

# Ball Games Depend on Weatherman

## Rain Doesn't Hamper Van Brocklin's Passes

**By DICK CRAMER**  
Though hampered by muddy footing and a steadily drizzling rain, Oregon's hard-working grid-ers turned in several good performances during yesterday's two hour spring football practice.

Norm Van Brocklin turned in a good performance from his quarter-back slot, needing only more practice to come up to last season's best. The aforementioned damp condition hampered Van little, but his receivers were unable to hang on to the slippery pigskin, though the all-coaster was hitting them on the nose.

Continuing his performances of Wednesday, Woodley Lewis sparked, making several outstanding runs. The Los Angeles speedster showed the defensive team how to out, and one time faked his way completely into the clear.

**Jim Jr. Tricky**  
Another toe-dancer that can sprint with the best of them, Jim Aiken Jr., cut loose with a good display of running. The 170-pounder who last played for Nevada broke away for several long gains.

The end spots were well taken care of, with Dan Garza, Bob Anderson and Les Hagen, the last transfer from Everett J. C., all turning in good offensive performances. All three looked well in snagging passes, handling the slippery pellet well.

Several good defensive were also turned in, both in the line and backfield. Johnny McKay played a lot of defense, coming up fast from his safety slot to make tackles within two or three yards of the scrimmage line.

Two guards, one a letterman and the other up from the Frosh, played bang-up ball, stopping many of the center drives. Letterman Jim Berwick played consistently good ball, rarely being moved out of position, while Chet Daniels, 190 lb. ex-frosh star, broke up plays when on the defense, and

## Robinson Changes Engagement Date

Earl Robinson, American composer, postponed the concert scheduled Wednesday night until some time next month. Due to the sudden illness of his wife, Robinson has found it impossible to keep his engagement in Eugene.

The concert was to be sponsored by the One World Club.



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opened holes when he played on the offensive team.

Aiken split the 90-man squad into two sections taking 30 under his wing, assisted by Dick Miller, with Frank Zazula, Jake Leicht, and Bob Sullivan running the rest of the team. Aiken wants to get a look at every man out, and thought this was the best system. "If they have the stuff and keep coming out, we'll find them," he said.

## Skier Ends Rough Trip

**CRATER LAKE, Ore., April 8—(UP)**—Jack Meissner, husky Oregon skier, fought through a severe snowstorm to Crater Lake lodge today, completing a rugged, 300-mile ski trip along the sky-line of the Cascade range from Government Camp on Mt. Hood.

After battling unusually severe weather virtually all the way, Meissner reported: "I ran into the worst conditions on a mountain only three miles from Crater Lake. The weather and the snowdrifts were so bad I had to take off my skis and climb, and there were some stretches where I could just barely climb."

Meissner left Government Camp February 18 on a journey so perilous forest officials urged him against it. Meissner's actual traveling time was 33 days. He spent several days resting along the route, including a four-day stop at his home at Cascade Summit.

## Tracksters Stopped by Snow, Rain

For the second weekend in a row, the Webfoot track squad will be forced to remain idle due to adverse weather conditions.

Last Saturday, stormy skies prevented the running of the annual OSC-Oregon dual relays, and yesterday Mentor John Warren received word from the University of Idaho at Moscow that a deluge of rain and snow had turned the Vandal track into a sea of mud. As a result the Northern Division opener slated for Saturday afternoon was postponed indefinitely.

Previous to the Moscow call, the Duck cindermen were scheduled to leave yesterday afternoon for the meet. On the basis of their strength in the sprint and field events, the locals were favored to repeat last season's performance and notch up their initial victory of the conference race at the Vandals' expense.

Warren will keep his fingers crossed until Saturday, hoping that the weather will permit a heavy workout for the thinclads.

Oregon draws a little-needed rest from cinder competition next weekend, and are scheduled to meet Washington State at Hayward field on April 24.

### SPORTS STAFF

- Dick Cramer
- Fred Taylor
- Bob Reed
- Dick Mase
- Elwin Paxson
- Dave Taylor
- Sam Fidman

## Nevills Biggest Gridder In Duck Spring Practice

**By DICK MASE**  
Big, rough football tackles are a welcome addition to any football fold and it looks as though the Webfoots have one in Purdue transfer Sam Nevills. At 6 ft. 1 in. and 240 lbs. he is currently the most plentiful gridder out for spring practice.

The home-cooking of his wife is helping him maintain his ample figure, although Coach Aiken has had the batter of the argument and succeeded in sweating 20 pounds off the Nevills' frame.

During the war, the 22-year-old tackle served in the European theater and competed in football and wrestling, excelling in both. In 1945 he was selected on the All-Star ETO eleven, which was other-

wise dominated by ex-professional players.

The same year Nevills proved his prowess in the grunt 'n groan game by nabbing runner-up in the ETO heavyweight tournament, quite a feat for a 19-year-old lad.

Nevills attended high school at Thornton Township, Southside, Chicago, where he lettered four years in football and track.

He and his wife have had one child, a daughter, and they live in Amazon village. Nevills will be a junior next year, which shouldn't offend Jim Aiken, and might worry Oregon's opposition.

What a woman wants to know is how to catch a rich husband and what a man wants to know is how to become one.

## Lokan, Wilkins Draw Starting Mound Roles

**By BOB REED**  
The Oregon varsity nine will take the field this afternoon, weather permitting, at 1:30 for the first game of a twin bill against Willamette university.

The game will be played on the lower Howe practice field.

Don Kirsch has indicated that Whitey Lokan will be the starting hurler for the Ducks. Kirsch nominated Lokan to work the first five innings, and if he is not tired, will finish the game. Dick Wilkins is the choice to start the second game.

The starting nine probably will be the same as that which opened against the Frosh Wednesday. Kovenz, Zurcher, and Wohlers in the outfield; Stratton, Cohen, Kirsch, and Bartle in the infield; and Bill Burgher behind the plate. If Willamette starts a left-hand pitcher, however, Don Dibble will take over in right field in place of Wohlers, and Don Kimball will replace Ray Stratton at third.

From all indications Bill Burgher, the first string backstop, is all set to handle that all-important job of No. 4 man in the line-up. Last summer in the Cascade loop, Burgher hit well over .350 and Mentor Kirsch is counting on him to deliver those needed base hits.

Kirsch will find out definitely during the next four non-conference games whether or not Burgher will be capable of holding down that vital spot in the line-up.

Yesterday, the Ducks participat-

ed in a light workout only. Kirsch sent his charges through stiff batting drills in an effort to improve the team's offensive punch. However, rain hampered the activities, preventing some of the plans Kirsch had made for the day.

Kirsch had the pitchers throwing hard, mixing up curves and fast balls in order to give the hitters conditions more like an actual game.

## Seals Snag Sixth Fray

**HOLLYWOOD, April 8—(UP)**—The San Francisco Seals, led by the unusually tough top half of their batting order, tonight took their sixth straight victory, 11 to 9, in a Pacific Coast league game with the Hollywood stars here.

Alban Glossop's second homer of the ball game gave the Los Angeles Angels a 4 to 3 victory over the Oakland Acorns here tonight in a 12-inning Pacific Coast league contest before a rain-thinned crowd.

San Diego shortstop Bill Lillard homered in the eleventh inning tonight to give the Padres a 7 to 6 overtime victory over the Portland Beavers in their Pacific Coast league baseball game played before 3,482 fans.

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