

DUCK TRACKS

By Tom King
Emerald Sports Editor

Let's bend an ear to a few spurts and sputters overheard on the sports party line . . .

One of the most vastly improved players in the spring football sessions held out on the lower practice field thus far has been Woodley Lewis . . . The loose-jointed, bronz-colored half-back is a couple of steps faster than last year, and the whereabouts from whence this sudden pickup came is no mystery.

Bill Bowerman is presently trying to develop Lewis into the Northern Division's flightiest broad jumper and he seems to have already accomplished the goal . . . But Bill's dealings with him haven't been restricted to the leap-frog . . . All winter long he worked with Lewis in an effort to improve his running, and it certainly has borne fruit.

Further orchids to Bill come from a rather unexpected source, the Daily Barometer, OSC's campus newspaper . . . One of the sports columnists let go with a few words of praise because of the way Bill has stirred up interest in track throughout the state.

Don Kirsch and his baseballing Ducks apparently are going to have to wage a day-by-day battle down to the wire with Washington State for the ND championship . . . And it won't be any easy pickin's.

Cougars Possess Big Schedule Advantage

For, while the Lemon-and-Green will be squaring off with Oregon State in a four-game titanic, the Cougars will be doing 2 games with Washington . . . And it is no secret that the Beavers are a far more formidable outfit than Washington . . . Of course, traditional rivalries may, and often do, throw a complete damper on the whole scheme of things, namely the form chart.

However, that is only the half of it . . . Buck Bailey's Cougars also have a series coming up against Idaho, and the Vandals have expertly managed to lose every one of their games this year . . . All of which may be taken to mean that the Ducks have a steep climb ahead of them—but then they've shown nothing thus far that would indicate they can't make it.

All-America Norm Van Brocklin received another feather to stick in the hatful of laudatory items he has collected during the past year . . . Arch Ward of the Chicago Tribune has sent him an invitation to play in the All-Star game which annually pits the cream of the nation's collegians against the NFL pro champions, in this case the Philadelphia Eagles.

How About an Alumni Game for Oregon Gridders?

Washington has lined up an alumni game for this spring, matching the present Husky team against the grads . . . UCLA has been staging a similar contest for several years now, with such standouts as Bob Waterfield, Kenny Washington, Ernie Case, Benn Baldwin and a flock of others returning to their old haunts to try to show the young whippersnappers how things are done back in the good ol' days. Other schools around the countryside likewise organize an alumni game each spring . . . Like

to see Oregon do it, too . . . It's a real crowd-pleaser.

Ralph Coleman's Beavers carved out a new record for themselves last week when they scored 35 runs against Washington in a two-game set . . . Oregon State's mammoth million dollars basketball arena is now 60 per cent completed . . . The structure, christened Gill Pavilion, should be finished between September and October . . . Designed to seat over 10,000, it will possess the second largest single span roof in the country.

Worst Eleven in Modern History for Irish—Leahy

Up at Seattle, the well advertised Hugh McElhenny is reported to have nailed down a first string berth on Howie Odell's outfit . . . And at St. Mary's, Halfback Frank Cassara has been rambling through spring drills in the best Wedemeyer tradition . . . The Gaels furnish opening opposition for the Ducks next fall, and 'tis said Cassara is the lad to keep an eye on.

Frank Leahy groans and moans enough to put the most hippodrome-like of wrestlers to shame . . . But the Notre Dame taskmaster never went more moanish and groanish than the other day when he stolidly informed the SF Chronicle that the Irish of '49 would be the worst eleven in the modern history of the school . . . On second thought, that still wouldn't be so bad.

Jim Aiken will join with some of the biggest names in football when lecturing at the Cleveland Browns Football Clinic, which he is now attending . . . Stu Holcomb of Purdue, Bob Voights, who skippered Northwestern into the Rose Bowl, as well as Paul Brown, of course, are all on the program.



