

DUCK TRACKS

By GLENN GILLESPIE
Co-Sports Editor

Can it be? Is it really true? Has a fool-proof method of selecting an annual All-American football team finally been devised? We're not so sure, to be truthful, but there's always a first time for everything. Certainly, there is room for improvement in the present system or systems, what with national magazines, newspaper syndicates, and anybody else who cares to, picking their own squad at the season's end, and playing it up as THE All-American team. Tabulating the total number of All-American teams would be an interesting, although time-consuming, research project.



John Warren

The proposed fool-proof method has been devised by Collier's magazine, and is offered as a solution to the All-America grid muddle confronting fans in past years. Fundamentally, it seems to be sound. How it will work in actual practice is anybody's guess.

Collier's plan is this. A weekly ballot to be made by two so-called panels, composed of former Collier's All-America stars and the sports editors of leading college and university newspapers all over the nation. These weekly ballots will be tabulated and sent to the 1948 Collier's All-America board. Six nationally known college football coaches, Matty Bell of Southern Methodist, Bernie Bierman of Minnesota, Wally Butts of Georgia, Jeff Cravath of Southern Cal, Frank Leahy of Notre Dame, and Lou Little of Columbia, are members of this board.

Board to Use Movies

In addition to this national balloting, the board of coaches will study company newsreels and college motion picture films for a first-hand view of various college stars. Final judgement will be made by the board after final ballot results have been studied and films viewed.

Now, will this board of college football coaches be able to select a truly representative All-America football team? Can they, through the voting panels and motion pictures, glean enough factual information to make their selection an accurate one? We think they may be able to do this, and for several reasons.

Firstly, the board is composed of coaches from each section of the country, and these coaches will have an opportunity to see the All-America candidates in their area in action. This will help. In addition to this, each college sports editor has a chance to see a fair number of teams play, and will naturally form opinions as to who rates an All-America nod. And certainly, former All-America stars are capable judges of football talent, and will be able to vote for their successors.

System Seems an Improvement

The use of motion pictures should be a big help, augmenting recommendations resulting from ballots of the two voting panels and to assist the board in its final judgements. Under the new system, the men responsible for All-America selections will be able to "see" teams from every section of the country in action, and won't have to depend merely upon hearsay or prejudiced press blurbs to pick their players.

On paper, this new system seems to be an improvement over what has gone before. Small schools will not be overlooked. Any player of All-America calibre, regardless of his school, will be considered. It will take more than reputation to crack this dream team.

Of course, any All-America team has only eleven first team berths, and possibly a second and third team. It would be difficult to choose eleven players from the many hundreds participating in college football, and be sure that these eleven men were the top players in the country. It's doubtful that anyone can ever devise a really fool-proof method of selection, considering the great number of players from which to choose, but this one Collier's plans to use is one of the soundest we've seen yet. Let's wait and see what they come up with.

Two June Weddings

Belated congratulations are in order for John Warren and his wife, the former Frances W. Elving, who were married in Portland on July 10. Warren will continue his duties here at Oregon, coaching Duck basketballers, ably assisted by Mrs. Warren, reported to be an excellent foul shot coach.

Another item in the matrimonial department is the marriage of Art Lichman, director of the athletic news bureau, to the former Elizabeth Hendrickson. Ceremonies were held here in Eugene June 26.

UO Players Help Millers Cop Pennant

Although football has already taken over top billing in the sport's world, a review of summer sport's activities around the Eugene area shows that Oregon's head baseball coach, Don Kirsch, turned in an interesting record as manager of the Miller's Lumbermen, a member of the Cascade baseball loop.

Miller's romped off with the league championship and defeated a semi-pro team from Salem two straight games in post-season play. After dropping three games early in the season, the Cascade league champions went the remaining distance without a set-back. Three times, the Miller's lost contests by the scant margin of one run. They dropped the opening game 4-3, and lost the other two by identical scores, 3-2.

Duck Stars-Help

Four members from last year's varsity baseball nine aided Kirsch in his drive to the pennant. Walt Kirsch and Al Cohen handled the keystone positions, with Hal Zurcher the regular centerfielder, and Lefty "Swede" Johnson bolstering the pitching staff, turning in two wins against no defeats for the season.

One ex-major leaguer, and four ex-coast league performers provided Kirsch with his main strength. Barney Koch, who played with the Brooklyn Dodgers one year and who was freshman baseball coach at Oregon last year, handled the third base chores and led the Cascade league in hitting. Former coast leaguers included Eddie Adams, ex-Portland Beaver catcher, and Bill Carney, who played the outfield for Los Angeles part of one season.

