

DUCK TRACKS

By BERNIE HAMMERBECK
Sports Editor

The northern division baseball opener was unfolded today at Corvallis. On hand were not more than 2500 rabid Beaver rooters to aid the Orangemen as they soundly trounced the Idaho Vandals 14-7.

The win put the Beavers firmly in first place as the season opened, but the exhibition left something to be desired.

Coach Ralph Coleman's squad showed power aplenty, but also weaknesses in a place or two. Harry Richards has moved to first base in an attempt to plug one hole, and though Harry is a great infielder he scarcely fills the bill at the first sack.

Chuck Sauvain went the entire route on the mound and showed just about as much stuff as he did in 1946. Much to the consternation of Beaver rooters, however, he did not show the same control as last year.

The non-plussed lefthander tossed what pressbox experts estimated at 185 pitches in downing the Vandals. The invaders were none too potent at the plate and Sauvain constantly put them in trouble. The 1946 lefthander was constantly in trouble on the final pitches, however, and ran the count out to unbearable lengths.

Oregon State's diamond is in fine shape and dwarfs the Webfoot field in comparison. The Beaver hill is accurately constructed, being high with a long gradual slope to the first and third bases. The Lemon and green Ducks would be mighty fortunate indeed to have such a diamond.

Opening crowd for Oregon State was somewhere around the 2500 mark. With all due credit to Oregon's publicity man, Art Litchman, the crowd much resembled a church gathering. They "came late and they left early." A good audience was on hand as Coach Ralph Coleman delivered the first pitch to the mayor, but otherwise opening ceremonies were nothing to write home about.

Northern Division's Basketball Commissioner, Ralph Coleman, evidently forgot all his basketball etiquette as he protested loudly and longly on an umpire's decision. And believe it or not, the ump actually changed his decision.

A man was on third and two were out. Beaver pitcher Chuck Sauvain was at the plate. He dribbled a slow one down the third base line. The Vandal third sacker came in fast, saw he could not make a play, and let the ball roll. It slithered down the baseline and then went foul, just aside the No. 3 sack. The ump called it a foul ball.

The High Commissioner, however, only eight runs ahead, charged the ump and protested loud and clear. The Commissioner also called in the aid of the base umpire. In the end the decision was reversed and Sauvain was given a base hit and a run batted in.

The Idaho coach, Guy Wicks, protested weakly, then shrugged his shoulders and walked off without further comment.



GUY WICKS

Fijis, Betas, Merrick Hallers, Chi Psi Chalk Up IM Victories

Intramural action yesterday saw the Fijis run wild in their contest to rout the Campbell Clubbers, 20 to 5, Beta Theta Pi won by forfeit over Yeomen, Merrick hall upset the Kappa Sigs, 10 to 7, and the Chi Psis defeated Nestor hall, 10 to 6.

The Fijis went hit-happy in their affair with Campbell club as they pounded out 18 hits and an even 20 runs in only four innings. A trio of Campbell hurlers passed in rapid succession, but none of them were able to effectively silence the Fiji sticks. The alley boys clouted four

homers, two of them in a big second inning splurge.

A five tally second inning paved the way for Merrick's surprise victory over the K-Sigs, although the losers pushed across four counters in the same stanza. Merrick catcher Don Martin connected for a circuit blow in the initial inning plus a two-bagger by Bobby Reynolds enabled the dormers to grab an early lead. The scorebook showed that the ten Merrick markers were made on only six hits, errors and walks accounting for several.

The Chi Psis continued their winning ways at the expense of Nestor hall, but the dorm men were in the game all the way. The Chi Psis were held scoreless for three innings after amassing a pair of runs in the first while Nestor collected three in the first, one in the second, and added two more in the fourth for a 6-2 advantage. However, the Chi Psi half of the fifth saw half a dozen tallies and the victory margin across the plate, and for good measure they picked up two more in the last frame.

Officials Needed For Prep Relays

A special call was issued last night by Colonel Bill Hayward for officials and assistants in the Hayward Relays Friday and Saturday. The large relay spectacle is drawing a big field of prep cindermen and there is a need for men to act as officials in the two-day event.

All members of the varsity track team are slated for jobs the Colonel announced and all other students interested in assisting who have some knowledge of how track meets are run are requested to report to Hayward at 4 p.m. today on the track. Hayward also wants the varsity track men to be present for this meeting as a trial run of the jobs will be held.

Local track fans are going to get a big treat in this tenth running of the relays. Besides seeing the top teams in the state competing and a special contingent of fifty-one athletes from Portland, spectators will get a chance to watch George Fullerton, Ashland's sensational miler step off the four laps.

Fullerton is the lad who posted the terrific time of 4:20.5 in the AAU run in Portland last summer, the fastest time a high school student has ever run the mile in the United States. This record is not considered as a national record, however, as all high school records must be set in state meets. Fullerton hit 4.24 in his run at Corvallis last year, just off the national mark.

The 4:20.5 mark eclipses Louis Zamperini's national prep mark by two seconds and the 4.25 time is just a second and a half off. Zamperini set his record in Southern California and later went on to become one of University of Southern California's top milers under the coaching of Dean Cromwell.

Forty-one entries are now in for the meet with more entries still coming in via telegram and special delivery. The total number of teams expected is sixty.

Medford's championship team in the "A" class of last year will be here to defend its title as will Beaverton and Sheridan, winners of the "B" and "C" divisions.

Fifty-one Portland runners will arrive in Eugene Friday morning for the running of the "A" relays Friday afternoon. Eldon Jenne, Portland's prep athletic director, is bringing the first and second

place winners in last Friday's city relays, instead of having each school send a separate team.

Last year, Medford just barely nosed out Grant high school for the title, but with the split in teams, Portland schools will probably be left at the blocks when the title quest gets underway.

Several teams from the metropolitan area have a good chance of knocking over several relay records according to advance notices. Jefferson high school's two mile team of Atwood Jones, Dick Lutton, Mel Goetz and Bob Blount are heralded as sure winners in the two mile relay. The four man team broke the city record last week

with a 8:42.2 and is expected to smash the present record of 8:50.8.

George Rasmussen, Oregon's high flying pole vaulter, will be watching the vaulting performances of Lincoln's Lyle Dickey. The Portland youth has already cleared 12 feet this spring and might knock over the 11 foot 11 1/2 inch mark set by Rasmussen last year.

Another record likely to draw fire from the Portland runners is the 880 yard relay mark of 1:35.2 posted by Grant's team last year. Washington high school has a bunch of sophomore and junior sprinters who have already been clocked in 1:35.6.

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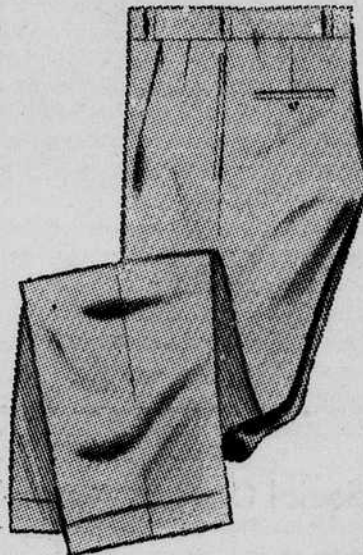
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