 13 men, redeemed itself for the poor showing during the spring by just missing the conference championship 9/10 of a point short of the winning OSC team.

The reason for the remarkable showing at Seattle was fairly obvious to the track men and their followers—Oregon had individual stars capable of coping firsts in any meet, dual or championship competition; but Oregon didn't have the strength to back up these few power men for needed seconds and thirds in dual meets.

Colonel Bill Hayward, track coach, bemoaned all season that this year's squad was the weakest he had ever coached and the other schools believed his story until the big meet. Bill was sincere in his statement for this team was the weakest that Oregon has ever put out. Nevertheless, Jake Leicht, Bill Beifuss, Bill Kydd, Andy Swan, Walt McClure, Wynn Wright, Carl Maxey, and Tom Garrity were good enough to add up 31 1-10 in the championship event.

The Ducks started the season dismally, against a supposedly weak Oregon State team. Doc Swan, State's track coach had complained that he had a weak team and everyone was at a loss as to who was right, Hayward or Swan.

DUCK NINE STRONG

(Continued from page nine)
ments later the shoutout was gone and when Lyle Pettyjohn singled to left-center with runners on second and third with two out the game was gone for the Huskies, 6 to 5.

Then the Ducks started on the grueling Inland Empire trip. Idaho went down 19 to 1 on opening day but broke the Webfoot winning streak the next day.

The Oregons split with Washington State and then swept the two-game series at Seattle to come home with a 10 and two record.

Oregon State won the first two games to creep up to one game back and the Ducks won the pennant with a 5 to 3 victory in the third game of the series. Oregon State won the fourth game, 9 to 5.

Coach Hobson started the season with three lettermen, Hal Saltzman, Bob Santee and Tony Crish. Spike Johnson was another letter winner, but from Oregon State.

Walt Kirsch, a second edition of his brother Don, held down the second sack and Rannie Smith and Walt Lozoski shared the short patch.

Jim Norvell opened the season at third base and then moved to center field when Lozoski was shifted to the infield. When Lozoski moved to short Rannie Smith, Bass Dyer and Al Cohen shared the duties at third.

Early in the season Santee moved from the infield to left field to replace the light hitting Don Dibble. Lozoski, Kirsch, John Jones and Norvell all played the middle garden. Tony Crish was a fixture in right all season.

Dick Rodiger was the number one catcher all season and only was out of action in the Oregon State series when injuries forced his withdrawal in the late innings of two games.

Hal Saltzman topped all the pitchers with seven wins. Dick Lehl and Lyle Pettyjohn split the other four wins. Homer Brobst worked in a number of games, but was not credited with a win.

Bill Long, a converted outfielder, and Al Paulson, who came up from the junior varsity in the final game of the season, were the other Oregon moundsmen.

The 6-2 drubbing proved that Swan was idly ranting about his squad. Oregon didn't perform as bad as the score indicated, losing the shuttle relay by a fluke.

Turning to outside competition, Hayward's men were hosts to Portland and Willamette universities in the next meet. Oregon was in a class by itself, garnering a hundred points more than either the Pilots or the Bearcats.

Bill Beifuss hit an unexpected early season form by clearing the high jump bar at 6'5"! Bill hasn't equaled that mark since, his next best jump being 6'3".

Washington took the Ducks to camp May 4th on Hayward field to the tune of 75-55. The Huskies were highly favored to win hands down, but the Duck crew surprised the Washington coach, Hec Edmundson, by copping six of the 15 firsts and taking all places in the javelin.

Jake Leicht continued his speedy record by winning both the hundred and 220 in this meet, taking second in the scoring honors for the day. The Huskies distance runner, Don Wold, led all thinclads by earning 12 points.

An almost hostile reception greet the Ducks in their first away-from-home trip when they journeyed to Pullman, Washington for a dual meet with the WSC team. The Cougars contested several events, argued on legality of Bill Kydd's javelin, gave winning Oregon runners seconds, and tried "fancy dan" tactics in the starting of the sprint races. Oregon dropped the meet, but won nearly every event that the Cougars had tried to swing by foul means. Final score was WSC 76, U of O 55.

Oregon wasn't the only team accorded such treatment, as Univer-

sity of Washington's squad was handed the same treatment when they hit Pullman. When the Cougars entered the Division meet, they again tried to add to their previous unsavory reputation—but only received glares and belly laughs from contestants and officials alike.

In the annual Oregon-OSC meet held on Bell field May 16th the Beavers outdistanced the Ducks in the final events to win 80-51. The Ducks picked up points in the sprints and hurdles but lost out when the discus, shot and distance runs were held.

Top performers for the 1946 track and field team were Jake Leicht, Bill Beifuss and Bill Kydd. Leicht was unbeatable all year in the sprints. Beifuss was tied just once, and Kydd won every time out.

The outlook for Oregon's team next year is good, at least it is better than this year's. But like football, every other team in the conference is going to be better. Oregon loses only Kydd this year and will have all the other top performers back. Some of the boys who didn't show up too well this year are bound to improve and have the service incurred kinks out of their legs.

Oregon will probably have many high school runners added to the fold to aid in point garnering, if the freshmen eligibility rule is not enforced.

The only events Oregon will have to worry about are the field events and the distance runs where we have been weak this year—and might again be in the same boat next spring. If Bill Hayward has anything to say about it, Oregon isn't going to be weak there either!



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