

Oregon to Get Ski Team

Webfoot Baseball Starts Friday Against Linfield; Willamette Saturday

By PETE CORNACCHIA

Coach Don Kirsch's Webfoot nine is slated to open its non-conference campaign tomorrow afternoon at McMinnville against Linfield, provided (1) dredging operations on the Wildcat diamond are completed, and (2) no more professional raids are made on the boys who are left.

If the latter provision lasts until Saturday, the Ducks move over to Salem to meet the Willamette Bearcats, rain willing.

Kirsch, who has picked up two second-place finishes in as many seasons at Oregon, doesn't have what most people would call a veteran club. Other than pitchers, he has exactly one regular back from last year's crew. Professional scouts with a ready pen have been to Oregon's 1950 baseball edition what Barnum K. Blurb has been to the Budd family, only the Ducks were unable to get the protection of Steve Roper.

Rain has hampered practice, but that isn't news anymore.

Despite all his troubles, Kirsch isn't ready to drown himself in the swirling water at Howe field. Most of his men are fairly new to college ball, true, but they seem to have the hustle that often is absent on veteran clubs.

The catching staff should be stronger than last year's. Joe Sugura, a husky strong-armed lad up from the Frosh is one reason. Norv Ritchey, a sophomore from Yontalla, is another. Both can hit, and the pair won't leave much to be desired behind the plate.

As for first, Phil Settecase, another sophomore, has demonstrated some heavy hitting and fair fielding which is likely to get him the nod for that position. Jim Bocchi, former K. Falls athlete, is next in line at present.

The chores around second base will be handled by Daryle Nelson or Jerry Lake, with Nelson likely to get the bid on opening day. Nelson, a sophomore up from Vanport, is a very fast lad.

Third base is among the least of Kirsch's worries, for Don Kimball is back. The hard-hitting boy from Pleasant Hill is one of the few who didn't have to give his name, address, and clippings to Kirsch at the start of the season.

Three players have been showing good reason why they should grab the shortstop spot. Ray Coley, a sophomore (if we may use the word again) from New York, appears to be the best bet. Joe Tom has the same good arm he had in football, and his hitting is even better. Another footballer, Tommy Hines, seems to be the fastest of the three.

Letterman Ray Stratton is expected to land one of the outfield berths, but the other two haven't any steadier renters as yet. Dick Salter and Johnny Jones (no, we're not making up names to scare the enemy) are strong candidates. Others showing well are Chuck Strader, Ed Vannet, and Sanford Gwens.

A lot of the pitching staff is back. There's Mel Krause, Swede Johnson, Jim Hanns, Sid Mills, Lyle Rogers, Joe Elkins, and Kukamonga. A newcomer is big Gus Knichrehm, who looks as good on the mound as he did for Jim Aiken—which was pretty good.

It certainly won't be "Nine Old Men" out there this season, but neither will Kirsch have to carry any of his players to and from a po-

MANAGERS

A plea has been issued by the Athletic Department for spring sports managers. Needed are:

An assistant varsity baseball manager, two freshman baseball managers, and two freshman track managers. Applicants have been asked to see Don Kirsch or Bill Bowerman.

Slats Squad Gets Official OK From U. O. Athletic Department

By SAM FIDMAN

(The following release is an Emerald exclusive.)

The University of Oregon's athletic family has officially given birth to a new, bouncing baby offspring—varsity skiing.

Leo Harris, director of athletics, released the announcement

today that the athletic department has set aside a budget providing for a varsity ski team next winter. Harris did not make a statement in regards to the more concrete aspects of the new undertaking, such as training site, coach or instructor, summer conditioning, or arrangement of schedule and dates.

It is believed that the slats crew, which will probably carry 12 to 15 men, with the meet participants limited to six in accordance with team regulations, will go through their training paces at Suttle Lake Lodge.

The resort, under the ownership of Oregon alum Lyle Baker, is located some 13 miles from Sisters. It is reportedly ideal for skiing.

In Harris' first year as athletic director here, a budget was set aside for the adoption of skiing to the university sports roster, though not definitely to major sport stature.

At that time, however, nine of the men who turned out for competitive action on the snowy slopes proved ineligible before the University could be represented in even one meet.

Harris pointed out that his department's decision to make the fi-

(Please turn to page eight)

Spring Football Starts Monday; 100 to Turn out

Spring football practice will start Monday, Coach Jim Aiken said yesterday.

"I'd like to start sooner with the weather as nice as it has been," Aiken asserted. "We may get under way before then."

More than 100 hopefuls are expected to dig their cleats into the first workouts on the lower practice field by Monday.

Pacific Coast Conference rules allow the team six weeks of spring practice. This time can be used up at will, but a maximum of six weeks of practice is allowed.

