

Finances Block Improvement Of Oregon Home Grid Slate

By Tom King

Prospects for an improved Oregon home football schedule in the next few years are as dim now as ever.

This was the cold, hard observation of Athletic Director Leo Harris, recently, as he drew a fine comb over the Oregon athletic situation, financial and otherwise.

A number of road-blocks — too many, in fact — are preventing promotion of top-notch contests for either Eugene or Portland, which is also considered "home." They all come under the same heading — finances.

NO BIG STADIUM

Lack of a big stadium is the major difficulty. Universities with big-name football teams simply will not play in a stadium where a sellout crowd still means a crowd similar in size to one attracted by a soap box orator.

Portland's Multnomah Stadium, controlled by the Multnomah Athletic Club, seats 31,000. Harris says that ever since he came to Oregon three years ago, stadium officials have promised to enlarge the structure.

"Before this season began, we were promised 5,000 more seats," Harris said. "Yet, despite these promises year after year, not one seat has yet been added."

DUCKS LOSE MONEY

Harris claims that to bring teams like Iowa, Southern Methodist, Texas, and Michigan here for home ball games, a stadium with 50,000 capacity is needed. He is confident that Oregon's Nov. 5 game with Washington could have drawn at least 50,000 fans.

That means that limited capacity of Multnomah Stadium cut receipts almost in half. Since the athletic department nets between 60 cents and \$1 on every admission, it also means that the universities involved ate the neck of the chicken, so to speak.

MONEY TALKS

Schools like Michigan, SMU and other grid powers simply won't strip themselves of lush gate receipts when they have an alternative. And "big-name" schools do. Michigan, for instance, has a university-owned stadium which holds 97,000. The Wolverines will never play Oregon in Oregon.

Harris recalled negotiations he had with SMU while visiting Texas recently.

"We wanted a home-and-home series with the Mustangs," he stated. "But while SMU officials said they would like to play Oregon, they also said they will play Pennsylvania instead."

Franklin Field, where Penn plays its home games, holds 78,000. And therein is the explanation.

Before the Multnomah AC will greatly enlarge its stadium, it wants Oregon to promise Portland

two games a year.

"We are following a policy now of at least three games for Eugene, and cannot assure anyone of two more games in Portland," Harris said. "To have less than three games at Hayward Field would not do justice to the students here."

Thus the stalemate. Only two solutions present themselves. (1) Oregon or Multnomah Stadium officials change policy, or (2) Oregon build its own stadium large enough to accommodate at least 40,000 fans.

Some progress has been made on the latter scheme. By next season, Hayward Field should seat over 27,000 instead of its present 21,000. Harris hopes to enlarge it gradually each year, but such a plan depends on gate receipts from year to year.

In the past three years, about \$100,000 has been spent to improve Oregon athletic facilities. It will still take several seasons to complete the project.

Harris revealed one pleasant

note on home games for the Webfoots. Beginning next year, a rotation schedule between Northern and Southern Division teams officially goes into effect. One Southern team will play Oregon in Portland each year. None played the Ducks there this season.

ATHLETICS MUST PAY

This means progress of a sort. But Northern Division teams must prove to Southern schools that they are entitled to the concession already granted.

So, for the next several years anyway, the Oregon football schedule necessarily will be restricted to home games with teams like Colorado, Idaho, and Montana — plus a contest with a Southern Division team in Portland.

Why? Finances again, of course. Call it "rank commercialism," "dollar phobia" or any other choice bit, but athletics must pay for themselves. And to achieve this, Oregon must rely on dollar intake at the gate, as do other colleges from coast to coast.

CAMPUS CALENDAR

TUESDAY—

4 p.m.—Girls' drill team will practice on Intramural Field (between Hayward Field and the ROTC drill field).

7 p.m.—Christian Science Organization meeting. Reading Room, 1251 Emerald street.

7 p.m.—Deseret Club meeting. YMCA.

7 p.m.—Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship meeting. Miss Olive Slocum will speak on "First Aid for Fainting" as adapted to her Christian experiences. John Straub Hall.

7:30 p. m.—Young Democrats of Lane County meeting. Back room of the Side.

8:30 p.m.—Propellor Club coffee meeting. 207 Commerce.

Week's Oregon Pics

This week's Oregon picture schedule is the following:

Today, McChesney Hall.

Wednesday, Minturn Hall.

Thursday, Hendricks Hall.

Friday, Merrick Hall.

Oregana re-takes will be taken on the 21, 22, and 23 of November.

Eighty-one Smiths Populate Campus

Examination of the 1949-50 Pigger's Guide, student directory, discloses some new facts about University students.

Although fewer students are registered this year than last, there are more Joneses and Smiths.

Thirty-eight Joneses are listed this year, an increase of 10 over 1948-49. The Smiths continue to outnumber other names in the directory, with 81 now at Oregon. Seventy-five Smiths attended last year.

Two other large campus groups, the Johnsons and Andersons, have become smaller. Last year, there were 52 Johnsons, compared to 48 this year. The Andersons have lost six of their clan, retaining 41 members. The Andersens, however, have increased by two. Last year there weren't any on campus.

The Guide's new cover features a cartoon by Arnold Westerman, showing what dream dates with beautiful telephone voices really look like. It will be distributed today and tomorrow in McArthur Court by Phi Theta Upsilon and Kwama, service honoraries.

Do YOU Need Anything ?

READ THE CLASSIFIED ADS WHERE SELLER

MEETS BUYER...

WANTED—One trunion-bearing-spring-release-cam-locking-gear. Call Sam Glottz, Smoo Hall.

DOES YOUR **MOTHER-IN-LAW** WANT TO GET RID OF SOMETHING

FOR SALE—One large, as-good-as-new, slightly used, reddish-blue, size 38½, Winter King, long underwear. Excellent for winter serenades. Call Mrs. Schmaltz, Housemother, Signify Nothing.

CLASSIFIED ADS GET IMMEDIATE RESULTS...

Get In Touch With Your Long Lost LOVED ONE

WILMER — Come back to me, Huckle buck—little Joe has the mumps, I broke my leg and Paw lost his job. We need you bad. Please come home. Your ever-lovin', June.

Talent Auditions Continue Tonight

All remaining women's living organizations are requested to appear for their talent auditions at 6:30 tonight in Gerlinger Annex, reported Fred Young, campus talent chairman, Monday night.

Those who missed the Monday night activities are requested to appear tonight also.

Men's houses will appear Monday and Tuesday night of next week.

Plans are being formulated for additional all-campus shows which will make use of the new talent file. Single as well as double acts are desired.



GET RESULTS