

Baseball Weather Cheers Up Kirsch

Yesterday's sudden warm spring weather also brought some sunshine into Don Kirsch's baseball coaching duties. Kirsch, in his first season as Oregon diamond mentor, had his first real chance to give the candidates a workout and more truly evaluate the material.

Explaining that the Duck horsehiders were still far from ready for their preseason opener Friday against Willamette, Kirsch nevertheless figured that if the weather holds out, the team can take rapid strides toward conditioning. The doubleheader against the Bearcats will be held at Water's field in Salem. The games will start at 1:30 p.m., both seven innings in length.

Saturday, Oregon travels to Portland for two more seven-inning contests with the Portland university Pilots. These games will start at 1:30 p.m., at Columbia park, unless the Portland diamond dries sufficiently before the weekend.

Pitchers Trying

Kirsch listed 13 pitchers as all battling for traveling squad berths, which he will announce this afternoon. Only three of these are southpaws, Will Stradley, Dewayne Johnson, and Jim Ekstrom. The right-handers include Whitey Lokan, Dick Wilkins, Jim Kays, Dick DeBernardi, Norm Henwood, Homer Brobst, Bob Charlton, George Watkins, and Bob Walker.

On the catching staff, the Webfoots have two lettermen back, Bill Burgher and Dick Rodiger, with Duff Kimsey to understudy them. At first, Dick Bartle, starter last year, and Don Gassoway are battling for the berth.

Kirsch at Second

Walt Kirsch, two-year letterman and captain of the team, appears to have the inside track at second, with competition being offered by Bud Smith. Another two-year veteran, Al Cohen, and newcomer Jack Cooley are the top shortstop candidates.

Don Kimball, up from the JVs, heads the third basemen, with Chuck Strader also in line for the position. Last year's third-sacker Johnny Kovenz has been switched to left field, and Don Dibble, varsity in '46 and on the JVs last season, is trying for the same spot.

Fleet-footed letterman Hal Zurcher is back in centerfield, with John Jones, two-year JV man, as

insurance. The rightfield post is a battle between Pat Wohlers and Al Smolish. Wohlers, who is strengthening a leg which he broke last season, is a letterman, and Smolish has two seasons of JV experience behind him.

Only left-handed batters on the squad, outside of the pitchers, are Gassoway, Wohlers, Jack Heckt, and Russ Niehaus, while Smolish is a switch-hitter.

Divoteer Cards 76

Although Lou Stafford cooled off to a lukewarm 74, yesterday, after Tuesday's sensational 65, he continued to lead Oregon's golfing aspirants through second-round qualifying action.

A newcomer, John Prince, shot a first-round 76 yesterday, while letterman Dom Provost turned in a five-over-par 77 first round.

The qualifying rounds are being played at the Eugene Country club and all cards must be in by April 11. Golf coach Sid Milligan has announced the season's schedule for the defending Northern Division champion Webfoots, which pits them against Washington State at Pullman, April 16 in their opener.

Vets Leaders In Net Trials

After completing the quarter-final matches of the trials for berths with Oregon's varsity tennis team, the three returning lettermen from last years' squad, Nick Reed, Saal Lesser and Fred Howard, all came through unscathed. While Lesser rode on a bye, Reed hit Dave Van Zandt, 1-6; 6-2; 6-4, and Howard swarmed over John Wysong, 6-0, 6-2.

SPORTS STAFF:

Don Fair
Fred Taylor
Elwin Faxson
Dick Mase

This is the season of the first of the sulfa drugs—sulfa'n'molasses.

Harriers Prep for OSC Run

A thinclad roster consisting of nine lettermen and 11 non-veterans has been tentatively selected by Mentor John Warren to face Oregon State in the dual relay meet slated for Saturday afternoon in Eugene.

Lack of reserve depth in several events may result in last-minute changes in the line-up. Warren has yet to name a fourth contestant in both the shuttle hurdle and four-mile relays, and he may be forced to shift harriers from the other races in order to plug up the gaps.

A definite line-up will not be forthcoming until after a heavy workout Thursday, Warren revealed. There had been little opportunity thus far in the season to discover any new talent that could be inserted to bolster the Duck's all-round team strength.

Lettermen participating in Saturday's contest will be: Dave Henthorne and Skiles Hoffman, 440 and 880 relays; George Rasmussen, Jack Doyle, and Mercer Brown, shuttle hurdle relay; Lou Robinson and Ray Heidenrich or Jim Porter, shot put relay; and Brown, high jump relay.

Tracksters who have yet to earn a varsity "O", tentatively participating are: Bob Weber and Leo Rubstello, 440 and 880; Dick Shelton, Bob Dreisner, Bill Bell, and Curt Butterfield, mile; Pietschman, Butterfield, and Hoag, two-mile; Pietschman, four-mile; Dick

OREGON EMERALD SPORTS

Don Fair, Fred Taylor, Co-Sports Editors

38 Candidates Answer Frosh Baseball Practice

In the first full turnout of the season, 38 candidates answered Frosh baseball coach Barney Koch's initial call yesterday afternoon. With the first game less than three weeks away, Koch will begin intensive preparations with the yearlings.

The men reporting were: pitchers—Lyle Rogers, Central; Jim Hanns, Eugene; Bruce Moorhead, Salem; Irwin Schoonover, Hermiston; Ranny Young, Roseburg; Joe Elkins, Lebanon; Mile Emel, Milwaukie; and Dick Crang, Washington of Portland.

Catchers—Bud Leonard, Grant of Portland; Bill Hammerback, Scappoose; Don Thompson, Portland; Ken Bennett, Eugene; Eddie Artzt, Beverly Hills, Calif; and Dick Belt, Hermiston.

Infielders—Don Peterson, Roosevelt of Portland; Brad Fullerton, Benson of Portland; Mel Krause, Commerce of Portland; Fred Stamm, Medford; John Hammons, Grants Pass; Keith Welch and Clyde Ellison, Eugene; LeRoy Coleman, Klamath Falls; Jack

McClintic, shot put; and Jim Bocchi and Dave Williamson, high jump.

O'Connor, Beaverton; Bob Ward, Beverly Hills, Calif.; Hal Cuffel, McMinnville; Ray Studer, Gervais; Don Hagedorn, Salem; Charles Humble, St. Helens; Ernie WiWide and Donn Thomas, Eugene; and Bill Hays and Rodger Eddy, Grant of Portland.

Outfielders—Marvin Lovett, Albany; John McGinnis, Indiana, Pa.; Jim Brewer, Milton-Freewater; Keith Walker, Arlington; and Bill Pottker and Jim Todd, Springfield.

Aiken Gets 21 Men, Crisler Resigns Job

DETROIT, March 31—(UP)—The Detroit News reported today that Athletic Director Herbert O. (Fritz) Crisler of the University of Michigan will resign his job before June to accept a lucrative position in private business.

Oregon and Washington State have never finished in the Northern Division baseball cellar.

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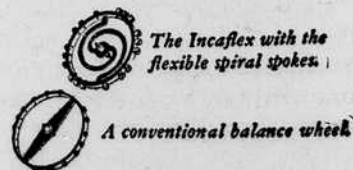


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