

DUCK TRACKS

By DON FAIR
Co-Sports Editor

The past Northern Division basketball campaign had several new records finding their way into the books. Webfoot center Roger Wiley set a league mark for attempted free throws with 113. Of these, the "Hot Dog" converted 67.

Washington's Jack Nichols became the first cager in history to capture both the Northern and Southern Division scoring crowns. Jack captured his first laurels at Southern California in 1945, while his 263 points, also a new record, captured the ND crown this season. He established a new mark for free throws with 77, breaking the old mark of 66, formerly held by Oregon's Laddie Gale set in 1939.

Cliff Crandall of Oregon State had the best gift toss average with 73 connections on 95 attempts. A teammate, Len Rinearson tied with WSC's Norm Lowery for the most personals with 57, one shy of the league standard.



SLATS GILL

Rinearson's Mark in Fewer Games

Since Rinearson garnered his fouls in only 15 games, that makes his mark even more unique. Counting the playoff game with Washington, the Aggie center wound up with 62 personals. Maybe Slats Gill, OSC cage coach, overstepped himself when he proclaimed that good players never make over three fouls a game in boosting for such a rule.

Gill's recent offers to coach at either UCLA or Minnesota has set the Oregon State campus buzzing, figuring what the OSC coach has to gain by such a move. Certainly Gill could probably count upon mentoring the Beavers until retirement at Corvallis. But perhaps the added prestige and also higher pay might have something to do with Gill's consideration of one of the offers.

Either UCLA or Minnesota affords more in the way of material, and with a strong press in both sections, the Bruin or Minnesota teams get more notoriety than do teams, particularly from this area. Ex-Webfoot basketball head Howard Hobson, often considered a fixture here, took a similar jump last season, with substantial increase in pay having much to do with the change.

Bruins, Gophers Had Disappointing Seasons

Both UCLA and Minnesota haven't been too pleased with their recent hoop squads. The Bruins wound up the '48 campaign in the SD cellar, while the Gophers finished far down on the Big Ten ladder, after being highly tabbed at the beginning of the season. For this, either school will probably make a pretty strong bid to capture Gill's talents.

Al Popick and Stan Williamson, just off the college maples have been going great for the Portland professional Indians. The Rose City pros captured the recent round-robin tourney, and now meet the winner of Seattle-Bellingham for the league crown. The championship playoffs will start Friday night in the best three-out-of-five series.

Since Popick and Williamson joined the Indians, they have dropped but three contests. The watch-charm guards have undoubtedly provided the wheels which have carried the Portland professionals to the finals of the championship round. Both have been consistently scoring 10 points or better, and turning in outstanding all-around performances.

Hole in One for Harris

Leo Harris, athletic director, came up with a new angle in golf last week. He got the unusual hole-in-one, but certainly did it the hard way. On the 135-yard seventh hole at the Eugene Country club, Harris slugged a 7-iron shot which very neatly settled in the cup—on the fly! Incidentally he wound up with a 40 three strokes over par.

Coming as somewhat of a surprise was the fact that Nichols of Washington didn't win the scoring crown on the Coast. Instead a Montana sophomore Bob Cope copped the honors with 509 points in 32 games, fifth highest in the nation, to Nichols' 507 in 34 contests. This fellow Cope must be quite a versatile lad as he's now trying his luck at throwing the javelin and hurling for the Grizzlies.

Wiley's 381 points was fifth highest in the list behind OSC's Cliff Crandall with 388, and Cal's Andy Wolfe with 386. Montana also had the highest team average with 60.7 points per game, while Southern Cal's defense was tops, permitting only 44.9 markers per game.

Head football coach at Washington, Howie Odell, is certainly loading up with assistants. He recently had his helpers increased to seven. At this rate, the Huskies will soon have a man to coach each position on the grid eleven.

At least 21 grid hopefuls who weren't members of Oregon's 1947 football team will be on hand for spring practice when activities start next Monday afternoon.

Five transfers from major colleges will be out for the session. Two of the five, Sam Neville, bulky tackle, and fleet-footed halfback Johnny McCay, were regulars at Purdue in 1946, and are expected to be leading contenders for starting spots on the Oregon eleven.

