

Duck Tracks

By Phil Johnson

The ball was handed to the quarterback. Vicious linemen exploded against the enemy forward wall and opened up a hole. A teammate smashed through the gap for a touchdown.

But he didn't stop at the goal-line. His momentum carried him an additional 30 feet—he stopped somewhere on the other side of the goalposts.

Santa Clara had scored against the greatest Nevada grid-iron machine ever seen. The tremendous drive of that Bronco Ball carrier and his teammates during that game provided an excellent example of the fierce aggressiveness characteristic of Coach Len Casanova's Santa Clara squads.

Casanova, Oregon's new football mentor, had fashioned careful plans for that memorable 1948 meeting with the Wolfpack—and who wouldn't? Nevada had a gigantic line and a powerfull backfield. Quarterback Stan Heath was one of the nation's top passers.

The Wolfpack team was so strong that almost all of its starters were individually scouted by professional football organizations during the 1948 campaign.

Nevada Powerful

The Reno eleven fielded the greatest ground-consuming offense in the country that season. Spearheaded by a deadly aerial attack, the Nevada gridders were expected to grind the poor Santa Clara Broncos into hamburger.

Casanova did not fully appreciate the value of such an occurrence. Aided by Backfield Coach Jack Roche, who accompanied "Cas" when the latter moved to Oregon last summer, he strengthened the Bronco defense while painstakingly perfecting careful offensive plans.

One of the main problems, of course, was Mr. Heath. However, "Cas," apparently operating under the theory that "the best defense is a non-existent enemy offense," decided that it would be undesirable to have Heath throwing passes throughout the game.

Since Nevada probably wouldn't cooperate in this matter, the present Duck head man devised "slow-count plays," which had the purpose of keeping the ball in Bronco hands as long as possible. As a result, Santa Clara enjoyed pigskin possession for 45 minutes of playing time, while Nevada held the ball for only 15.

The Broncos found a use for the inflated pig-exterior when it was in their hands. An excellent scouting report had located two weak spots in the Wolfpack line—their right tackle and their left guard. Bronco ball carriers galloped through those two vulnerable positions a total of 50 times during the game.

Only about eight separate plays were used by Casanova's gridders during the clash, but they moved down the field for two valuable touchdowns.

Helpless Wolfpack

When Nevada had the ball, which was not often, their vaunted aerial attack failed to click. That scouting report was worth its weight in uranium that eventful afternoon.

Santa Clara captured a 14-0 victory, and Nevada moved inside the Bronco 20 only once during the game. This was the same Wolfpack team which still holds the all-time major college single season record for most yards per game—they averaged 487 while crushing nine of ten regular season opponents—losing only to Santa Clara.

It was the same Nevada squad which averaged 47.2 points per game while setting three all-time passing records which still exist—most passing yards per game (255), most TD passes during a season (27), and most aeri-als completed per game (15.6).

Although scouts and coaches termed the Bronco upset "the most perfect coaching job" on the Pacific Coast during a period of several seasons, it was only one of many surprising performances by Casanova's Santa Clara teams.

COPs Caught Flatfooted

His 1947 squad dropped Stanford 13-7 and upset one of College of Pacific's great teams 21-20. That was the only loss during an 11-game schedule for Quarterback Eddie LeBaron and his COP teammates, who captured two bowl victories and scored 373 points to their opponents' 111. Santa Clara was forced to overcome a 20-0 halftime deficit to win.

The Santa Clara team which upset Nevada also shocked Oklahoma 20-17, dropped Stanford 27-14, and tied Michigan State 21-21. The Oklahoma loss was the Sooners' only setback in an 11-game campaign and was one of their only two losses in their past 31 games (the other was their Sugar Bowl loss to Kentucky last January).

The deadlock with Michigan State also was a shocker, since the Spartans averaged 35.9 points per game during the season and lost to Michigan's national champs only 13-7.

Webfoot Gridders Practice, Prepare For COP Machine

Jayvees Also Scrimmage On Rain-Soaked Fields

By Bill Gurney

The "Casanova Kids" clearly aren't resting on their laurels after their impressive win over Arizona. Tuesday night they hustled through a hard session on the rain-soaked practice field emphasizing passing and line blocking in preparation for the College of Pacific Tigers at Stockton Saturday. The junior varsity team, which faces the Portland Air Base club Saturday, October 6, at Eugene, also went through its paces against a unit consisting of most of the first team defensive lineup.

