

DUCK TRACKS

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Baseball and track finally have grabbed the sport spotlight, but there's still plenty of time for comments on this year's basketball season, and a little speculation on action to come.

It was a pretty fair Northern Division cage season from the fan's standpoint, and a highly successful one for Cliff Crandall and the rest of Slat's Gill's Oregon State Beavers, who waded through PCC opposition and into the NCAA finals to finish fourth in the nation.

Northwest basketball followers were fortunate to have the national finals played in Seattle, since it isn't too often that teams like Kentucky, Oklahoma, and Illinois can be seen in action.

Some reports seem to indicate dislike of the caliber of ball shown in the tourney, but the lack of sheer thrill-chill action probably accounts for it.

Kentucky's NCAA Comeback Expected

Few could dispute the skill of teams like Kentucky and Oklahoma A & M, who put on a real offense-defense battle, although some say the Oregon State-Illini game was better for thrills.

Kentucky's comeback after the National Invitation surprise was expected, although Oklahoma had a good upset chance.

Biggest surprise of NIT action wasn't Kentucky's breakdown, but the spurt shown by the San Francisco Dons, who whipped Loyola in the finals. Few expected Pete Newell's boys to show much against the eastern powers.

Committee Made Two Major Rule Changes

The National Basketball committee of the United States and Canada also held its annual rules meet in the Puget sound city, coming up with two major revisions and several minor ones, all to affect the game in one way or another.

The spectator, the guy who shells out for the behind-post ducats every week, probably has his opinions on rule changes made during the two-day session, and if he's an ND basketball fan and saw a few games this year, we'll bet he's all for the two big revisions.

Even most of the coaches should favor the top changes, except when their team is on defense in the final two minutes.

Planning to curb intensive fouling tactics used by defensive teams to break up a stall, the rule barons changed the penalty for personal fouls charged after the two-minute signal.

Out-of-Bounds Given After Free Throw

In the future, each of these special fouls will be treated as a personal against the offending player, except that the out-of-bounds rule previously used on technicals will be tacked on.

After the free throw attempt, the ball will be ruled dead and the team which has been fouled will take it out of bounds at the center line. Two free tosses will still be given to a player fouled in the act of shooting.

Under the new setup, any defensive team will be mighty wary of last-minute fouling, even though it's only a few points behind, and these hectic, hair-raising "two-minute" ball games lasting five times that long should go out the window.

The offensive team comes in for its share under the second revision, which transforms the old held ball rule. No player will be permitted to withhold the ball from play longer than five seconds under the new ruling, which calls for a jump ball when no effort is made to dribble, pass or shoot after the time limit.

A Good Stall Pays Off With Wins

If a team can stall expertly, neither change should hurt, and the first helps a great deal. A good razzle-dazzle, now-you-see-it, now-you-don't game of keep-away can win ball games all year, and "stall practice" is becoming more popular with coaches over the nation.

Clair Bee and his fancy flock of Long Island Blackbirds were very handy with ball-control tactics, and it paid off in the Oregon series.

Aside from these two major changes, the committee did little else, rewriting sections here and there and adopting several minor revisions.

Duck Nine Faces Willamette Today

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weapon as he collected a single and a double over the right field hedge in four trips to the plate.

Barile, who led the Webfoots in hitting last year with a .390 mark, banged out a double and two singles in five times up, a feat duplicated by third sacker Don Kimball.

Shortstop Al Cohen also got three hits, a double and a pair of singles, in six attempts.

Dick DeBernardi pitched the final three frames for the Duck nine, and like his two predecessors, gave up two hits to the opponents.

The Webfoot catching position, considered a weak spot because of the inexperience, was handled ably by both Dale Warberg and Gene Rose, although neither one managed a hit off the three Linfield pitchers.

Frosh-Varsity Meet Today

Field Events Scheduled for Duck Harriers

by Dave Taylor

Oregon track fans will get their first look at Coach Bill Bowerman's 1949 cindermen when he pits them against the talent-laden Frosh this afternoon.

Weight and field events will be run today while the running of distances will be held Friday afternoon. Distances will be run only three-quarter length.

