

DUCK TRACKS

By WALLY HUNTER
Assistant Sports Editor

Well, now that we can sit back and look at the 1946 football season just what was it like? How good or how bad was it in comparison with performances of Oregon teams in past years? After the final conference game of the year—Oregon State vs. Washington in Portland—the Ducks will have a strangle hold on sixth place in Pacific Coast conference standings, or if you prefer sixth place has a strangle hold on the Ducks. Is that bad, or good, when you take a long range view of Webfoot football? If you figure Oregon's record from 1930 on it isn't so bad—because since that time Duck ball clubs have been predominantly second division.



JAKE LEICHT

Starting in 1930—the year that Halfback Johnny Kitzmiller ran away with All-Coast honors—the Webfoots have been in first place once; third place once; ended up fourth four times; took fifth place honors four times; and have holed out in seventh and eighth places two times each. This would make the 1946 ball club just a little below Oregon's average in conference standings. Average in conference standings being an unhealthy fourth or fifth place for the Webfoots as a general rule.

Should this season's ball club have finished higher in conference standings? If it is at all possible to ignore your personal feelings in this matter and take the word of the "experts" you will find that they had Oregon spotted just about right from the start.

Ducks Labeled "Darkhorse"

Most of the big time lads labeled Oregon a "conference darkhorse," with a good chance of finishing near the top. The title "conference darkhorse" being a nifty and handy name to slap on a team whereby the writer takes all of the credit for a team making a better showing than he actually believes that will make. If they drop lower than he figured why it was just a "darkhorse" outfit in the first place and weren't supposed to be the hot-rods of the league anyway.

One of the most interesting predictions was compiled by a sportscasting gentleman named Johnny McCollum of station KWSC in Pullman, Washington. He took a consensus of all of the ten coaches in the Pacific Coast Conference and now it is interesting to see how their guesses stacked up with what actually happened. They decided that it would end up with . . . USC first . . . UCLA second . . . Oregon State third . . . Washington fourth . . . Oregon fifth . . . Washington sixth . . . California seventh . . . Stanford eighth . . . Montana ninth . . . and Idaho tenth.

It isn't hard to pick up their mistakes for a second guess job. But, disregarding other choices they did pick the Ducks for fifth place, which is pretty close . . . unless you believe like the guy who says, "close counts only in dancing."

Stump-Rated Oregon Fifth

The Portland Oregonian's ace predictor, Al Stump, a writer who definitely knows an adjective when he sees one, also tabbed the Ducks for fifth place. And that was the way that it went, with the Webfoots generally conceded a spot in the lower division neighborhood.

Now that the time has come for the All-American and All-Coast teams to begin to make their appearance on the sports pages, how do the Webfoots stack up in that department? That one isn't hard to answer. Not so good, and the reasons are obvious. There have been fine individual performances in Oregon's ball games this year, but no second division team is liable to have its roster clogged with All-American or All-Coast choices. A ball player just about has to be the best of a great ball club, not the best of a mediocre outfit if he is to gain any recognition. That is just one of many reasons why guys like Jake Leicht and Duke Iversen will be lucky to rate a small nod from the selectors.

Lack of Fumbles Saturday Remarkable

One of the most remarkable things about that Oregon-Oregon State game Saturday was the lack of fumbles in what should have been a game with fumbles galore. Bell field was an ankle deep muck-hole throughout the game, and it rained the larger portion of the afternoon—but in spite of this there were only two mis-cues all day. Oregon State's Bob Stevens being the guilty party in both cases. His first was with two minutes left in the fourth quarter and the second with 20 seconds left in the ball game. Oregon's Jim Newquist let one go early in the game, but the ball was dead at the time and thus did not count as an official.

Jayvee Courtmen Roll Over Pirates 68 to 46

By FRED TAYLOR

Oregon's junior varsity basketball squad continued their winning ways by rolling over the Coos Bay Pirates 68-46 last night on McArthur court in a city league contest.

The Jayvees square off against the Richfield Oilers tonight in the closing session at 9 p. m. on the same floor.