Head Coach Len Casanova and Line Coach Gene Harlow handled the instruction in forward wall play as the practice began, while Jack Roche and Johnny McKay coached the backs and ends in passing, pass defense and protection with a three-man defensive line and a four man defensive back-field.

Varsity Men Annexed

Later the unit handled by Roche and McKay annexed some varsity linemen and began offensive practice against a team of reserves.

Quarterbacks Hal Dunham and George Shaw were hitting well with aeri-als to such targets as Ends Monte Brethauer, Leroy Campbell, and frosh phenom Dick Davenport from Grant High.

Fullback Tom Novikoff looked fit as a Cossack as he ripped off several good gains, as did old reliables Don Sloan and Tommy Edwards. Sophomore Halfback Cecil Hodges also ran well.

On the other side of the field Coach Casanova assembled the athletes who will probably compose the Junior Varsity club. With sophomore Barney Holland at the quarterback slot, the JVs turned in a very creditable performance against the defensive veteran-studded lineup.

Van Leuvan Fast

Freshman Dean Van Leuvan, running out of a halfback slot, showed speed and shiftness on one occasion when he slanted off tackle, broke in the open with good blocking, and reversed his field to go through the entire defending clan.

Another yearling ex-fullback Jim Jones of Grant High, looked right at home in his new end slot as he snagged a short Holland pass over center and broke loose for another score.

The Duck machine will be minus at least three gridders, all backs, for Saturday's tilt with the tough COP Tigers. Offensive halfback and possible starter Tom Lyons is out for three weeks with back and leg injuries incurred against the aptly-named Arizona Wildcats, and sterling defensive back Ray Karnofski will nurse a dislocated elbow for the same length of time.

Speedy sophomore Halfback Ted Anderson is still out with an injured knee, but hopes to start conditioning it with running and calisthenics next week.

Shaw Will Be Ready

Capable Jerry Shaw, 225 pounds of stalwart tackle, has his injured knee back in shape and should be ready to go Saturday. Halfback Bog Ashworth who caught a TD pass against Stanford, re-injured his ankle Monday, but will prob-

ably make the California trip.

This Oregon team so far is quite a ground gainer. In two games the Ducks have gained 406 yards rushing and 301 yards passing, while rolling up 59 points.

Workhorse of the squad has been 210-pound Fullback Tom Novikoff, whose driving, shifty running style has accounted for 157 yards rushing and two touchdowns. The rambling Russian has also booted four extra points.

Tommy Edwards is next with 134 yards for a team-leading 7.1 yards per try and with one touchdown.

Deadly Optional

That deadly new optional run or pass play has split up the passing more than in the past, and regular Quarterback Dunham is trailed closely by Novikoff, who can execute the necessary fake to perfection.

Dunham has 9 complete in 27 attempts for a .333 mark and 106 yards, while Novikoff leads him in percentage with a sparkling 5 for 7 and is close behind in yards gained with 93.

Outstanding pass receiver in the initial two games has been six-foot, two-inch, 175-pound Dick Davenport, a freshman displaying remarkable speed and poise in his first collegiate action. Davenport has snagged seven aeri-als for two touchdowns and 181 yards.

Monte Brethauer, junior end and star last year, needs only two passes to top the all-time Oregon receiving record of 39 set by Darrell Robinson in 1947-8-9. Brethauer has caught five this season for 39 yards gain.

The Oregon team spent Monday and Tuesday evenings at chaktalks, viewing films of the Arizona game.

SU Committee Interview

Petitions for the two vacancies on the Student Union Board, a senior in journalism and a senior in Health and Physical Education, are due at 5 p.m. Friday in the petition box outside the program director's office in the Student Union.

Petitions may be picked up at the program director's office.

Students who petitioned for Student Union committees, but were not interviewed Monday or Tuesday, will have an opportunity to be interviewed tonight, beginning at 7 p.m. in the SU.

All petitioners are to meet in room 313 of the SU prior to their respective interviews.

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Gustin Named To SU Directorate

Pat Gustin, sophomore in business, was named to the position of Student Union Board directorate secretary at the SU directorate meeting Tuesday.

Miss Gustin was secretary of the SU cultural and Browsing Room committee last year. She is a member of Kwama, sophomore women's honorary, and has been active in work on campus committees.