

Duck Tracks

By Phil Johnson
Emerald Sports Editor

This is the story of an obscure orphan lad who rose to great heights of national fame and public acclaim, only to be discredited and cast aside like an old shoe when an absent-minded quarterback forgot to hand an inflated hunk of hoghide to a charging teammate.

It seems strange that a piece of pig exterior could cause such difficulties, and yet the entire life of Newell Cravath has been punctuated by a weird assortment of strange and unusual events.

It was Newell Cravath who won the first of the famous USC-Notre Dame battles for the Irish — by blocking a Notre Dame kick!

It was Newell Cravath who later coached USC to a great upset tie with Notre Dame, shattering a long Irish winning streak.

It was Newell Cravath who was probably the only coach who ever sang himself into unemployment.

And it is Newell Cravath who can demonstrate the fruits of the work of a lifetime—from Santa Ana to Santa Anita.

As a young orphan in Santa Ana, California, he was nicknamed "Jeff," after Jim Jeffries, the famous heavyweight, because he had developed the interesting habit of applying pugnastic measures to "vexatious" individuals of similar age.

Cravath later enrolled at the University of Southern California, where he played center under the famous Coaches Gloomy Gus Henderson and Howard Jones.

While he was playing for the 1926 Trojan aggregation, he accomplished the afore-mentioned feat of winning the first Irish-Trojan clash for the Irish by blocking an Irish kick.

With the score deadlocked 12-12, Cravath blocked Notre Dame's final conversion attempt and deflected the ball enough to send it through the crossbars for the winning point.

By a strange coincidence, the Trojans suffered their only other setback of the 1926 season when USC's Red Badgro bounced a Stanford conversion boot through the crossbars for the winning point. The score was identical, 13-12.

Fate did not shower blessings upon the men of Troy that year. If Cravath and Badgro had had less ability and had not broken through to block those enemy kicks, USC probably would have enjoyed an undefeated season, a Pacific Coast Conference title, a Rose Bowl berth, and a possible national championship.

After graduating from the Trojan institution, Cravath entered the ranks of the coaching profession. He was not always successful on the gridiron, but he inevitably captivated the interest of all who met him.

He has been described as "an affable, portly citizen . . . with a battered face pleasantly suggestive of a tired cupcake." Descriptive prose writers, and as the Saturday Evening Post correspondent who fashioned this descriptive gem, sometimes go berserk.

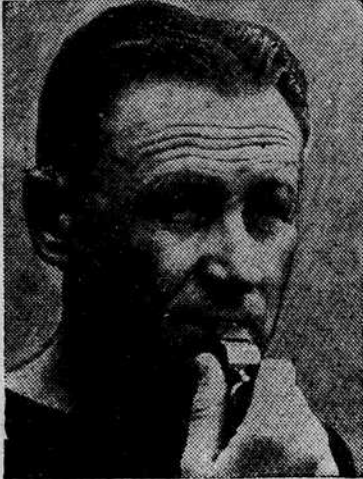
Cravath's first team, a strong Denver University eleven, lost only one game, a hilarious 3-2 decision to Colorado College in the football freak game of the year.

Colorado's Earl "Dutch" Clark, who later reigned for many years as the top professional quarterback in the nation, scored all five points by kicking a field goal and being tackled for a safety.

After Cravath's third season, which featured four wins and six setbacks, the Denver U. alumni added one name to the unemployment lists.

Newell claims that the chief reason for his dismissal was popular dislike for the "melancholy baritones" unleashed by himself and visiting Howard Jones during the community sing at the Denver U. graduation ceremonies.

He became the head coach at San Francisco U. in 1941, converted a water boy into a brilliant backfield sensation, and manufactured the highest scoring eleven



JEFF CRAVATH
". . . a tired cupcake"

on the Pacific Coast.

Moving to USC for the following season, Newell produced three Pacific Coast Conference championship squads in four seasons.

He had his moments of triumph—there was that tremendous 29-0 upset win over Washington in the 1944 Rose Bowl battle. And there was the 25-0 Rose Bowl victory over Tennessee in the 1945 Pasadena engagement.

There were other moments of Saturday ecstasy—the one-sided 39-14 rout of the 1947 California Bears for Cal Coach Pappy Waldorf's only conference loss in four years—and the 1949 USC-Stanford clash which was featured by another Cravath oddity.

Stanford was highly favored to win that celebrated gridiron collision, and Coach Cravath's troubles were increased when he discovered that his best three quarterbacks, key men in the Trojan T, were sidelined with injuries and would miss the contest.

This was discouraging. However, Cravath shifted a reserve fullback, Dean Schneider, to the signal-calling position. On the afternoon of the big game Schneider dazed the UCLans with one of the most brilliant Trojan aerial attacks of the season. USC won 21-7.