Using the same racehorse style of play that has stood them in stead in two past performances, the JVs wasted no time in getting the scoring activities underway. After Ty Lovelace missed a free try, Center Dan Ducich layed the ball up for two points, and then followed with another, and that set the lads off. They got three points more on a gift toss and a field goal, while the Pirates countered with three of their own to bring the score up to within four points of the youngsters, but this was as close as they got all night. In rapid fire Paul Sowers hit for a charity, a rebound, and his favorite one-hander from outside the key, to lengthen the margin, and from then on it was easy sailing. The Pirates, whose roster listed three men on the sick role, didn't have a chance of stemming the green onrush, as the Juniors cast off fast and furious. Keeping the ball constantly on the move, never giving the defense a chance to get settled, they connected for 18 shots out of 32 tries the first half.

10 Point Lead

These tactics boosted the lead to ten points, making the score 26-16 with five minutes to go before the half, and then the JVs really exploded. Before the game Pirates could slow down the onslaught the fast-breaking quintet hit for seven straight baskets, rocketing the count up to 40-16 as the half ended.

The second half saw the Pirates attempt a comeback, but they managed only once to break down the margin of 20 points. Although matching the Jayvees basket for basket a good share of the way during the second stanza they didn't have a hope of catching up. Action in the latter stages of the game slowed down considerably, as Coach Ted Schopf worked in numerous substitutions.

A long shot by Don Gassoway, followed by a free throw and another long one chopped down the lead to 17 marker, but a one-handed swisher by sub-center Ed Devaney, and a tip-in by Jerry Switzer lengthened the string again.

Ironically, high point man for the contest was a Pirate, George Juggins, who registered 12 points. This was largely due to the constant shifting of the lineup of the Junior team.

Lineups:

Jayvees	Pirates
Lovelace (3) . . . F . . . (7) B. Huggins	
Hamilton (5) . . . F . . . (7) Gassoway	
Ducich (8) . . . C . . . (10) Stamper	
Sowers (9) . . . G . . . (12) G. Huggins	
Kirsch (7) . . . G . . . (2) Smith	

Substitutions:

For Jayvees: Don (10), Bocchi (9), Howell (4), Seeberg, Bacelleri, Devaney (3), Henderson (4), Holoman, Switzer (6). For Pirates: Waite (6), Larson (2), Terry.

Volleyball

The Figis dropped Sigma Nu in the lone B league intramural volleyball tilt yesterday 15 to 2 and 15 to 10. After smothering Sigma Nu in the initial canto with a fine display of defensive ball handling, the Figis went on to win the second heat 15-10 and gain the decision.

Competition was snaggled in other quarters as five forfeits were called. The following teams gained the nod because their opponents failed to appear: Beta Theta Pi over Yeomen; Theta Chi over Minturn hall (D); Villard over Legal Eagles; Omega over Merrick hall (E); Campbell Club over Minturn hall (DD).

Red Blaik Denies Resignation Rumor

West Point, N. Y., Nov. 25—Earl (Red) Blaik, head coach of the Army football team, tonight denied reports that he planned to resign following the Army-Navy game and return to his previous post as coach of the Dartmouth college eleven.

Asked to comment on such report, appearing in the New York Sun, Blaik said:

"There is no foundation or fact in the report at all. It's the first I've heard of it."

The Sun said that it "understood" that Blaik would be succeeded by Brig. Gen. Robert Neyland, now head coach at Tennessee. Contacted at Knoxville, Neyland's reply was:

"No comment. West Point officials have not contacted me."



Santa knows what children want —

Not Toys —
but lovable animals
from

Oregon Trail Pet Corral

35 W. 11th

Phone 3284

Wharton Stables

Saddle horses for hire. English or western instructions. Classes Monday and Wednesday evenings. Private lessons in the afternoon.
Horses boarded and trained.

Stop in any time at the barn in the south side of the indoor riding ring at Eugene fairgrounds.

LEE AND IVY WHARTON
Proprietors

The Fairgrounds.

Phone 5987-J.

Why Go North to Travel East?

STUDENTS

Make reservations now and be assured a seat on Trailways East-bound busses through Bend, Burns, Ontario, Boise, Salt Lake City and all Eastern Points

Busses leave Eugene
8 A. M. and 7 P. M.

Trailways Bus System "A Friendly Line"

Depot 957 Pearl

H. H. Givan, Agent

Phone 5408

HOGAN'S GROCERY and COOK'S MARKET
544 E. 13th
Phone 2066