

# DUCK TRACKS

By SAM FIDMAN  
Emerald Sports Editor

Stand back mother, the water is boiling over! Athletic Director Leo A. Harris put a kettle on the stove, and apparently thought he had turned the flame off—but it is beginning to look as though he thought wrong, because some hot water is seeping through—and who will get scalded nobody knows.

The Order of "O" believed they smelled something in the case of Tom Hughes' contract stoppage—they were definitely not satisfied with Harris' all-too-curt reason for requesting that the state board of higher education refrain from renewing Hughes' contract as Oregon's varsity trainer. To that we might add—Oregon's ONLY trainer.

## An Official Statement

First, we might examine Harris' official statement on the subject, as released officially to the Journal, Oregonian, and Register-Guard.

"Our recommendation to the state board of higher education not to extend Mr. Hughes' contract was made after a thorough study of the situation and was based on Mr. Hughes' persistent refusal to follow the policies of the athletic department."

Please note the terminology—"policies of the athletic department." Yet Harris told the Order of "O" special committee that there was absolutely no other reason behind his very curious move other than that Hughes was not in accord with THE policy concerning handling of project books.

Why then did the official statement read "policies!" The charges against Hughes were for one reason only—and that one was extremely shaky, and approached the degree of being ridiculous.

An athletic department official let slip with another bit of "news" in an apparent effort to back the scraggly one that had been offered. Notice that this was not included in the official reason, but was tacked on afterwards.

The "rider" in effect said that one of the clashes in policy related to Hughes' treatment of athletes engaged in minor sports.

Now, first of all, it must be reiterated that this was not part of the official excuse given; but there is no need to stop there. Members of the Order of "O", among whom are many members of the so-called minor sports, ridiculed that statement.

## One Has to go a Long Way

The University of California has four fulltime trainers; one Eastern school, apparently better endowed than the University of Oregon, has seven—one for each sport. Hughes is the ONLY trainer at the University of Oregon. He does have an assistant who has rendered yeomen duty—but he has never wrawn a red cent for his work.

Logically, when there is spring football practice, baseball tennis, golf, and track all going on at once, one man is going to get rather busy. But of those sports where do the most injuries strike? Football. When 64 men go through a rugged grid scrimmage—there will have to be a little concentration devoted to those men.

One member of a varsity minor sport said that when he had a slightly pulled muscle, Hughes treated him for a full week—in spite of the fact that the athlete felt recovered after the third day. Hughes continued massages and heat treatment until there was no chance of the muscle snafooing in the forthcoming meet.

Minor sport coaches have had absolutely no gripe about Hughes—in fact one said that he was amazed at the amount of attention the big trainer devoted to each man, and that he had never received such aid in his particular sport.

He added that at the last institution he coached for, he couldn't even get his men into the training room on many occasions.

That information was gathered by the special "O" committee without any contacting of Hughes; when an outside party takes that much time and effort for no personal gain—we suspect that there are certainly two sides to the question, and that one might even be much bigger than the other.

Another curious item that we ran into personally seems to fit into place with a whole carload of curious items that the "O" committee discovered in their investigation. A lot of things don't fit together quite right.

However, on the day that the story was officially released to the papers—other than the Emerald—we had a personal word with Harris. We asked if we might talk over the case of Tom Hughes and get the story on just what was up. We naively figured that the athletic department was a part of the University—that the Emerald was—that the whole affair was a campus incident and that it was of concern to the student body—whose fees, etc., help pay the salaries of Hughes, yes, and even of Leo Harris.

We hereby take the liberty of an indirect, but undeniable quotation—from Harris—in answer to our question:

"Tom hasn't resigned as yet, so there is nothing to talk over; but if you still want to, you can see me later.

True—Tom had, not resigned—but Harris had already known and at least made plans to release the story that his contract would not be renewed. It is curious to us—because we were raised differently it seems—that a man would state a definite untruth—when he not only knew about, but was the creator of what proved to be—the ugly truth.

Mr. Harris is cordially invited to answer anything herein printed, in letter form, and we will be pleased—even anxious to print it.

## Econ Students Given Awards

Two economics students, affiliated with the University of Oregon, have won recognition through scholastic awards, P. W. Ellis, professor of economics, announced Thursday.

One of the students, Mrs. Jane Cordiner, received the Emanuel S. Heller Memorial Scholarship award in economics at the University of California. The scholarship period is for the academic years 1950-51.

Mrs. Cordiner, who was graduated here last year in business, is presently doing graduate student work in economics.

Chi-ming Hou, graduate assistant here in economics last year, was awarded the Kajanjan Economic Foundation scholarship at Columbia University for the next scholastic year.

Hou is now teaching the Chinese language at Columbia on a temporary appointment.

## Schneiter Appointed Assistant Chairman

Fred Schneiter, sophomore in liberal arts, has been appointed assistant ASUO talent chairman, it was announced Thursday by talent chairman Fred Young.

Last winter term when the ASUO talent chairman position was created by the ASUO executive council, Keith Harry, sophomore in liberal arts, was elected assistant ASUO talent chairman. At that time, Schneiter was appointed member-at-large by Young.

Since Harry has left the University, Schneiter was selected for the assistantship.

Jim Wilson, sophomore in business administration, has been appointed member-at-large by Young.

## OREGON DAILY EMERALD

### TODAY'S STAFF

Today's staff: Asst Managing Editors: Merle Gros, Hal Coleman. Desk Editors: Jackie Pritzen, Larry Meiser. Copy Desk: Sarah Turnbull, Dolores Dyer.

### NIGHT STAFF

Night editor: Margaret Phelps. Night staff: Mary Hall, Clifton Dickerson, Don Dewey.

### Pacific U. Nine

(Continued from page four)

lay rightful claim to the position. Nick Schmer filled in adequately when Kimball was injured at the start of the season, but couldn't match Kimball's bat.

Catcher Jack Smith and second baseman Daryle Nelson have gone along steadily at their respective posts. Smith has proven himself as one of the league's top defensive catchers, while Nelson is Oregon's find of the year.

Tomorrow will also be a day for some mound experimenting. The forthcoming trip to Seattle, Pullman, and Moscow will draw heavily on the Duck's hurling staff. The game against Pacific will give Kirsch a chance to clean his bench, and give some work to pitchers who may be in need of some arm loosening.

### 'O' Club Readies

(Continued from page four)

The committee's most recent moves were to inform various members of the Oregon press of their findings, and invite the Portland alumni group to convene on the matter.

## R. D. Horn Plans England Study Trip

R. D. Horn, professor of English, will leave July 21 to spend the summer in England studying and doing research.

Dr. Horn was invited to study in English libraries by former British Prime Minister Winston Churchill when he heard of the Oregon professor's collection of panegyrics of Marlborough.

The professor's major field is concerned with Addison's panegyrics. He will conduct research at the British Museum in London, the Bodleian library at Oxford, and the Blenheim Palace library.

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