

DUCK TRACKS

By GLENN GILLESPIE
Co-Sports Editor

Of the nine Pacific Coast Conference member teams which will play football games this weekend, only four of the teams, Oregon, Oregon State, Stanford, and Southern Cal., will see action in a counting conference contest. Oregon, of course, will engage the Stanford Indians Saturday at Palo Alto, while the up-state Aggies tackle a favored USC team Friday night at Los Angeles.

Three "big" intersectional battles are on the books this weekend for PCC teams. Howie Odell's University of Washington Huskies will entertain the Minnesota Gophers at Seattle, Lynn Waldorf's California Bears, reputed to be a coast power, travel to Baltimore, Maryland, to play the Middies from Navy, and UCLA plays host to another Big Nine squad, Bob Voigts' Northwestern Wildcats.

The Idaho Vandals, coached by Dixie Howell, and Montana will take on Big Seven opponents in their games. Idaho travels to Salt Lake City for a game with Utah, while Montana entertains Utah State at Missoula. Washington State draws an open date this weekend.

As far as predictions go, why not? Everybody else does, so we shall attempt to add our nominations to the many, sticking our neck out only on games PCC teams play. All set?

How Many Out of Seven?

OREGON vs. STANFORD—School loyalties or no, we shall stick with Jim Aiken's Ducks on this one. The Indians will be fighting for an upset, but not this week. Wouldn't care to say how many points.

OREGON STATE vs. SOUTHERN CAL—We've read plenty of copy on how Lon Stiner's Beavers freeze up on their southern trips, and the 48-6 drubbing they took last year from USC seems to indicate this is true. Jeff Cravath's Trojans, miffed over the pre-season snubbing they received, should wallop the Aggies.

WASHINGTON vs. MINNESOTA—Looking over past records, we find the Gophers have triumphed over the Seattle team five years in a row. It was just a bare 7-6 margin last season, but Minnesota should do better Saturday.

CALIFORNIA vs. NAVY—The Golden Bears will help rehabilitate the reputation of West Coast football when they tip Navy. Big money says this will be close, and it could go either way.

UCLA vs. NORTHWESTERN—After a slow start, the Wildcats started rolling at the end of last season and may continue this year. Since the game will be played in the Coliseum, we think the Uclans will whip Northwestern. This is another game that rates a coin flip.

IDAHO vs. UTAH—Idaho may have improved since last season, but we'll stick with Utah, leader in the Big Seven last year and always a tough team to beat.

MONTANA vs. UTAH STATE—A clean sweep for the Utah schools this week, since we figure Montana will fall before another Big Seven squad.

So much for the predictions, and we'll be one of the first to grab the sports page Sunday morning to figure out the average.

Grid Predictions Starting Tomorrow

As a regular weekly feature for Oregon football fanatics, the Emerald sports page will publish a list of predictions covering the major grid games over the nation. First edition of "Grid Guesses" will run in Saturday's issue, although we plan to continue these PCC predictions each week in the column. Any opinions on the subject? Let us know

If these rains keep up, and there's no question about that here in Oregon, Jim Aiken's Ducks will be playing football in the mud sooner or later. We're anxious to see how the Aiken "T" operates on a wet field, since most of last year's games were played on a dry field. Improved drainage facilities on conference fields, notably Oregon State's Bell field and Multnomah stadium in Portland, should help to solve the mud bugaboo that has plagued Northwest football teams in the past.

The lush turf that carpeted Hayward field's playing surface was in fine condition for the Santa Barbara game, but will take a beating when a game is played on a rainy day. Aiken's no-practice policy in the stadium really helps the turf to take hold between games.

Only One Plane Trip This Year

Of the six football games that the Webfoots play away from home this season, only one airplane trip is scheduled. That one, of course, is the necessary flight back to Michigan for the game October 2 at Ann Arbor. If the Ducks didn't take a plane for this one, they would face a lengthy train journey, a dreaded affair around football dressing rooms. The remaining Oregon games away are close enough that a reasonably short train ride will turn the trick.

Jim Aiken and his 37-man traveling squad of Stanford-bound Ducks are on their way by now, carrying with them hopes of the entire student body. — BEAT STANFORD!!!

