

# DUCK TRACKS

Assistant Sports Editor  
By WALLY HUNTER

How long does it take before a sports fan forgets? When the years roll by the feats of teams and individuals are relegated to the score books, and stacked away in dusty piles of statistics. Who remembers and who cares? How much water goes over the dam before the memory of a great ball player or a team has lost its significance. The football player with the trick knee the basketball player who never wants to get out of a slow walk again, the baseball player with his forehead furrowed from squinting into the sun, and the boxer with his squashed nose and rolled down ears might toss off a quick answer—". . . pretty damned quick, brother, pretty quick." But is it really pretty quick?



BOBBY ANET

## It Was Johansen . . . Not Lavey

In yesterday's Emerald sports page a cut of Wally Johansen, first string guard on University of Oregon's incomparable 1939 basketball championship team, was captioned Bob Lavey. Lavey is a fresh member of the 1947 squad. The question is, "Did anyone but Lavey notice this 'mix-up,' and if they did notice, did they know who the pictured ball player was?" Aye lad, they did. The sports department was not besieged with phone calls on the "error," but the older heads—the guys that have been watching them come and go over a goodly span of years picked it up. They remember all right. But who could ever forget that combination? As the Oregonian Sports Editor L. H. Gregory tabbed them, "The Alleycats," so they will be remembered. They were the greatest Oregon basketball team ever—they went all of the way.

That year Coach Howard Hobson's guys raced through a 34-game schedule that included the top teams in the nation and in doing so dropped only five games. The combination of guards, Wally Johansen and Bobby Anet; forwards, Laddie Gale, and John Dick, and center, "Slim" Wintermute slam-banged their way through a heavy pre-season schedule and took it from there. Of their 16 Pacific Coast conference games they dropped only two. The first was a 31-50 loss to Oregon State. The other was to Jack Friel's WSC Cougars 39-34. That's where they came by the name "Alleycats." They had good nights and bad ones, but at their worst they were head and shoulders above their competition. They always won the important games. When the chips were down they came through.

Of the 13 pre-conference tilts scheduled by Coach Hobson 9 were with top-flight college teams. On their swing through the East the Webfoots lost to City College of New York 36-38, and to Bradley Tech 52-39. On the Coast the Ducks took one on the chin from Stanford 46-50. Other than that it was a winning combination. They rocked and socked St. Joseph, Miami university, Canisius college, Wayne university, Macomb teachers, and Drake university.

## The Campus Went Wild That Night

In the Pacific Coast conference playoffs the Hobsonmen skinned California's Golden Bear twice 54-49 and 53-47. This double win gave them the right to enter the Western NCAA tournament where the Ducks rode heavy-handed over Texas 56-41 and Oklahoma 55-37. Then in the pay-off game the Webfoot five won handily from a great Ohio State team 64-33. That, then was it. That's as far as any college team could go. National champions they were and the local papers proclaimed it in smashing style with four-inch banner headlines. That was the night the Oregon campus went wild. And it went wild in a big way.

On top of the National championship the Ducks grabbed an unprecedented number of individual honors. Named to All-American berths were Forward Laddie Gale, Guard Bobby Anet and Center Slim Wintermute. Picked as a member of the Western Regional NCAA all-star five was forward John Dick.

That was a hot-rod combination if there ever was one. And over and above all it was a combination. There were five men playing ball on that team every time they hit the boards. Some shone individually more than others, but basically they formed a unit that came through. Something very seldom seen today. The jerseys worn by the first string five on that outfit are still on exhibition at MacArthur court. Those numbers are retired. And they have earned a rest. So . . . how soon is it before sports fans forget a great team or a great individual performance? It takes a long time, brother, a long time.

# Betas, Chi Psis, Phi Sigs, SX, Sig Eps, Theta Chi Win in IM

In yesterday's intramural "A" league games, the Betas downed the Awfus 17-12, the Chi Psis dropped Stitzer hall 21-10, Phi Sigma Kappa defeated Merriek hall 21-16, Sigma Chi stopped the Rowdies 28-20, the Sig Epst walloped the Stan Ray BB five 42-16, and Theta Chi overwhelmed the Yeomen 40-10.

The Beta scoring machine was slowed down to a walk by the close-checking Awfus 17-12, but still functioned in its usual smooth way at ball handling and guarding. Grabbing two quick baskets in the first minute of play, the Betas managed to remain ahead of their opponents throughout the entire game and held a five point advantage at the closing whistle. Art Milne paced the eBtas with 8 points.

The defensive-minded Chi Psi quintet stopped Stitzer hall cold in the second half as they racked up a 21-10 victory. Just the opposite of the raging first half battle which saw the lead change hands twice, the Chi Psis had things much their own way in the second half.

While the Chi Psis counted 10 points during the last half, Stitzer hall was completely bottled up by their opponents' defense and failed to score a point. Chi Psi led by one point at the half. Preston Holt led the Chi Psi attack with 8 points.

### Phi Sig Game Slow

The Phi Sigs, in a slow, sloppy game, downed Merrick hall 21-14. The game was marred considerably by the inability of either team to control the ball or hit their shots. The half time score was 16-9 in favor of the Phi Sigs. Joe Chambers was high point man for the Phi Sigs with 9 points, and Bill Plue hit 5 counters for Merrick hall.

Sigma Chi led all the way in their 28-20 victory over the Rowdies. After handing the Rowdies the first basket of the game, Sigma Chi unleashed a smooth attack which the

### Aqua-Ducks Journey

(Continued from page four)

Warren and Manager Bill Abbey will also make the northern trek.

Washington has been tabbed the team to beat this season and are heavy favorites to annex the ND title. They have already cracked three northern conference records and looked impressive in every event. Against the feeble competition offered by Oregon State the Purple and Gold-clad swimmers fairly flew through the water as compared to a rather mediocre performance displayed by Oregon.

Oregon's first football coach was Cal Young.

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Rowdies were unable to stop during the entire twenty minutes of play.

Breaking through their opponent's defense, the Sigma Chis scored repeatedly on easy lay-in shots, and led 20-4 at the half. The Rowdies found the basket in the second half and whittled the Sigma Chi lead down to 8 points before the game ended. Sigma Chi's Dick Burns was the high point man during the game with 10 points.

### Sig Eps Hot

Taking advantage of the faulty defense of the Stan Ray BB quintet, the Sig Eps took an early lead and proceeded to overwhelm their opponents 42-16. Hitting their shots from all part of the court during the second half, the Sig Eps dropped in 30 points as they ran wild over the opposing team.

Playing heads up ball all the way, the Sig Eps stole the ball numerous times and made good use of their fast break to score easy set ups. Paul Smithrud paced the Sig Ep attack with 6 baskets.

Capitalizing upon fast breaks

and quick ball handling. Theta Chi clobbered a weak Yeoman squad 40-10. Theta Chi controlled the ball from the opening jump to the closing whistle, and they played at a never-let-up pace. Hitting the basket with phenomenal accuracy, the Theta Chi quintet led at the half 26-4 and stretched their lead to 30 points before the game ended. Roy Baughman contributed 10 points to the Theta Chi cause and was closely followed by Glen Kelly and Gene Hebrard each with 9 markers.

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