Two former Oregon lettermen will be out again this season, after stretches in the service—Bob Anderson, starting end on the 1945 squad, and Bill Murphy, guard on the 1946 eleven.

JCs Transfer

Fourteen gridmen from junior colleges of California and Washington have registered for the spring school session. Latest addition to the roster is Bill Enzensberger, hefty tackle from Marin Junior college, California.

Eight of the newcomers will try out for backfield spots in the Oregon grid machine, which lost three lettermen from last season. The others will help bolster the

Duck line, which lost four lettermen.

Jim Aiken Jr. will try out for a halfback spot on the team this year, although he was a quarterback under his father at Nevada in 1946. A former Colorado A & M center, Bus Newcomer, and Guard Ray Lung from Fresno State college, complete the roster.

Good Backs

Good ball-carrying prospects loom in the junior college transfers. Woodley Lewis, Los Angeles City college back, was one of the top breakaway runners in the Western States conference last season. Tom Lyons missed most of last season at Long Beach City college because of an injury, but as a prep senior he was named all-Southern California fullback.

Four other backfield candidates are expected to give tough competition to the holdovers. They are: Jack Newell from Vanport, a former Grant high of Portland star; Paul Savage of Yakima; Russ Haehl of Menlo, Cal.; and Jerry Smith of Yuba City, Cal.

Seven linemen will turn out from the junior college transfers, five tackles and two centers. The tackles are: Don Bryant, Olympia,

Wash.; Gus Knickrehm, Long Beach, Cal. Bill Winterringer, Wenatchee, Wash.; Bob Neilson, Santa Rosa, Cal.; and Norm Yatchmenoff, Vallejo, Cal. The two centers are Bob Anderson and Hal Torgleson of Marin.

Big Turnout

With the transfers and the returning Oregon lettermen and gridders up from the Frosh football team, at least 65 gridmen are expected out for the 30-practice spring workout.

Spring practice will close May 21 and 22 with the second annual coaches' clinic. The gridmen will play an inter-squad game for the coaches' benefit.

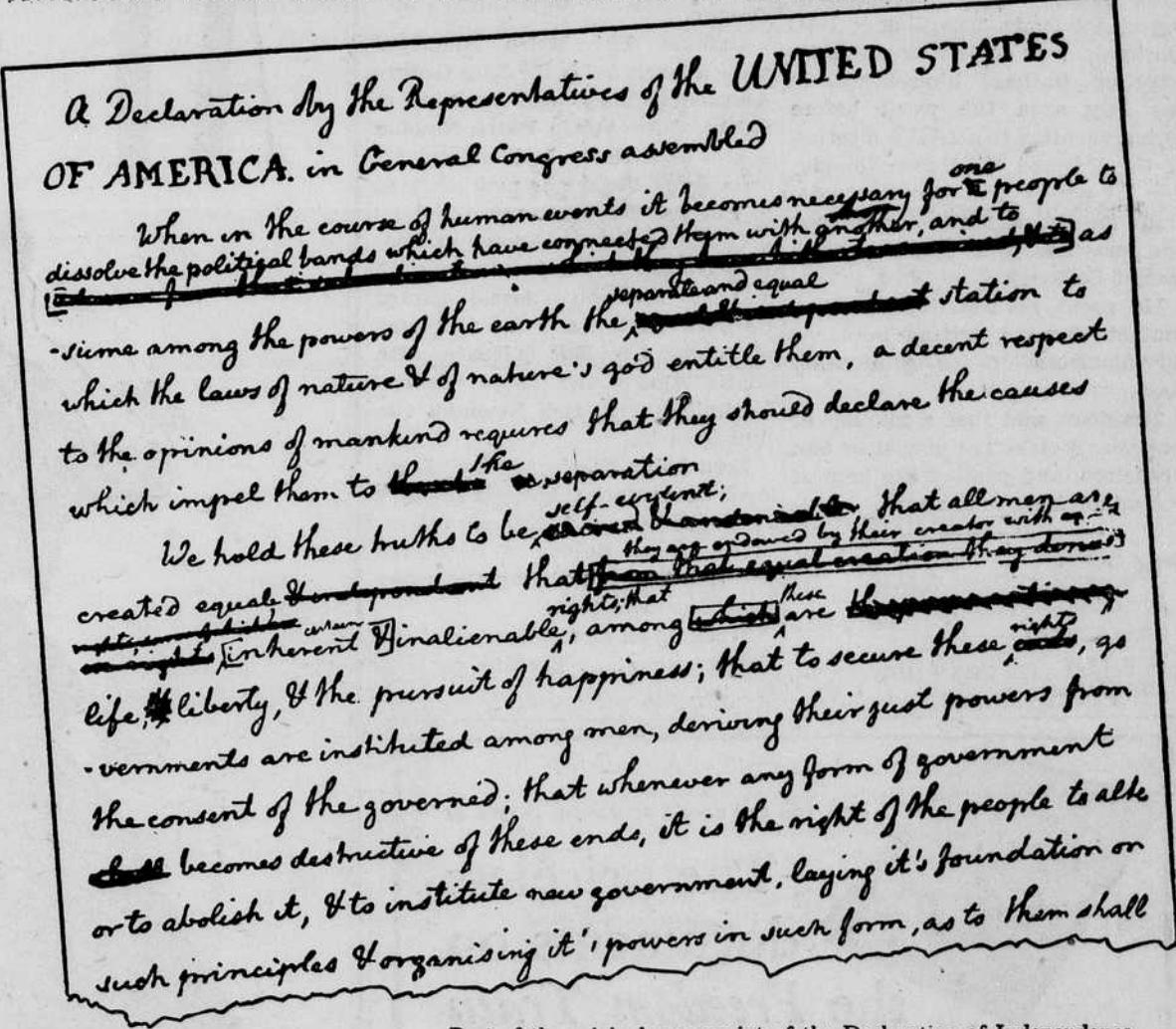
If the weather is bad the opening practice will be held off until it clears. Under conference ruling each school is allowed 30 workouts during the spring, and it doesn't matter when they take them.

