

DUCK TRACKS

By BERNIE HAMMERBECK
Sports Editor

The fast-galloping, high-scoring Lemon and Green cagers who are currently rocking the maples for Coach Hobby Hobson are the cause of a great deal of optimism among Oregon fans. They show perhaps as great a potential as any turnout in the history of the school.

As is typical of Hobson's basketball teams, the squad is definitely the home-grown variety. That was Oregon's great claim in their Tall Firs national champs of 1939. Four of the five starters were native Oregonians while the fifth, Slim Wintermute, came from just across the Columbia at Longview, Washington.

To get back to this year's squad which at present includes about 15 men only a quartet have out-of-state mud on their shoes. Roger Wiley and Ken Hays, the sub-stratosphere twins, both come from Washington. Wiley hails from Bremerton while Hays is from Waitsburg.

The other two "foreigners" are Reddie Berg, who originally came from Huron, South Dakota and is now hard at work towards earning his third varsity letter, and a newcomer, Dan Ducich.

Ducich an All-Stater in Montana

Ducich was an all-stater in prep circles when playing high school ball in Butte, Montana back in 1942 and 1943. Then he entered the service and saw considerable action with the Los Angeles Shamrocks, an outstanding Southern California independent team. One of his teammates on the Shamrocks was Alex Hannam, who is this year back at USC. Dan was highly regarded as a comer while playing on the veteran Shamrock quintet, and has been looking mighty good while working out under Hobson.

Ducich's big trouble thus far has been adapting himself to the Oregon fast break. Most of his previous experience has been with the more deliberate style of basketball, and switching to a racehorse system is no easy task. Once he has completely mastered Hobson's system he may be a hard man to beat out.

Portland, of course, leads in contributions to this year's team. Bob Wren and Bob Lavey come from Washington high, Al Popick and Dick Wilkins come from Lincoln, and Marv Rasmussen comes from Franklin.

Astoria Fishermen Claim Two

The Flying Fishermen from Astoria take credit for a pair—Roy Seeborg and the mighty mite, Stan Williamson. The Dalles has made another contribution in Ed Dick—second in a family of brothers to prove outstanding at Oregon.

Sam Crowell is from North Bend; lanky Bob Amacher, who has the makings of a great center, comes from Hillsboro; and Paul Sowers made the journey to the Eugene campus while claiming Baker as his home. Sowers, by the way, enrolled at Oregon immediately after being discharged from the service and did not even get time to go home. When Coach Hobby Hobson excused him from the squad for the Thanksgiving weekend it marked his first visit home as a civilian.

Marv Rasmussen's knee injury Saturday night came as a big blow. Marv was mighty close to a first string berth, and from the fans' view in the bleachers was Hobby's No. 1 substitution. The extent of the injury cannot yet be determined, but Oregon rooters needn't expect Rass back in the lineup until after division play opens. He is in the infirmary at present and still in considerable pain. No fractures or dislocations are apparent, but the knee is badly swollen, and an accurate diagnosis may not be available for some time yet.

Big Rass will be missed especially on the boards, as he is one of the Webfoots' best in that department. He has a tremendous amount of spring in his legs and at 6-3 can move high above the basket for rebounds. He drew several rounds of "ahs" in Portland Friday night when he came soaring in to pick off British Columbia rebounds.

No Word From Cornell

Athletic Manager Anse Cornell just grins and keeps quiet when queried about grid coaching candidates, but Oregon students have their hopes none-the-less. Suggestions that a young coach be tried who is on the way up seem to meet with general approval. Al Simpson's record boasts only college



ANSE CORNELL

Bevos to Make Dixie Bowl Tiff Decision Soon

CORVALLIS, Ore., Dec. 3—(AP)—Oregon State College's athletic board chairman said late tonight the sponsors for a Dixie Bowl invitation to OSC to play against Villanova had asked for an extension of time before Oregon State officially acted on the bid.

C. V. Ruzek, board chairman, said "The executive board informed those who extended the invitation that Oregon State was definitely interested in a post season game, but against a team from a representative conference."

