

# DUCK TRACKS

By Tom King

The Arm" of Oregon's crack 1948 Cotton Bowl team—the fish quarterback who went on to become passer number one in professional football circles last year—figures on playing three seasons before retiring from the game for keeps.

The man in mind, Norm Van Brocklin, of course, is back on campus earning a master's degree which he intends to pick up by drifting down from a baseball game to the lower practice one of these afternoons and you'll see him also helping Jim pump some gridiron know-how into his squad of spring fellows.

an the man, as he was called in the glory days around here, to go into coaching or business eventually. But right now working toward that MA in physical education—his thesis "Football Injuries in Oregon High Schools in 1949."

performing for the Los Angeles Rams last year, Norm set the for passers in the National League. The league has a unique method for rating its passers—the total number of attempts are divided into yardage gained. Thus, the recognized leader is the who has gained the most passing yardage per attempt (not completion.)

## Tough Competition

No doubt about Van being in fast company—second to him Cleveland's masterful Otto Graham.

Winning about the Rams, Van says they're headed for another successful season. Last year only Lou Groza's final-second goal cost them the NFL championship—which went to Cleveland by a 30-28 score.

The Rams have more material than any team in pro football," claims. "The only weak spot is at guard, and we've drafted lb. Bud McFadin, Texas All-American, to help out there. Reinhard says he may quit, which would hurt because in and Dick Huffman we have two of pro football's best."

ing Tom Fears handles most of the pass receiving for the '51's.

"Fears would rather catch passes than eat ice cream," Van says. He's the greatest end in football."

he wouldn't get too many arguments on that. The "Fears" has something of a first-rate Hollywood twist. Coming to the Rams from UCLA with a reputation as a grade-A defensive man, Fears lined up with the offensive unit one afternoon has been there ever since. In college he played second fiddle to All-American Burr Baldwin, a receiving wizard who also received his role when he hooked on with the now defunct LA Rams; he developed into a solid defensive flankman.

## Opponents Fear Fears

Fears, in a nutshell, has led the pass receiving department during each of his three years in the big time.

Van had high praise for ex-Army great Glenn Davis. Scaling at 171 lbs., Davis won't run over anyone in pro football but keep 'em dizzy with his whirling-dervish-like dashes. Davis was bothered last year by an achilles tendon—evidently that which he served in the armed services tightened his muscles and they're yet to loosen up.

As for another former Webfoot, Woodley Lewis—Van doesn't think he'll perform much on offense this year. Used mainly in defense in 1950, Woodley responded by finishing second in interceptions as a rookie. But keeping him off the offensive position will be a deep disappointment to Northwest fans who remember with pleasant memory the long, all-the-way runs that electrified them during the 1949 season. However—Woodley's defensive talents were never hidden; he played a long string of college games before the first aerial was completed in the territory he policed.

During the state basketball tournament here, Dick Wilkins, another Cotton Bowl veteran, told Van that he intended going to pro ball after quitting his high school post at North Bend. The Rams have offered him a juicy contract—but reports now indicate that Wilkins may go into business instead. Time will provide the answer.

## Waterfield Returning

Despite persistent retirement rumors, Bob Waterfield will be back with the Rams next season, according to Van. The two of them shared quarterbacking assignments last year—with Van gradually gaining the edge in minutes played. He figures he picked up most of the tricks of the trade during his busy second year, the traditional time of the so-called "sophomore jinx." Fortunately the spell didn't affect Van.

Unlike Clark Shaughnessy, Ram Coach Joe Stydahar will not be pressured out of his job after guiding the club to a succession of victories. Van reports that the big, likable ex-Chicago Bear has turned in his papers for the '51 season.

In that respect, Stydahar's one-up on Van. The latter is jockeying with the Rams over contract terms right now—they offer him a raise but he wants, and expects to secure, a larger one.

# Materialization of KWAX Marks Successful Climax to Struggle

By Marge Elliott

After the last strains of the "Alma Mater" song died away, the announcer said, "These are the first words to be spoken over station KWAX, Eugene, Oregon, operated by students of the University of Oregon under supervision of the speech department."

KWAX materialized at exactly 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Apr. 4, 1951.

Immediately the FM station began its first program, an informal discussion of things to come over the air waves of KWAX in the future. Fifteen minutes later, "The Voice of the Ducks" had its first inserted station identification. To the listening audience the station identification was a thrill, not the usual pain in the neck. KWAX had come into being.

### Big Moment

Here were the voices of fellow students coming right from Villard on the campus. They were pioneering the way for a new station...their very own. A tense moment for them, it would seem. But every voice was calm and professional.

Let's see...Ext. 4-0-7.

"KWAX," a voice answered instantly.

"Well say, how are things up there?"

"Fine! But we're awfully busy right now."

"Any idea of your listening audience?"

"No, but we've had some calls that we could be heard all right. What?" the voice from Villard asked. "Oh yes, we're all relaxed up here."

"Thank you and congratulations, KWAX."

### Followed KDUK

Those telephone calls from students must have been a great reassurance to the new station. In June, 1949, Oregon's FM station was KDUK, operating on 10 watts. It was faintly heard in only two places on campus. Then it ran into technical difficulties with FCC regulations.

Undaunted, Kappa-Rho Omicron, radio honorary, started a campaign. Nearly \$1,500 of equipment was necessary for the station to begin operation. Students generously signed over their breakage fees to the new station.

Finally, the money was collected. The FCC regulations were met. Then it was up to the students to get in and pitch for KWAX. The result was a well-organized staff with members from many schools in the University. Thus, the "Voice of the Ducks" was heard at a frequency of 88.1 megacycles Wednesday night.

It wasn't easy, but they did it... and they did it well.

Again, congratulations KWAX!

## Losers Hit,

(Continued from page four)

selli powered a first-inning pitch over the right field bleachers and later connected with a ninth-inning toss and slammed it over the right field scoreboard. Both were foul balls.

### Smith Leads

Catcher Jack Smith led the Oregon assault with a home run, a double, and a single in four trips to the plate. Smith's terrific home run blast in the seventh inning, the longest Howe Field hit of the season, sailed over the center field edge of Howe Field and dropped into the intramural area below.

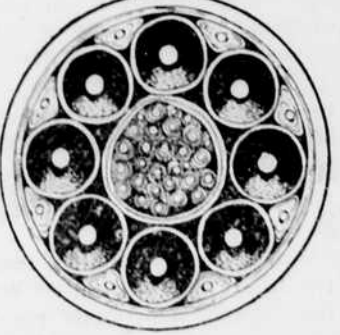
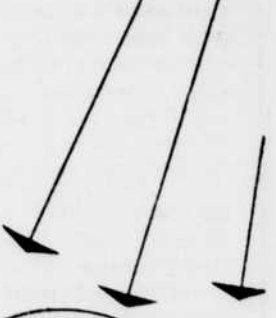
Jack Pyle assumed control of Webfoot pitching efforts in the fifth inning and gave up three hits during his four innings on the mound. Stan Aune pitched hitless ball during his ninth-inning performance.

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Oregon ..... 010 020 100—4 8 1  
White and Thomas; Hanns, Pyle, Aune, and Smith.

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