Unfortunately for Cravath, these happy moments were interspersed by undesirable manifestations of future semi-tragedies. The 1946 Rose Bowl game featured Alabama's 34-14 win over Cravath's gridgers. Alabama might have set an all-time Pasadena scoring record had not an Alabama end initiated the policy of avoiding Harry Gilmer's touchodwn aerials like hot potatoes.

Michigan's 49-0 Rose Bowl victory over the Trojans in 1948 also was unwelcomed by Cravath, but last season's loss to California probably surpassed the Michigan slaughter in undesirability.

A Trojan back smashed into the end zone for what appeared to be the winning touchdown. However, when he fondly gazed downward to look at the pigskin, he was amazed to discover that it wasn't in his arms.

Quarterback Ed Demirjian had forgotten to hand the elusive spheroid to him. While this incident cannot be chosen as the single cause of Cravath's subsequent ejection, it does seem likely that he could have survived if his record included upset triumphs over both California and Notre Dame in the same season.

While he is enjoying his new job, watching Santa Anita horses run around in circles, Cravath can sit back and recall some of the odd incidents of his football career.

He might think about Coy McGee, who wanted to play football for USC. Cravath refused to consider him—he was too

Skiing Picture, Slats Talk Set

A personally narrated, color movie on skiing, entitled "Deep and Light," will be shown at 8 p.m. Thursday in the Roosevelt Junior High School auditorium.

Narrator of the movie will be Warren Miller, author of "Are My Skis on Straight," and "Nice Try, George." Miller was a former instructor under Emile Allais, famous French skier now operating a ski school at Squaw Valley, California.

The one and a half hour movie will feature the French technique of skiing, the blind skier, chin deep powder, famous jumps, and comedy.

Following the movie, Miller will give an illustrated lecture on the French technique.

Sponsor of the movie is the Tri-Pass Ski Club.

YWCA to Start Bridge Classes

Weekly bridge classes for upper-class women will begin at 4 p.m. Thursday, in the Men's Lounge, Gerlinger, Karla Van Loan, YWCA upperclass commission chairman, announced Tuesday.

The classes, sponsored by the YWCA upperclass commission, will be limited to 40 women. They will continue through Feb 8; unless needed for a longer period of time, Miss Van Loan said.

Charge for the group of classes will be 25 cents, which will be submitted at the first session Thursday. Coffee will be served at each bridge session.

Class instructors will teach the Culbertson method. Set hands will be used. All women may attend the first class session, Miss Van Loan explained.

small. A few seasons later, Notre Dame defeated USC 26-6 on the flashy open-field running of an unheralded sub—Coy McGee.

Cravath might recall one of the Troy-Husky clashes in Seattle. While the Trojans were running through "secret" drills in the Husky arena, "about nine hundred young men with brooms came in and started sweeping out the stadium." Exit Troy secrets.

The final chapter of the Cravath football saga occurred last December. It was his last game as a head coach. On that eventful Saturday afternoon, the man who had won the first Notre Dame-USC game for his opponents, finally gained a victory over his greatest opponents, the Fighting Irish. This was a fitting climax to his grid career.

Powder Company Seeks Graduates

George F. Cooper of the Hercules Powder Co. will be on campus Tuesday, Jan. 30 to interview graduates in chemistry with B.S., M.A., and Ph.D degrees for jobs. Those interested may make appointments to see him by calling the graduate placement office.

The placement office also urged March and June graduates to file statements with the office as soon as possible.

LET'S GO
TO
CABLES
(DRIVE IN)

WARREN MILLER

Author of—

"Are My Skis On Straight, Nice Try George"

PRESENTS

SKIING

"DEEP AND LIGHT"

"A 1½ hour personally narrated color motion picture. Featuring, the French technique the blind skier, chin deep powder, thrilling jumps, comedy . . ."

"THE FRENCH TECHNIQUE"

"Illustrated lecture by Warren Miller, former instructor under EMILE ALLAIS in his first ski school in America."



Admission \$1.00 plus tax

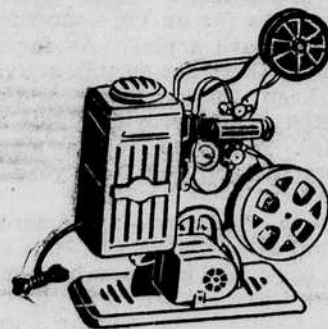
student Tri-pass Members

Special Admission

NEW ROOSEVELT JR.

HIGH SCHOOL

THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 8 p.m.



Movie Projector Rentals

16 mm. sound projectors
with screen5.00

8 mm. Projector with screen.....\$2.00

35 mm. SLIDE Projector with screen.....\$1.00

16 mm. Feature Length Film
1st in calendar month.....\$6.00

Others\$4.00

16 mm. Shorts, Cartoons, Sports.....\$1.25



698 Willamette

Phone 4-8241