Oregon has won more baseball pennants than any other Northern Division team. The Ducks have won eight. No other team has won more than three.

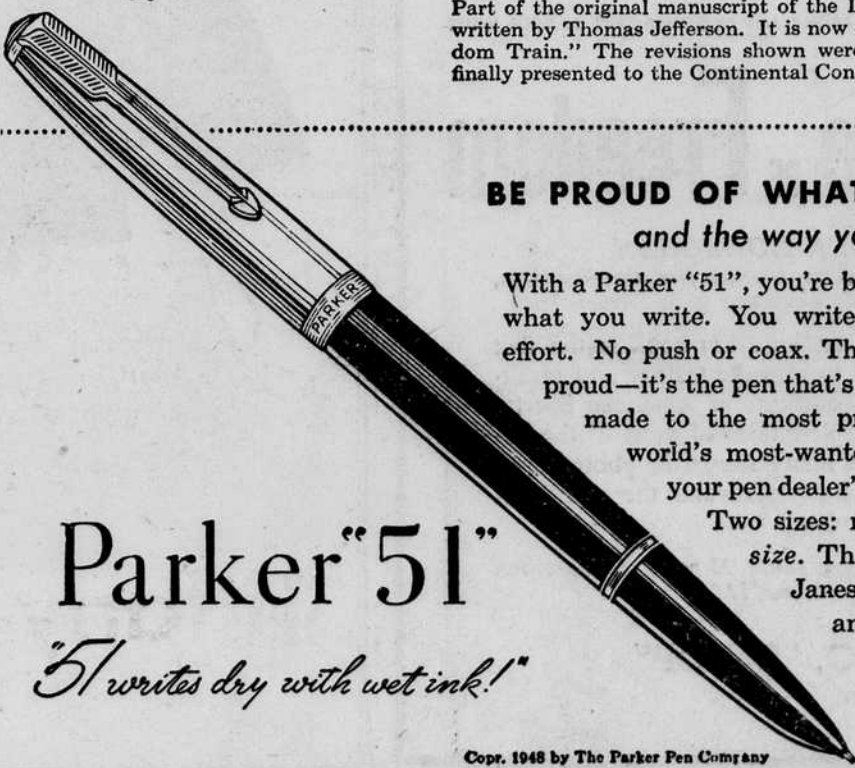
Idaho has never finished above third place in Northern Division baseball play.

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