

Duck Tracks

By **Phil Johnson**
Assistant Sports Editor

If ever a psychologist needs an example to demonstrate that it is difficult to break a habit, he might utilize the brilliant University of Oregon Frosh basketball record.

The Ducklings, having developed the habit of winning an overwhelming majority of their hoop contests, have been crushing their opponents for 16 years.

Great names have flashed across the Duckling scene during those 16 years. The powerful teams of the mid-depression era were followed by others of similar caliber... the 1936 squad with Bobby Anet, Laddie Gale, and Wally Johansen... the 1938 quintet which won 16 and lost 1... the 1940 edition with its identical 16-1 record... the list goes on and on.

The Oregon Yearlings have won 228 and lost 46 since the beginning of the 1931 season. That 1934 squad won 13 of 16 tilts, dropping three to Oregon State Rooks.

They won their other encounter with the Rooks when Wellington of OSC sank a beautiful lay-in at the wrong hoop for a 32-30 Duckling triumph. Incidentally, Sid Milligan, present Oregon golf coach, was a substitute on that powerful 1934 aggregation.

The 1935 Ducklings, loaded with an impressive array of outstanding prep stars, captured 12 wins in 15 games. Talent was so abundant that one player, Bar Purcell, found that he couldn't make the team, so he transferred to Linfield—and immediately became a starter on the varsity squad.

Johansen, Gale, and teammates led the 1936 Yearlings to a brilliant 19-1 season, the best in Oregon Frosh history. Johansen and Gale later led the "Tall Firs" to the national basketball title in 1939.

The story of that "Tall Firs" quintet is now on display in the Library's display case in the corridor leading to the Douglass Room on the third floor of the older portion of the Library.

This display includes a team picture of the "Tall Firs" and a story, "How They Did It," by V. Gates. His explanation, incidentally, stresses the fact that several of the "Tall Firs" had started their hoop careers in Astoria's YMCA program and had been playing together since then.

The story also mentions the fact that the "Tall Firs" failed to lose a single Northern Division series in three years and lost only one N. D. home game—to WSC in 1939.

Other items in this outstanding collection in an outstanding library include the records of other top Oregon hoop squads, dating back to 1910, and various programs of historical interest, including the program for that famous double-overtime 74-72 skirmish in 1949, featuring a Beaver win over Oregon in an amazing finish.

Returning to the subject of the Oregon Frosh, Coach John Warren's 1936 powerhouse was followed by the less-successful 1937 quintet, which won eight while losing four.

However, the 1938 Ducklings completed their season with a tolerable 16-1 record which increased Coach Warren's three-year total to 43 triumphs and 6 defeats.

Warren's saddest Yearling season followed. Plagued by declarations of ineligibility, the Ducklings finished on top in only half of their twelve 1939 battles.

As usual, Coach Warren lost all of his lettermen when the season closed, but he bounced back in 1940 with another Frosh powerhouse and took 16 victories in 17 games.

The Ducklings won 15 and lost 3

during the following season. One of their more impressive triumphs was a smashing 63-16 massacre of the Marshfield Pirates. In those days, Marshfield had not yet gained its present fame as one of the top prep basketball citadels in Oregon.

Coach Warren's 1942 Frosh took 12 wins in 15 starts, and the 1943 Ducklings seized 11 victories while losing 3. Since freshmen were eligible for varsity competition in 1944 and 1945, there were no Yearling teams during those years.

Coach Warren's 1946 squad followed tradition by winning 15 out of 20. One of the members of that quintet was a former Roosevelt of Portland prep artist, Guard John Neeley, now a varsity reserve.

Since the 1947 Ducklings won a sensational 24 games in 26 starts, it might have been expected that numerous members of that team would be varsity standouts in 1948, 1949, and 1950. However, not a single member of that team ever played varsity basketball for the Ducks. One of them, Center Roger Mockford, was later an intramural all-star.

Strangely enough, although the promising 1947 squad failed to provide a single member of later varsity quintets, the unpromising 1948 Duckling crew included a number of 1950 and 1951 varsity standouts.

Will Urban, now out of action with an injured foot, led the Frosh scoring parade in 1947, closely followed by Don Peterson (a reserve varsity forward in '51) and Guard Jack Keller, another outstanding member of Coach Warren's present Northern Division favorites.

Still another 1951 standout, Mel Krause, was an intramural star for Campbell Club when Urban, Peterson, and company were playing Frosh basketball.

The 1948 Ducklings won 17 and lost 5. One of the losses was a 41-35 setback at the hands of the Intramural All-Stars. Another was a decisive 48-33 decision taken by the Salem Vikings.

The Salem quintet included All-Staters Cub Houck (who was a defensive first-string gridder for Oregon State in last fall's Duck-OSC clash) and Hugh Bellingier. One of the Salem reserves was Forward Keith Farnam, now an Oregon varsity hooper.

The 1949 Freshmen, led by Guard Ken Hunt, won 16 out of 20 games. Although all four losses were to the Rooks, an Emerald writer commented that the Rooks' Center Bob Edwards was "the biggest fiop on either outfit" and that he "might just as well plan on intramural ball unless he improves very rapidly." He did. Edwards now leads the Northern Division with a .417 field goal average.

The 1950 Frosh, led by Noe, Bonneman, Farnam, Barclay, and others, won 18 and lost 1, while the present Duckling aggregation has a 10-1 record, not including last night's clash.

When a check comes back "no account" maybe it means the person who wrote it.

The younger generation's great mistake is that it has learned things too readily from the older.

Exchange Student Speaks on India At International Student Luncheon

India is at once one of the richest and one of the poorest countries in the world, Nicky Haralu, exchange student from Assam, India, stated at the international student luncheon Tuesday in the Student Union.

Potentially rich in electric power and in mineral and agricultural wealth, India's people are poor because of the latent industrial development of the country. It was not until 1948 that India became an independent sovereign state, despite her 5,000-year-old civilization.

Melting Pot

India is a melting pot of religions, languages and races. One-fifth of the world's population is located within her borders. Of this mass of people, only 1/14 is literate. Miss Haralu said that this condition exists primarily because of the lack of educational development while under British rule and the poverty of the people.

A large percentage of the 600 native states now have provisions for some sort of compulsory education program. Many schools have been set up on the craft-centered plans formulated by Mahatma Gandhi.

The caste system, which has been partially broken down large-

ly through Gandhi's efforts, is "a Hindu social system in which caste and trade or work status go hand in hand," Miss Haralu said.

Caste System Weakens

Each trade or jobs have its own caste, and a member of a caste theoretically may not marry outside that caste. Now, however, such intermarriage between castes is being sanctioned. The caste system is practiced only by the Hindus, but this group makes up 2/3 of the population of India.

Christianity is the third major religion, following the Hindu and Moslem faiths. Miss Haralu stated that the growth of the Christian church is progressing satisfactorily. Some Protestant groups have joined together to form the North Union Church and the South Union Church in India, she added.

Business Honorary Plans Apple Sale

Phi Chi Theta, women's business honorary, is sponsoring a candy-apple sale this week.

Apples are being served in living organizations Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, with Joanne Kelley in charge of arrangements.

SU Board Meets With OSC Group

The University of Oregon Student Union board met with the Memorial Union activity board from Oregon State College Saturday afternoon in the SU.

After entertainment by the Delta Tau Delta trio and a tour of the building, members of the two boards discussed their respective organizations, policies, and union activities.

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