Ducklings Work Hard For Berths

Oregon football weather greeted Bill Bowerman's Ducklings yesterday when the neophytes turned to for their afternoon practice session on the upper field. Bowerman followed his usual rigorous schedule despite the heavy rainfall, and the frosh took to it "like ducks to water."

Assistant Coach Seve Mezzera sent his line charges through a brushing-up period, working out in detail the complications of line duty for every play. Bill Abbey led the backs and ends in a passing practice designed to familiarize the frosh with Aiken's pass plays.

Winding up the session, Bowerman sent his candidates through an hour and a half of sloppy scrimmage. Despite the muddy turf and wet ball, the offensive squad made impressive gains, although the defensive set made it clear they were in the game.

No definite teams have been set up as yet, and Bowerman alternated his players, giving everyone a chance to show. At the offensive quarterback spot, big Jim Calderwood of Baker flipped some accurate passes to ends Chuck Bafaro and Jerry Leslie, who played against each other in the August Shrine classic in Portland.

Word came from Seattle yesterday that the Washington Pups, the Ducklings' first opponents this season, have 76 grid stars donning blue and gold colors for Freshman Coach Johnny Cherberg.

The Pups have an impressive list of Washington and out-of-state ex-high school stars. A name familiar to prep followers of last year is Len Heston, from Klamath Falls. Heston, at 215 pounds, played fullback at Klamath.

Heston's running mate at Klamath high, little Tommy Edwards, is a top contender for the left half spot on the frosh team at Oregon, and may be seen in action against Heston on October 8.

Another frosh candidate at Washington is Kenny Dunn, from Camas, Washington. Dunn was a first-string left half for the Papermakers three years, giving northern Oregon schools headaches every season. Kenny plays on the style of ex-Camasite Jim Newquist, right half for the Ducks last year.

Leo Gilnett, frosh quarterback
(Please turn to page seven)

OREGON DAILY EMERALD SPORTS

Beaver Tackle



BILL AUSTIN, VETERAN BEAVER right tackle and rated as one of the best in the PCC, will be out to thwart Trojan line thrusts when the Staters meet Southern Cal in the Coliseum this Saturday.

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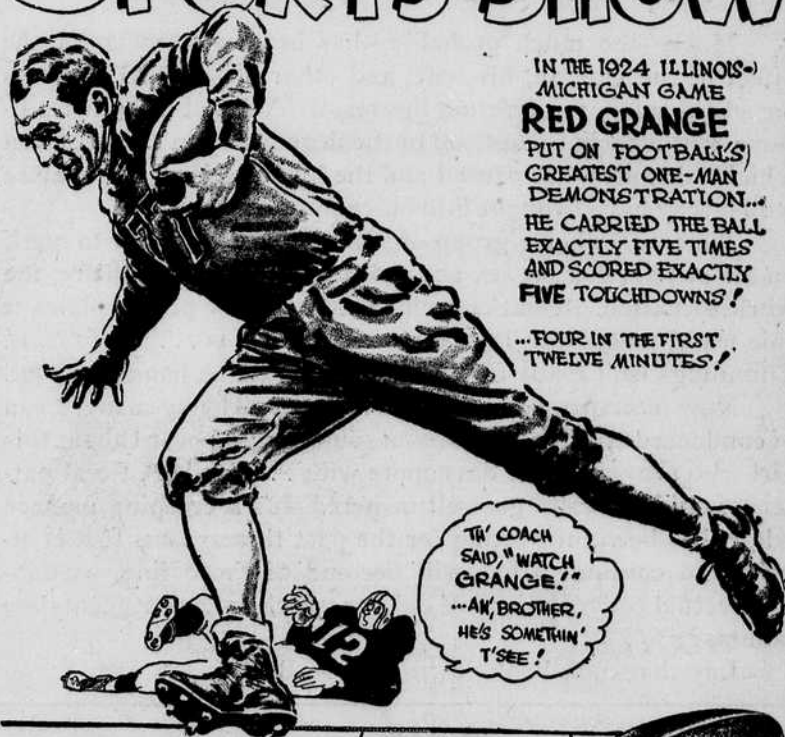
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