The practice will be climaxed by a full-dress inter-squad game on May 20. That is the Saturday on the weekend of the football coach's clinic on the campus. Aiken said yesterday there is also a possibility that an inter-squad game will be held on Junior Weekend.

"I expect to start scrimmages Monday," the mentor stated. His first job during the spring session, Aiken said, will be to separate the "whaet from the chaff" in his material.

The list of hopefuls includes about 14 or 15 transfers from other schools, Aiken said.

Amphibians Exhibit

Amphibians, women's swimming honorary, will give a demonstration at 4 p.m. today in the women's pool at Gerlinger Hall.

The demonstration will be for the benefit of any coeds who are anticipating trying out for the Amphibs this spring.

Amphibians officials have announced that the regular spring tryouts will be held within a few weeks for all girls who are interested and eligible.

REPORTERS

Anyone interested in being a sports reporter on the Emerald staff is urged to contact either one of the sports editor or see Clyde Fahman, intramural editor. Experience is not necessary. There are several vacant positions to fill.

sition. Hitting will be the big worry. The fielding is fairly good for this time of year, but the rains have kept the boys from facing any honest-to-goodness pitching.

The squad was divided into two teams yesterday afternoon and went through several innings of an informal intersquad game. Most of the pitching staff saw action, with little wildness shown.

Knichrehm pounded out the longest hit of the day—a line-drive over the left fielder's head for a triple. It might have been a homer if Gus could have had the wind behind him on his gallop around the bases. Settecase, Nelson, Salter, and Jones also lined out some good hitting.

Ducks 'Team to Beat' In ND Track Circuit, Bowerman Declares

Oregon's Webfoot Thinclads will be "the team to beat" in Northern Division track competition this spring, Bill Bowerman, head track coach of the Ducks, said yesterday.

"With two weeks of good weather, we can round ourselves in

such shape that we can tackle any team in the Northern Division without fear of being laced," the Webfoot cinder boss said. "However, as far as predictions on the coming season are concerned, I would be forced to pick the Washington State Cougars as the top team because they are the defending champions." Then Oregon, Washington, Oregon State, and Idaho in that order.

The Cougars have won 17 consecutive dual meets since 1946 when Jack Mooberry, present WSC track coach, took over as head man. Mooberry was injured earlier this week when he was struck in the side of the head with a 16-pound shot during a practice session.

However, Mooberry's injury will not hinder the Cougars chances to defend their crown, according to Bowerman.

"A well-coached track team will roll along on its own momentum," Bowerman said, "and Washington State is a well-coached team, besides having a wealth of returning experienced keymen."

Much of the Ducks' chances to cop the ND championship depends on the weather for the next two weeks when the team will be going through its early season workouts. The Webfoots' hopes are bolstered by crews of strong entries in certain events like the 100-yard dash and the pole vault. In these two particular events, the Ducks are loaded with three-man entries that look to be tops in the Northwest.

The Ducks will be stronger in the distance events than they've been in several years. In these endurance matches, Bowerman has two prize sophomores in Jack Htuchins, little Canadian Olympian, and Art Backlund, holder of the state high school record in the mile.

The broad jump appears to be the strong point of the Ducks in the field events. Woodley Lewis, ND champion, and Bob Weber, senior letterman, will be fortified in this event by the addition of Bill Hutchinson, a find produced by Bowerman's intramural track program of winter term.

As for the rest of the team, it is still in the formative stages and this is too early in the season to determine its true strength.

Concerning the remainder of his predictions, Bowerman said, "Washington is too large a school to not rate at least a role as a strong contender. The Huskies have considerable potential material, but how they will fare in competition remains a mystery."

Oregon State has plenty of material in the distances to avoid being the tailenders while the strength of the Idaho Vandals for the '50 season will not be such to rank them as a contender

Interamurals Start On Campus Monday

Spring Intramural Sports program will get under way at 3:50 p.m. Monday. Softball games will begin on three fields; tennis will begin on courts 4, 5, and 6 and two golf contests will be played at the Laurelwood Course.

All schedules have been made up and will be mailed Friday.

Everett D. Peery, intramural director, has announced several openings for softball officials. Anyone interested should contact him at the intramural office immediately.



Field House
University, Louisiana
(Baton Rouge)

The Daily Reveille

Vol. 53, No. 130

LSU, BATON ROUGE

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Meeting the gang to discuss a quiz—a date with the campus queen—or just killing time between classes—the Field House at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge is one of the favorite places for a rendezvous. At the Field House, as in college campus haunts everywhere, a frosty bottle of Coca-Cola is always on hand for the pause that refreshes—Coke belongs.

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