Ruzek said the invitation had been for Saturday, December 28, and not New Year's Day, and added that the Birmingham, Ala., sponsors had asked OSC officials to delay action on the invitation until after the Dixie Bowl group telephoned the Oregon State officials tomorrow. Ruzek had no explanation for the request.

He said "we would like a post-season game," but added that "If we do play any more, we want to meet the strongest team possible." He declined to comment on possible action by the board if Villanova remains as the Dixie Bowl choice to represent the East.

Meanwhile, there was a report from Salt Lake, Utah, that Utah State had voted to accept a bid to go to the Dixie Bowl but were withholding announcement until officials at Birmingham had first made public the western foe of Villanova.

The Villanova squad has won six of its ten games, bowing to mighty Army 35-0 and to Navy 7-0. Oregon State, runner up in the West Coast conference won six, lost one and tied one game.

The student union drive is underway.

Back Student Union.

coaching experience at Southern Oregon college, but the finesse and perfection which his teams have exhibited speak rather highly of him. The same could be said for Johnny Londahl of Central Washington College, and a pair of high school coaches—Joe Huston at Grant in Portland and Dutch Shields at Vancouver, Washington. Shields, however, is a few years older than the other three, and all four are Oregon grads.

Frosh Cage Opener Looms as Close Tilt

By DON FAIR

In the preliminary to the Oregon varsity vs. Fee's Roller-drome fray at Jefferson court in Portland next Friday, the Frosh cagers will tangle with the Franklin Quakers in the opening game on their schedule. Saturday, December 7, Ted Schopf's first-year squad will journey back to Eugene to face St. Mary's on the latter's floor.

The contest with the Quakers Friday evening at 7 p. m. looms as no soft touch for the Frosh quint as the Portland team is being pre-rated as one of the top three teams in their league. Coached by Paul Durham, the Bens have an all-veteran starting outfit including one all-city man.

Offensive aces for the Quakers are Ken Pearson, 6 foot 2 inch center, and Bob Williams, squatty eagle-eye guard. Williams placed on the second string all-city quint in Portland last season. His big asset is uncanny accuracy with long two-handers from behind the key.

John McMillan, 6-foot four inch forward, was shifted from center this season and will cause plenty of grief under the boards. Probably the weakest cogs in the Quaker

five will be the guards, Louie Scrivens and Dale Harris, who have the stuff but lack experience. Backing them up will be Bruce Smith, 6 foot 5 inch reserve center.

In last year's league competition Franklin copped eight and lost a like number of games under Rufe Fox who is now coaching Spokane of the new pro cage circuit. Durham, his successor, still employs the "wind" system or come-out-and-get-me style of play. It doesn't make for many points but instead is employed to break open the opponents' defense by quick passes followed by a block.

The Frosh will also strike a thorn in the zone defense which the Bens deploy. Little time this season has been spent on the zone defense by the Oregon team and this is causing Schopf plenty of worry now.

As for the Duckling lineup, only the guard positions are really still a wide open affair. Pat Wohlers, Chuck Rufner, Rod Downey, and Ed Gudgel are all scrapping it out for starting berths. Towering Roger Mockford has closed the hatch on the center position.

As Bill Green twisted his ankle, the forward spots are still undecided with Tom Patton slated to take over should Green's injured limb fail to respond by Friday. At the other forward will be curly-thatched Don Kimball.

In a scrimmage with the JV's yesterday the Frosh managed to more than hold their own by matching the older men point-for-point. The Schopfmen seem to have the fast break down pretty well now and were using it with great success in the session.

