

DUCK TRACKS

By BERNIE HAMMERBECK
Sports Editor

This column marks the end of another school year and the departure of another sports editor. The events and incidents of the past year cannot all be recalled here, but some of the more significant, some of the more important in view of the future of Oregon athletics might be reviewed.

The resignation of the athletic board and its replacement by a director of athletics prophesies nothing but good. And when President Harry K. Newburn revealed that the man for the directorship was Leo Harris, a man qualified both in education and athletics, the change became doubly encouraging.

The housecleaning in the football department is in itself probably the biggest break of the year. The six-year regime of discord, defeat, and scholarly dissertation under Tex Oliver is gladly tossed into the musty closet of history. The ascension of Jim Aiken to the No. 1 football spot marks the beginning of a new approach to Oregon football.

Aiken was frank from the very start. His boys would play hard, fight to the final gun, never go down to defeat until playing time expired—they would hustle both in games and at practice. His choice of Assistants Dick Miller and Frank Zazula backed up that statement very well.

Wants Oregon Boys

It is Aiken's approach to who should play the game that draws equal praise. Said he: "Oregon boys should be playing football at Oregon. If they played high school ball in this state, there is no reason why they should run off to college in another state."

As an afterthought he added, "And as long as they are going to play college ball in this state, they might just as well play here. The backbone of University teams should be Oregon boys."

A third development also smacks favorably for the future of the University of Oregon—the appointment of Don Kirsch as assistant to Howard Hobson in basketball and baseball. Kirsch was an outstanding athlete when at Oregon since then he has proved himself a fine coach, a leader much respected by those who play under him.

The 1946-47 year also includes a touch of the nostalgic—the departure of Colonel Bill Hayward as head track coach. Colonel Bill possesses a will to win, a love of athletics, a desire to defeat rivals, that can be paralleled by few men in the nation today.

All Is Not Well

The athletic department is not without its blemishes, however. Cooperation between the student health service and McArthur court leaves something to be desired. The incident of two weeks ago speaks for itself.

Some solution is required for the training room. Trainer Tom Hughes now spends much of his time as a football assistant, and in so doing, baseball, basketball, tennis, and track are neglected. If Hughes is wanted and needed on the football field, some provision should be made for adequate facilities for other sports.

One rather obvious case of friction exists. When Harris assumes the directorship role this may be improved, but at present relations between Faculty Athletic Representative Orlando J. Hollis and McArthur court leave much to be desired.

Hollis had a big spot to fill when he replaced the beloved Dr. Howe. He has shown much improvement, has on many occasions fought vigorously and courageously for the University. In the northern-southern division split, he has performed admirably. Yet these actions do not outweigh the lack of faith which the athletic department feels when faculty representation is mentioned.

What coaches and athletes want of their faculty athletic representative is an advisor, a friend, a counsel-in-private that can help them get out of jams. They need a man who can prevent them from getting into trouble instead of one who assumes the proportions of a judge—saying and doing nothing until the act has been completed or the case placed before.



LEO HARRIS

Intramural Title Clinch'd Fijis Retain By Alpha Tau Omega IM Net Crown

Alpha Tau Omega won possession of the 1947 all-IM trophy, amassing the highest total of points in fall, winter, and spring intramural activities this year. The Taus tallied 760 points, with victories in touch football and both "A" and "B" volleyball contributing a large share of the total count.

By virtue of their "A" basketball triumph and runner-up spot in spring football, the Theta Chis gathered 710 counters and landed in second spot. They were a scant 12 points ahead of Phi Gamma Deltas, who despite the fact that they were only able to walk away with one minor-sport trophy, rounded out the "Big Three."

Campbell club ranked highest among the independent teams. The clubbers reached the semi-finals in softball to boost their total to 510. Stitzer hall chalked up 301 points to pace the vets' dorms in their first year of IM participation.

Under the present system 100 points are awarded for winning a

major IM sport and 75 given for a minor one. There is one major activity a term and an optional number of minor ones. This year, football, "A" basketball, and volleyball, and softball, constituted major sports, while "B" basketball and volleyball, handball, tennis, and golf were considered minors.

This year's program was under the direction of Paul R. Washke, who was assisted by LeRoy Erickson and Les Wright, majors in physical education.

The Fijis retained their intramural tennis crown for another year by setting down the DU netmen, 3 to 0 in the elimination finals Monday.

In taking the championship both Fiji doubles combinations chalked up wins. The first doubles squad of Bill Farrel and John Smith dropped Doc Payne and Larry Holden of DU 6-3, 6-3. The Fiji second doubles team of Len Lonigan and Bob Menser defeated Jim Nelson and John Weisel 6-1, 6-3.

Ann Arbor Battle

(Continued from page four)

Ann Arbor will be a best-four man tourney, and the northern division champion Ducks are expected to do well.

Oregon's strength this year, however, has been in the depth of the squad rather than in the calibre of its top four men, Stafford excepted.

Traveling berths for the Ann Arbor tourney are not yet set, and several others could break into the top quartet. Jim Dunahoo made the Moscow journey as alternate but did not play. Bob Sederstrom, Johnny Eckstrom, and Letterman George Kikes have all shot good golf during the season and may crack the top four by NCAA tourney time.



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