

# Duck Tracks

By John Barton  
Emerald Sports Editor

It's all over. Oregon has finished its best basketball season since 1945—and incidentally saw its best revenue from basketball since the 1945 season.

That's not official, of course, but the size of crowds in McArthur court this season and the short range of pre-season travel indicate it.

The games this past weekend showed Oregon at its worst Friday night and at its sparkling best Saturday night. The game Saturday with OSC was probably more representative of the strength of the two teams than any game in the league this season.

Typical comment after the Saturday win was, "How in the world did the Beavers ever beat the Webfoots Friday night? Even by just two points?"

From the standpoint of an observer, it looked like a combination of many things that beat Oregon Friday night. The coaching ability of OSC's Slats Gill had plenty to do with it.

Gill sent his Beavers out in the first half to play "keep away" ball control basketball. Oregon had a 24-15 lead at the intermission without half trying. The game was so slow they didn't have to try. In the first three minutes of that first half, a total of three shots were taken by both teams. That's slow basketball.

And then in the second half, the Aggies came out and ran. Either that or something else threw Oregon completely off. In the first 7 minutes and 25 seconds, Oregon hit 3 for 13.

Oregon passes went astray. The Beaver defense was probably at its best of the season. And the most important factor—Oregon State bettered its shooting percentage, while the Webfoot figure drooped sadly.

Saturday night, as you probably noticed, Gill tried the same trick, but he changed styles a little earlier.

The Aggies began the game with the same style of keep away and "I'm gonna hold the ball, you can't have it!" stuff. Oregon ruled the backboards powerfully, hit shots with a good eye (.428 in that first half) and allowed OSC just about one shot each time the Orange got the ball, if that many.

With 9 minutes gone in the first half, and the score standing 17-6 in Oregon's favor, the Beavers took time out and Gill gave them the word. The word must have been "run."

Because they came out and went into the same routine they began in the second half of the Friday game. But it didn't do much good this time.

The somewhat faster type of play (more noticeable in the second half, by far) resulted only in OSC losing the ball more often. And each time the Aggies dropped the ball, the Ducks shot into their high-geared fast break. So the change of pace didn't help Oregon State Saturday night.

As for the Friday night Peterson incident, nothing need be said here—enough has been written and said already. We have just one additional comment:

Any person or organization who would capitalize on the incident, merely to damage the name of the individual or the school involved, is malicious and cruel.

Basketball fans are a strange lot—but so are fans in any spectator sport. Officials of the Saturday game in Mac court, Hal Lee and Al Lightner, took their usual share of hard knocks during the game, or maybe more because of the high amount of partisan feeling in the crowd that night.

One spectator developed during the game a particular dislike for one of the officials. Every move by this striped-shirt against the Webfoots was a dastardly deed without parallel in history—according to the cries uttered by this fan.

He summed up his feelings pretty well by remarking in a bewildered way to a friend next to him:

"How can he live? How does he stay alive? How does he live with no brain? It just ain't possible for a man to go on through life with no brain!"

In the last few minutes of the season's final game, the Oregon team presented an interesting lineup. Four guards and one forward were on the floor. Oregon Coach John Warren finished the victory with all his graduating seniors, of course.

They were Will Urban, Mel Krause, Jack Keller, Hal Webb and John Neeley. These are five who have done a lot for Oregon basketball.

## USC Hit

(Continued from page four)  
basketball betting ring in New York.

District Attorney's Investigator Adolph Alexander did say, though, that betting markers were found in Scroggins' hotel room along with narcotics equipment.

The markers, Alexander said, indicate that Scroggins had dealings with the Sica gang and other West Coast gamblers. Scroggins denied any attempt to fix the game. Police quoted him as saying:

"You guys know I gotta dummy upon I'll get my head blown off. I've been arrested about 40 times but I've always beat the rap."

Flower told officers that Scroggins contacted him in a hotel lobby, ostensibly to buy game tickets. Flower said the man told him that Southern Cal was supposed to lose by 4½ points, but that he would pay \$1500 if the team lost by 12.

### Claims Other Fixes

Scroggins claimed that arrangements had already been made with other team members to throw the game, Flower related, adding that he was offered \$1,000 for himself and \$500 for any teammate he might ring in on the deal.

Alexander questioned the rest of the players and said he is satisfied that none had been approached.

Scroggins, who walks with a limp, was jailed under \$50,000 bond.

## Frosh Trip

(Continued from page four)  
Yearlings 54-49, 41-38, 49-36, and 42-33 in 1949; 40-24 in 1950; and 48-43 this season.

Although Coach Paul Valenti's Baby Beavers ruined three consecutive undefeated seasons for the Ducklings, the three Oregon wins over the Rooks last season and seven more this year did not materially aid the cause of the Corvallis cagers.

The price of coffee has cut down a lot of drinking on the old home grounds.

## Frosh Swimmers

(Continued from page four)  
cek (O) Dewitt (S) Time: 1:03.6  
Diving, Charlton (O) Walker (S)  
120-yd medley relay. Baldwin,  
Placek, English (O) Time: 1:21.0  
160-yd freestyle. Knott, Wakinekona, Kaiura, Charlton (O) Time: 1:24.9

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