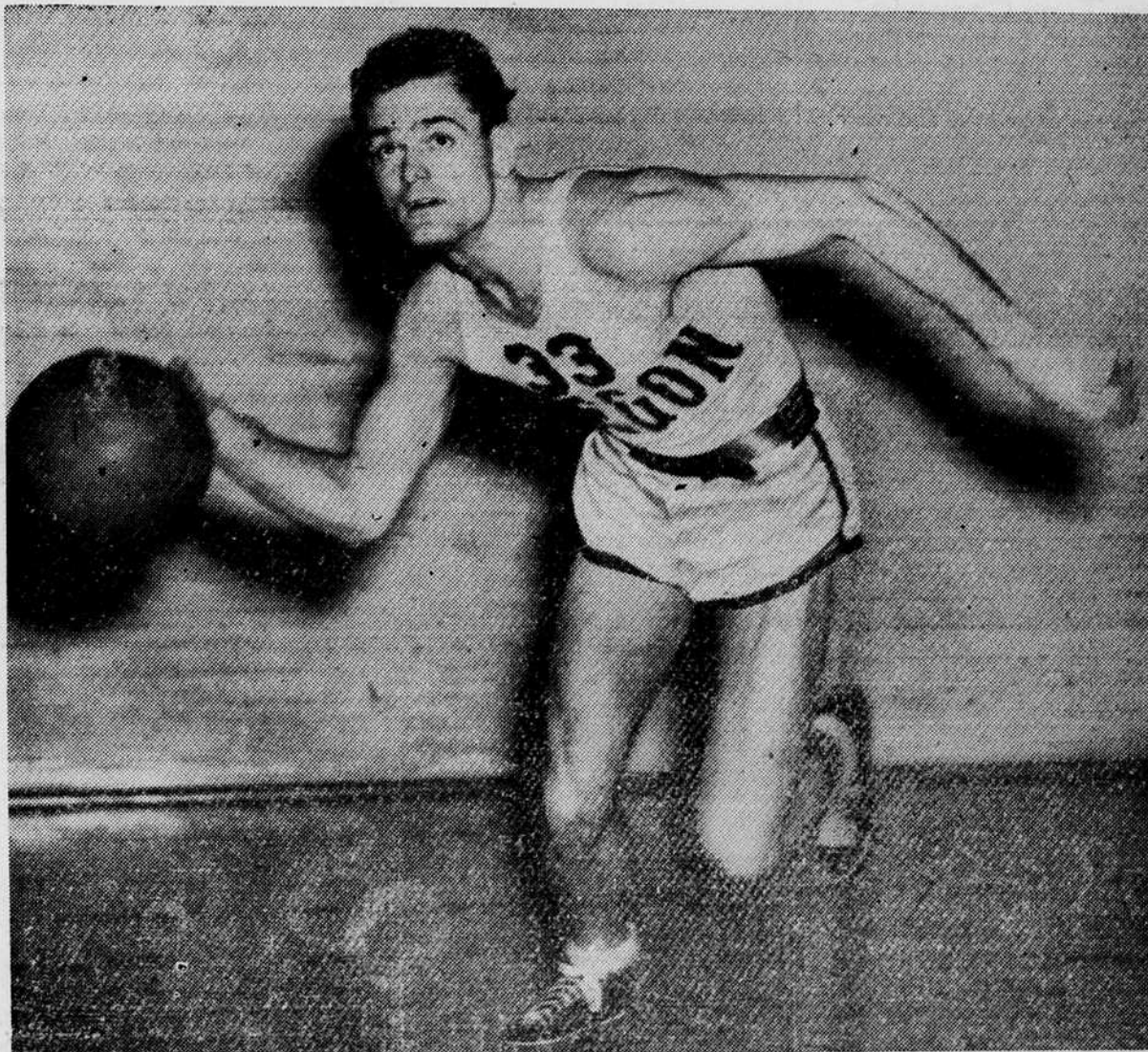
Schopf is expecting a tough battle with Franklin and plans to employ the old man-to-man defense as a barrier against the Quakers.

WSC Opens Home Season

PULLMAN, Wash., Dec. 3—(AP)—Washington State college will open its home basketball series tomorrow night against Eastern Washington College of Education in the first of four straight home games.

The Cougars, 51 to 43 winners over Whitman college at Walla Walla last Saturday, will play Whitman here again Thursday, the College of Puget Sound Friday and Gonzaga Saturday.

Coach Jack Friel predicted his team, not yet welded into a unit, would have difficulty with Eastern Washington's Savages, 63-47 winners Saturday over the Yakima American Legion independent club.



Wilson Maynard . . . former University of Oregon guard who now cavorts for the Portland General Grocer's team. He played for the Ducks in 1941-42.