

DUCK TRACKS

By FRED TAYLOR
Co-Sports Editor

Oregon's hoopers open their important Inland Empire invasion tonight, meeting the Washington State Cougars on the Pullman floor. After games tonight and tomorrow night the Webfoots draw a day of rest and then tackle the Idaho Vandals Friday and Saturday nights. If the Webfoots win both frays from the Cougars they will vault back up to second place, with a record of four victories and three defeats, behind the Oregon State Beavers. But only part of the job is done then. To keep in the running, now that the Beavers grabbed both weekend games from Washington, the Ducks need two stright wins over Idaho to get back in front. And this could be accomplished only if the Beavers drop at least one, preferably two, games to Washington in their return engagement this weekend at Seattle.



JIM AIKEN

This week's activity in the Northern Division can make a number of changes in the championship picture by next Sunday. For instance, if Oregon wins all its games on the tour, and Oregon State splits with the Huskies, the two Oregon teams will be tied for first place, with Washington third. And if Oregon loses one, and the Staters drop both of their games, then the Ducks and Beavers will be tied for second, a half game behind Washington.

The Ducks Can Lose Only Once

The whole situation boils down to this: Oregon cannot possibly lose more than one game on this present tour, and still hope to stay in the running for the championship. And what are the green and yellow team's chances to get through the rugged invasion with only one loss? From here we would say pretty good. Despite the double defeat from the Huskies at Seattle the Oregon team is still convinced that it is the better outfit. Every one of the cagers came back from Seattle burning with rage because they had been defeated. And the two victories by the Cornvalley quintet over Washington proved their point and boosted their morale even higher. Because Oregon beat the Staters in a game in which the Eugene club was most certainly off their regular game. So we expect to see the Webfoots really turn on the heat and the fast break against their two opponents this week. When the smoke clears Oregon should have at least three victories under her belt.

Big Jack Was Handcuffed

The amazing thing about Oregon State's two victories over the Huskies was the way the Beavers so effectively shackled big Jack Nichols, the league's high scorer and most potent center. He made only sixteen points the first night, when State won 71 to 63, and eight points the second. And the Beavers with the shortest team in the league. Their tallest man, reserve center Len Rinerson, is six foot-five and one-half inches, an ex-Oregon City high star. Up to Saturday night Rinerson had seen only limited action but Slats Gill will be using him plenty from now on. Not only did he battle on equal terms on the backboard with big Jack but he also outscored Nichols, with nine points.

It was only a year ago January that Oregon started its football rebuilding program. And look how far the Eugene school has come in one short year. Much farther than anyone expected when an unknown from Nevada named Jim Aiken was hired as head football coach. We venture to say that Oregon has received more favorable publicity in the one year of Aiken and the new era than it did in any three seasons of Oliver and company.

From Rags to Riches in a Year

From nearly the same team that under Oliver in 1946 had the reputation of being strictly a first-half ball club, a club that quit when the going got rough, Aiken and his assistants molded an eleven that gained the respect of every opponent for its fight, even though behind. Even the hard-to-convince California writers were generous in their support of the Webfoot gridders, after Oregon fell to UCLA, 24 to 7.

After the 38 to 13 spanking by Texas the sports writers, with the exception of a visiting fireman from Seattle, strongly upheld the Duck cause. And Aiken isn't planning to rest on his first-year laurels. The board of strategy is already planning plenty of surprises for Oregon's 1948 opponents.

Skeptics Hour Planned

Skeptics hour of the YWCA will meet at the home of Mrs. Paul Ellis, 1442 East Thirteenth, at 4 p. m. today.