Varsity Should Win

The varsity harriers should easily cop a one-sided victory, but will not capture all the number one spots with men like Jack Hutchins, Canadian comet, on the Duckling roster.

Yesterday Hutchins clipped the half-mile off in 2 minutes and 11 seconds to top the field by at least 5 seconds in a warmup canter. In so doing, the little speedster looked to be just cruising effortlessly along at a dog trot all the way Hutchins ran with the Canadian Olympic team last summer in England.

Rasmussen Gone

Another break for the Yearlings will be the absence of the varsity's stellar pole vaulter, George Rasmussen, from the meet. Rasmussen has accepted an invitation to the Texas relays to be held April 2.

However, this will not weaken the varsity's entry in this event since Don Pickens, Bowerman's Number 2 vaulter, will move into the driver's seat and will be fortified by Lloyd Hickok and Don Reeves.

Bevos Win Opener From Frisco, 12-0

Portland's unpredictable Beavers kicked the lid off the 1949 Pacific Coast League last night with a 12-0 win over their arch-foes, the San Francisco Seals. The Beavers, considered weak at the plate, stumped the experts by slamming Cliff "Mountain Music" Melton for 12 runs. Vince Di-Biasi went the route for the winners.

Seattle ran true to predicted form by slugging their way to a 9-7 decision over the Los Angeles Angels, while the Sacramento Sacs, surprised with a 5-2 defeat of the defending champion Oakland Oaks.

Golf Qualifying Matches To Determine Starters

Qualifying matches for places on the Oregon varsity golf team are presently under way at the Eugene Country club, according to Coach Sid Milligan, and will be going strong through April 12.

The ten lowest divot-diggers will comprise the 10-man squad, Milligan explained, while the six lowest scores will be good for the competing team. In conference play, Oregon fields a six-man crew, but in play-offs, only four. After the qualifying matches are completed, the top six men (that is the low six) will have to accept challenges from the remaining four competitors, Milligan said.

The first official match for the Webfoot golfers is slated for April 15 at Victoria College, B. C. Milligan plans to take four men up for the non-conference competition.

Top prospect, and team captain, is Dom Provost, a two year letterman. The only other two returning lettermen are John Prince and Bob Sederstrom, with one "C" each. Milligan has high hopes for Ron Clark, a good steady player, suffering from a temporary case of eligibility trouble.

Another possible ace in the golf hole is Jim Dunahoo, of The Dalles, who lettered here two years ago, but left the University. Milligan is hopeful for his return to Eugene before the Victoria College match.

Spring IM Play Starts Monday

Intramural sports will get their spring inaugural Monday afternoon when the campus organizations drag their bats, softball, golf clubs, and tennis rackets out of moth balls and start swinging some mean licks.

Schedules of all contests are in the process of being multigraphed and will be sent to athletic managers before the end of the week, according to IM sports manager Jim Vitti.

As for title hopes—they are not bright. As in the case on the tennis courts, the Washington Huskies have got it. The defending Seattle champs have got too much on the "club" for the rest of the Northern Division teams, Milligan added.

Tennis Player

(Continued from page four)

penter picked up some valuable experience in the Northern Division playoffs of 1948. Fleming is pionship, national ceding and all. Backed up by Wally Bostick and Jack Lowe, Brink and company are practically untouchable.

If the injured Oregon netmen can get into top shape, however, the Webfoot might cause plenty of trouble. There are no real stars, such as Washington's Brink. The first six positions show little difference between the first and last man.....

There are presently 15 "good men" out for varsity berths and, as Lesser put it, there are no free riders weighing the squad down. After final cuts are made, the regular team will consist of 10 players, with a traveling crew of five. The final paring will be announced later, according to Lesser, after a double elimination tournament has been played off.

The Emerald street courts are presently being utilized to this end, and will be throughout the week, weather permitting. After the tournament, which will spot the men in a tentative order, challenges will be run off under the ladder system for another week.

The opening ND match is against the powerful Huskies, April 9, the Eugene Tennis club; April 15, Willamette University; and April 16, Lewis and Clark.

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