

# Duck Tracks

By Phil Johnson

Spring is the time when young school board's fancies turn to thoughts of selecting new football coaches.

Athletic character builders are shifting to and fro, back and forth, moving around like the prongs of a tuning fork. Jerry Lillie, who rose from the high school ranks to the college level, is now returning to the prep arena.

Lillie, who once served as Willamette's head coach and later became Oregon's end tutor, now holds an appointment at Milwaukee High, where he will serve as athletic director and head gridiron mentor.

If Lillie's career at Milwaukee is greeted with the success which was typical of his powerful prep elevens of the 1930's and early 1940's, Milwaukee will assume the proportion of a first-rate gridiron power.

Other coaches have completed the circuit—high school to college to high school—without faltering. Washington State's Phil Sarboe coached outstanding teams at three different high schools and then became head coach at the Pullman institution.

He was removed from that position before the 1950 campaign opened, so he returned to the high school ranks. Sarboe's prep eleven was a major contender in Washington circles, and he was chosen "Coach of the Year" by Seattle scribes. He may be back in the college ranks before many seasons pass.

## Lillie of the Columbia Valley

Lillie entered the coaching picture at St. Helens High, where he produced three league championships teams and one co-championship squad in five seasons.

He then moved to Eastern Oregon for a two-year regime at Bend High School. His second Lava Bear team was undefeated.

Lillie's next assignment was the direction of the Grant Generals. During his eight seasons at Grant, Lillie's teams never finished below third place in the strong Portland Inter-scholastic League. His 1943 squad enjoyed a 19-game winning streak and a state championship.

Most of the other members of the Oregon coaching staff also initiated their mentoring careers at the prep level, working their way "up through the ranks." All of them earned their positions at the University of Oregon.

## Oh, Those Aiken Backs

Jim Aiken, for example, produced such a succession of top-flight high school elevens that his elevation to institution-of-higher-learning athletic circles was almost inevitable.

Aiken's first pigskin production, the 1922 East Washington (Pennsylvania) High School team, was undefeated and untied. Aiken moved to Steubenville, Ohio, for the following season, Steubenville was undefeated and untied.

When the next football season rolled around, Aiken was instructing young athletes at Findlay (Ohio) High. He stayed at Findlay for two seasons, compiling a tolerable record which included 18 wins, 2 losses.

Next on the list was Scott High of Toledo, Ohio. Aiken apparently decided to settle down at Toledo, because he stayed there for six seasons. Although his great Scott elevens did not enjoy the success which greeted Genial Jim's earlier efforts (winning only 49 while losing 7 and tying 1) they managed to take Ohio's state championship four times during six Aiken seasons.

Aiken completed his tour of the Ohio high schools by signing a contract at McKinley High in Canton. Unfortunately, he ran into difficulties at McKinley, compiling the worst record of his prep-tutoring career.

However, his record at McKinley—35 wins, 7 losses, and 1 tie—convinced the powers-that-have-been at Akron University that Aiken was a major candidate for the head coaching position at Akron.

Oregon Track Coach Bill Bowerman also enjoyed brilliant success in high school athletics. Bowerman's powerful Medford Black Tornado squads won 64 games, lost 8, and tied 3. They won three state championships and completed three undefeated seasons during Bowerman's seven grid seasons at the Southern Oregon school.

## Status of Track Was Black

Bowerman's track-coaching record at Medford is even more outstanding than his football record. His Medford cindermen entered the Hayward Relays eight times and seized first-place honors seven times. They also won three state championships.

Don Kirsch, Duck baseball mentor, also produced outstanding high school teams. Kirsch led the Hillsboro Spartans to two district in two years. His baseball teams at Hillsboro provided similar performances.

And then there's the old expert, "Honest John" Warren. Coaching at Astoria High, Warren led the Fighting Fishermen to four state basketball titles and three state football titles in seven years. The record? Basketball, 306 wins, 36 losses. Football, 56 wins, 14 losses. Allowable.

## Just Made to Order

# Susan McLonergan to Appear In Person of Dancer Jane Bowen

By Jim Haycox

Jane Bowen has been dancing professionally since she was 11. So the "Finian's Rainbow" role of Susan McLonergan, a little mute girl who can only talk by dancing, is cut out for her.

Ironically, a broken foot that took Jane from a promising career with the San Francisco Ballet Company, brought her to Oregon. Surprisingly enough, she calls it a blessing in disguise.

She always wanted to go to college, but it didn't look as if the

chance would ever come. Ballet work took up all her time, even cutting out the social life that high school is supposed to offer. And while it was a wonderful career, one she may go back to, she knew that with it a lot would be missing from her life.

But the chance she hoped for came in a cruel way. After eight years of minor work, Jane was suddenly singled out to become a star. The lead in the ballet "Les Sylphides" dropped out and the role was offered to her. Maybe right then she thought that all the work and all she had missed had been for a purpose. Then a few weeks later, in a very routine and ordinary class, she fell and broke her right foot.

This summer Jane plans to go back to the American Ballet School in New York perhaps to take up where she left off...but she's not sure. It means going back to the hard grind, one in which few get to the top and the average professional life is ended at 35. And added to this, she still has two years of college to go.

She thinks education is essential to her profession. As she puts it, "A dancer, now more than ever, must understand her audience. Just recently have the ballets and the light operas begun to shift to popular themes and come into their own."

This nimble-footed lass stands just 5' 4", has brown hair, brown eyes, and a captivating smile. She firmly refuses to single out a special guy, remarking only in an elusive manner that "foreign students are nice."

## \$4 Million Bill For UO Hospital

A bill appropriating 4 million dollars for the construction of a teaching hospital at the University of Oregon Medical School at Portland was introduced in the State House of Representatives Monday. Two million dollars are already on hand for the construction, figured to cost 6 million dollars in all.

Legislative leaders had earlier indicated that they planned to leave the building program unconsidered. The bill, sponsored by 15 members of the House from districts throughout the state, follows protest by House members to that indication.

The proposed 350-bed teaching hospital has top priority in the state board of higher education's building program. One of the reasons for the new hospital is the federal mobilization demand for a 15 to 20 per cent increase in the number of new doctors in the training program.

## Sig Eps Convene Here Saturday

Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity members from Montana, Washington, and Oregon will congregate on the University campus Saturday when the Oregon Beta chapter plays host to a one-day joint district convention.

Representatives of Sig Ep chapters at the Montana State University, University of Washington, Washington State College, and Oregon State College will meet at the Oregon chapter house to discuss problems relating to the fraternity.

William W. Hindman Jr., Grand Secretary of the national fraternity, will be present at the session accompanied by Matt McBride, national field secretary.

U. G. Dubach, former dean of men at Oregon State College and now a member of the faculty at Lewis and Clark College in Portland, will be one of the principal speakers.

## Civil Service Man To Interview Today

Ralph Underwood, a representative of the Oregon State Civil Service Commission, will be at Emerald Hall today to interview students interested in opportunities with the Oregon state government.

He will furnish general information on the various state government departments. Students majoring in political science, economics, business administration, and social science should be especially interested, according to the graduate placement office, which arranged for the interviews.

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