BILL BOWERMAN

Sports Sketch

'Fixer' Tom Hughes Reigns Supreme in Training Room

By SAM FIDMAN

As the only full time employee in the varsity training room, easy-going Tom Hughes has to be doctor, psychologist, and inventor rolled into one, as well as an excellent trainer.

At the University of California, four trainers are on the permanent payroll, but Oregon solves its trainer personnel problem through the athletic labor program project.

With this system, varsity athletes, most of whom have taken a course in problems of a trainer from Hughes, work part time with him.

TOM, who hails from St. Louis, has a star-studded record in athletics. While serving in the marines, under the V-12 program, he was a member of the Purdue Boilermaker eleven which won nine games without a loss in 1943.

Tom's performance with Purdue was outstanding enough to win him a berth with the East squad in the annual East-West game at San Francisco in 1944.

Continued heads-up football with Purdue gained Tom a repeat invitation for New Year's day, 1945, this time as co-captain of the East squad.

IN ADDITION to his prowess on the gridiron, Tom was all-Big Nine catcher with the Boilermakers, and still had time to serve as assistant trainer for three years.

When he graduated from Purdue in 1945, Tom was awarded the medal which goes to the outstanding student, both athletically and scholastically, each year.

Hughes came to Oregon directly from the Los Angeles Dons of the All-America conference, and in his two years here has gained favor in the eyes of both athletes and coaches.

"Having been an athlete, Tom likes to be near athletics, and says that he may try his hand at coaching some day. His main grievance against the coaching profession is that "they have to hit the banquet circuit too often."

THE STORY of the massive sweat-box in the training room reflects Tom's ingenuity. The physical plant built the box, according to Tom's specifications, out of marine plywood. Total cost to the University was \$48; a metal

sweat-box would have drained Oregon funds to the tune of \$600.

The electric bulb-heated gadget is useful in taking weight off those who bend the scales where they shouldn't be bent. Sam Nevills melted down from 270 pounds to 232 with the aid of sweat-box treatments.

Tom himself takes a few turns within the "machine that Hughes built"—but machines are that he doesn't use it quite often enough.

Frosh Track Stars In Exhibition Race

Freshmen track stars Jack Hutchins and Art Backlund have been invited to appear in an exhibition race at the Carnival of Speed to be held in Pendleton Saturday.

The carnival is an invitational track and field meet among Eastern Oregon high schools.

Hutchins, a member of the 1948 Canadian Olympic team, and Backlund, all-state high school miler last year, will race against each other in a 1000-yard distance run.

I-M Softball Nears Finals

TODAY'S SCHEDULE
3:50

Fizzeds vs. Omega
Kappa Sig vs. Lambda Chi
French vs. Minturn

4:55

Phi Delts vs. Pi K Phi
Merrick vs. Nestor
Chi Psi vs. Tekes

Four of six scheduled intramural softball games were played yesterday, with two forfeits rounding out the slate.

Pi Kappa Phi whipped French hall, 9-1, Minturn hall downed Phi Sigma Kappa, 16-8, Sigma Chi whitewashed Nestor hall, 10-0, and Merrick hall dropped Tau Kappa Epsilon, 11-6.



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Highland House Cops in Softball

Highland house kept up its winning record by downing Alpha Gamma Delta 9-7 yesterday in girl's intramural softball.

Getting off to a first-inning lead of 5-0 and still ahead 5-1 after the second, it looked like an easy win for the Highland girls. In the third inning, Alpha Gam proved stiff competitors and rolled up six fast runs to lead 7-5. Highland was able to rally in the last half of the inning to score the winning runs.

Fran Blenkinsop of Highland made the sole homerun of the game in the first inning, bringing in two runs.

Helen Michel pitched for Alpha Gam and Louise Pawter for Highland. Catchers were Irma Uhle and Fran Blenkinsop.

The game between Zeta Tau Alpha and Kappa Kappa Gamma scheduled yesterday was postponed until next Tuesday.

In Tuesday's games, Delta Delta Delta swamped Hendricks hall, 15-13, and Alpha Chi Omega downed Zeta hall, 8-5.



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