Manager Kirsch tried to arrange a post season series with Albany, winners of the state semi-pro tournament in Portland, but discovered that the team had already disbanded. He picked the Salem Capitols as the second best semi-pro outfit in the state, and invited them to Eugene after Albany had turned down the games.

Two Straight

In a best two out of three games, Miller's defeated Salem two in a row, winning the first game 3-0, and walloping them in the second game 5-3, when Walt Kirsch banged out a game winning two run homer.

A very successful summer indeed, for Don Kirsch and crew.

Order of O Meets

There will be an Order of the O meeting today at noon at the Phi Delt house. President Roger Wiley announced that all members should be present.

Sports Staff:

- Bob Reed
- Glenn Gillespie
- Dick Cramer
- John Barton

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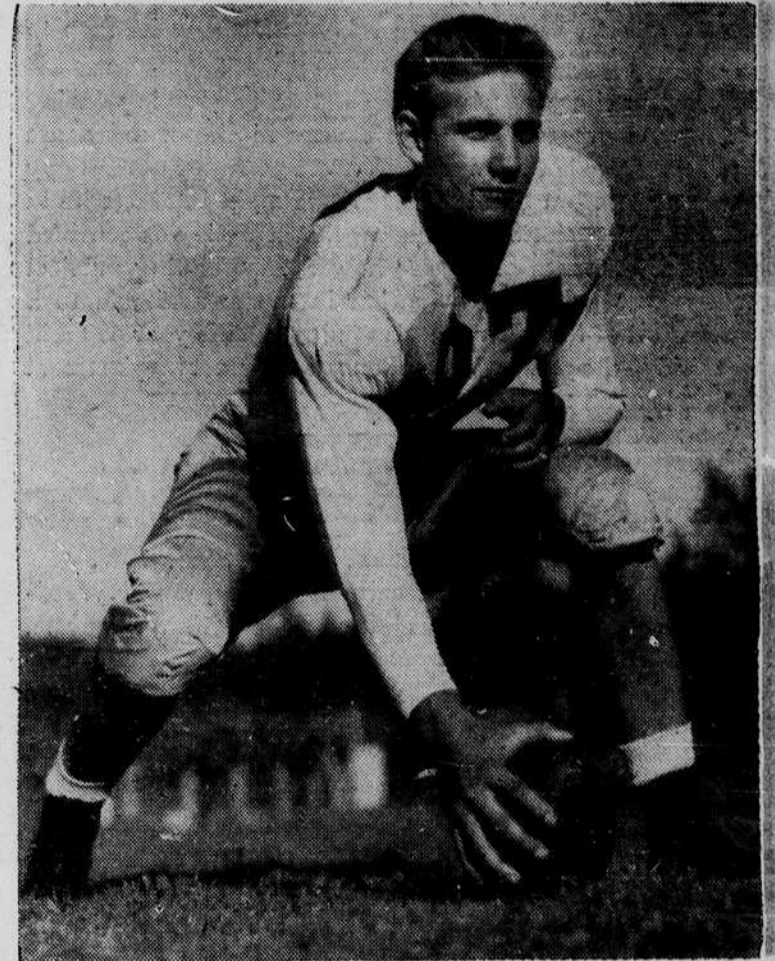
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Glenn Gillespie, Bob Reed, Co-Sports Editors

Set for Beavers



VERN BAXTER, A SOPHOMORE from Sainas, Calif., is ticketed for action at center for Dixie Howell's Idaho eleven this Saturday, when the Vandals take on the Oregon State Beavers in a conference opener at Corvallis.

Bob Sullivan Takes Over Duties As Assistant Duck Line Coach

Though he was around last spring, Bob Sullivan, assistant Webfoot line coach, wasn't on the payroll of the University until this summer. Sullivan was helping out his old coach, Jim Aiken, during spring practice, and did so well that he is now a permanent part of the Duck coaching staff.

Sullivan started his collegiate career at little Union College, playing there two years before going into the Marines. He was in the

service for over three years, during which time he compiled a brilliant combat record.

After his discharge he played under Jim Aiken at Nevada in 1946, followed by a year with the Baltimore Colts, whose roster now includes Jake Leicht, the brilliant Oregon halfback of 1945, 1946 and 1947.

Sullivan, who stands around 6' 3" and tops the 200-pound mark, was a top center during his playing days.



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