

DUCK TRACKS

By JOHN BARTON
Emerald Sports Editor

How does a cowboy stop his cattle from stampeding? Well, then, how did Assistant Coach Don Kirsch stop the Oregon Ducks from fast breaking Saturday night when ball control was needed to win the game? What ever it was, he used it, for the Webfoots displayed a beautiful stall in the last few minutes, after they had built part of their lead with break-neck speed and fast passing.

According to some sources, it was the lack of a stall which lost the first Washington State game in Pullman on Feb. 6. Oregon had a fairly comfortable lead, with one minute to go, and had attained it with hard running and fast moving of the ball.

When they continued to run hard and break fast, but started losing the ball to the Cougars, Coach John Warren called them into conference in time-out and told them to slow down and control the ball.



SLATS GILL

Ball Control Good Saturday

According to the above-mentioned sources, the Ducks kept getting the opportunity to fast-break and kept doing it, but also lost the ball to the Cougars, who began to equalize the score. And so, according to the same sources, the WSC team got the ball often enough to win the game by one point in the last minute.

It looked Saturday night as though the same thing might happen, but thank goodness it didn't. The whole squad did a terrific job of controlling the ball. And the defense used in the last few minutes against the Vandals proved very successful, for the Idahoans had been potting a lot of shots from close in.

The Webfoots went into a partial zone, similar to that used so well against the Washington Huskies in the games here, and it made the Vandals keep the ball out front, where it was checked close enough to keep it from the hoop. If the ball got into a center or forward—bingo, the Oregon team collapsed on it, and usually got either the ball or a try for it by jumping.

Interesting to note on the Webfoot fast-break, which worked well in the second Idaho game, that Will Urban (who made 18 points in that last game) was usually the man to get the best shot at the hoop. Now, on defense, Will spends most of his time under the enemy's basket because he guards a forward. That means that, in order to get down under his own basket to make the shot, he has to run the entire length of the floor.

Urban Key Man in Fast-break

The guards who take the ball down on the break take off from in front of the opposition key-hole. That means that Urban has at least an extra 10 or 15 feet to go, and when a team runs as hard as the Ducks ran Saturday night, that can be a long ways. John Warren told us some time ago that Urban plays a lot on sheer determination, and this act of overtaking the guards to get the best shot at the basket certainly bears that out.

The two guards, Keller and Krause, are of course moving the ball as well as running, so that naturally slows them up somewhat. However, Will's ability to get past his man and streak down the floor generally makes it a three-men-against-two-men affair, and Saturday night that was spelling two points for Oregon just about everytime it happened.

Talked to Slats Gill, OSC coach, Saturday night before the game... he was in Eugene to size up the Ducks against Idaho. When asked what he thought about the quality of the Friday night officiating (which was generally unpopular with fans of both teams), he quickly answered that he thought it was good. Then Slats, always a gentleman and always honest, added as an afterthought that it was at least "as good as I've seen this season" in the Northern Division.

Striped Ability Yet

Last week in this column we quoted a sports writer as saying (not writing) that the officials in this area don't have the ability they need for their job, which is certainly no easy one. What Slats Gill said Saturday night emphasized that. He said it was as good as he has seen this season.

What's the answer to the officiating problem? Either get an electric eye which will blow a whistle whenever two players rub together so hard, or make the players keep a three-foot distance between themselves. We can just see a center looking up at a coming rebound and then bowing at the waist and saying to his opposition, "After you, sir." Better we just get some officials. Oh well, "they can't see 'em all."

Book on Early Oregon Printing Out

"Oregon Imprints" a book concerned with the early history of printing in Oregon, was recently published by the University press. The book was written by the

Late Douglas C. McMurtrie, who was director of advertising and typography for the Ludlow Typograph Company of Chicago. He died in 1944.

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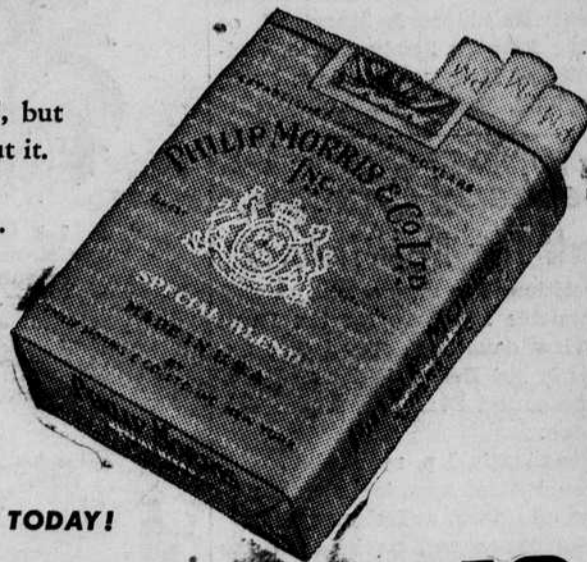
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