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Fiji, Campbell, TKE Register Clean Wins in Melon Loop

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

3:50
Cherney A vs. Nestor A
Beta B vs. Minturn B
4:35
SAE B vs. Lambda Chi B
Delt B vs. SAM B
5:15
Fiji B vs. Campbell club B
Sigma Nu B vs. Phi Delt B
TODAY'S HANDBALL
SAM vs. Beta Theta Pi

By JOHN BARTON

Monday's intramural basketball slated three games, all clean and fast. Best game of the day pitted the Campbell club against Delta Tau Delta in a close tilt that ended with the Campbell boys ahead by one point, 19 to 18. Other results of the afternoon were Phi Gamma

Delta over Sederstrom hall, 32 to 19, and Tau Kappa Epsilon over Pi Kappa Phi, 15 to 9.

Fiji 32; Sederstrom, Hall 1

In the cleanest game of the day, the team from Fiji chalked up a 32 to 19 win over the men from Sederstrom hall.

The game featured fast play with very few fouls, until the fourth period when the two teams started fighting more earnestly for the ball. The Fijis used a tight zone defense which made it difficult for the Vets Dorm boys to work the ball. Sederstrom held the Fijis in the first half, when the alley men were forced to shoot many long ones, but came out ahead at the end of the half, by virtue of their backboard work, 17 to 13. High man for the afternoon was Fiji Chuck Taylor with 17 points. John Belloni and Francis Linklater made six each for the losers.

Campbell club 19; DTD, 18

The powerful team from Campbell took a close decision from the Delta Tau Delta quint, 19 to 18 in the closest contest of the afternoon. The club boys started hard and led at the end of the first quarter, 5 to 3, and at the half 11 to 5. The Campbell boys clicked with accuracy on their long shots and keyhole hook shots in the first half, and held the Delts to shooting long ones.

In the second half, the hard fighting Delt team revised its strategy and used a tight zone defense that held the club to two points in the third quarter. Score at the end of this period was tied up at 13 to 13, by virtue of a driv-

ing rally staged by the Delts.

Big Bill Kurhly, who took a terrific beating under the backboards, kept his team in the game all the way, and the Delts were ahead twice during the last half. Campbell grabbed the lead and used a strategic stall until the gun. High men for the winners were Frank Grove and Jim Robson with six markers each.

TKE 15; Pi Kappa Phi 9

In the final game of the day, the Tekes from the Vets' dorm downed the Pi Kappa Phis by a count of 15 to 9. The Pi Kap team found trouble in penetrating the TKE defense, and resorted to shooting long shots that seldom disturbed the net.

The Tekes grabbed an early lead and were never in trouble after the first few minutes. In the final quarters of the tilt, the play became a bit rough. High for the TKEs was Vinton Pope with seven points. Next was Dale Dempsey of Pi Kappa Phi with four markers.

Webfoots Annex

(Continued from page four)

ond; Gromacy, OSC, third. Time :58.2.

150-yard backstroke-Hill, Oregon, first; Schaffer, OSC second; Lipp, OSC, third. Time, 1:52.1.

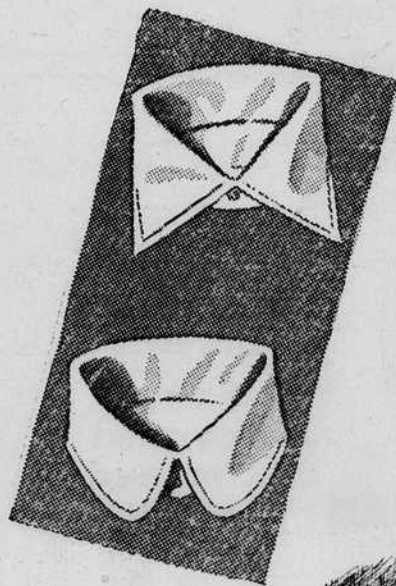
200-yard breast stroke-Walters, Oregon, first; Van Ettan, OSC, second; Lipp, OSC, third. Time 2:47.8.

440-yard freestyle - Thompson, Oregon, first; Ruedy, Oregon, second; Hall, OSC, third. Time, 6:00.4.

440-yard freestyle relay-Won by Oregon (Dahlen, Weddle, Hill, and Walters.) Time, 4:27.3.

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