

Early Days of Webfoot Grid Team Illustrates Birth of OSC Rivalry

By Phil Johnson

Although Oregon has never completed a football season without being scored upon, the first squad in Webfoot history came the closest to achieving such a distinction.

They played only one game, edging Albany college 44-2 on March 24, 1894, at Eugene. The perfect season was ruined when Albany kicked off after one of the numerous Duck touchdowns of the afternoon.

An Oregon player attempted to catch the ball, but he clumsily kicked it into the arms of an on-rushing Albanian who caught it and galloped 15 yards before being stopped. Although the Albany ground attack was soon stalemated, the visitors booted the pigskin across the goal and recovered for a safety and two points.

An early student chronicler wrote: "In this game the U.O. grid-iron saw its first and only 'flying wedge.' It didn't fly far."

Blank Seasons

Demonstrating their exceptional versatility, the Ducks followed their almost-unscored-upon season of the spring of 1894 with an unscoring season that fall.

After losing to Oregon Agricultural college 18-0 and Portland university 12-0, the Oregon gridders completed the season by holding Pacific university to a 0-0 deadlock.

The following extract from the U. of O. Monthly indicates that the teams in the latter game were hampered somewhat by mud.

"The game was played on a sticky field south of Eugene, and was a very muddy game, even for Oregon. P.U.'s team was light but full of vim and science and at the first onset simply walked over the home team. But across the field between them and the coveted goal ran a ditch full of water of considerable depth and width, and not

being good swimmers, they couldn't get across it."

Overseas

Possibly they didn't use subs to such an extent on the 19th century fields of combat. Consequently, they had to devise some novel means of carrying the leather, now covered with a coating of clay, across the watery barrier.

The chronicler continues: "They tried to punt across it once. The quarter hurled a huge lump of clay at the fullback, who caught it and let drive with his foot. It rained mud for a few minutes. When the shower was over they looked for the ball and after considerable search found it at the fullback's feet. This was discouraging, and after a few minutes the mud began to weigh down the P.U. men and the heavier U.O. men drove them back until when time was called for the first half the ball was on P.U.'s three yard line and Shattuck was very angry because P.U. played for time and prevented a touchdown."

The game must have been very interesting, for the student journalist continued: "It was quite amusing to see a half dozen players frantically scratching around among the various lumps of clay trying to find the one that contained the ball. Travis was about the only U.O. man who could gain and he could gain only by falling forward. His feet were stuck but he could fall about three yards. The second half began with goals changed and the U.O. team was no more successful in crossing the ditch than their opponents, so the game ended without a score."

Perfect Season

Coach Percy Benson guided the Ducks through a four-game undefeated, untied season in the following fall (1895), the big game being a 42-0 rout of OAC (now OSC), the largest score ever recorded by either team during the 54-game history of the series.

The Webfoots opened the 1896 season with a close 2-0 decision over OAC. The OACies actually scored what would have been the winning touchdown, but difficulties arose.

A U. of O. Monthly writer provides the details: "But as Whittier might have remarked, it was not so bad, for the aforesaid farmer failed to hang onto the ball so when they went to kick goal they found the ball tight in the arms of a Eugene man . . . and some people were disappointed and some were not." Would Whittier say that?

Mud-Curdling Thriller

When Oregon met the Aggies again during the same season, the field, according to Lawrence J. Boye's thesis, "The Development of Football in the University of Oregon," was more or less moist.

Boyle writes: "So much rain was there that the lines were washed out as fast as they could be laid; as a substitute small ditches were dug, and served admirably as 'five yard lines' and 'touch lines,' but failed to keep out the spectators.

So the crowd accompanied the players in their progress up and down the field, milling about in a most confusing manner imaginable as 'friends' of the opposing teams attempted to get in the foreground, with the result that they ended to move bodily toward the centre of the field, hampering the free playing of the teams, but making fine 'interference' for some bulky mud-besmattered figure dashing forward with the ball."

Boyle continues: "When the tide began to turn in favor of their visitors the Corvallis rooters, at no time very friendly to the U. of O. representatives, started in earnest to make things more than merely interesting. They rapidly pushed to the front along the sidelines forcing the Oregon backers behind them by superior numbers, and lost no time in supplying that needed interference for their team, to the discomfort and occasional rough handling of angry Oregon players. Howls of rage and disappointment, yells of derision, shouts of joy, and frantic screams of unknown source and cause, of different pitch, quality (sic), and tone intermingled, urged the players on as they struggled desperately for the slightest advantage." Oregon won 8-4.

With the Hayseeds

Those clashes with the Aggies were typified by a certain degree of intense rivalry. The 1898 Webfoot eleven, scheduled to meet OAC at Corvallis, decided not to play, since they recalled the Ag over-enthusiasm for victory during the 1896 meeting at Corvallis.

Consequently, the Oregon team disbanded and considered the season as closed. However, the Aggies protested loudly, so the Oregon team obliged by reforming, journeying to Corvallis, and annihilating the home squad 38-0. "The riots that occurred after the game were not conducive of continued beneficial relations between the schools and there were heated arguments in favor of breaking them off."

The 1899 Oregon triumph over OAC, by an identical 38-0 count, was the last battle between the two institutions during the 19th century. The series never again featured such a one-side score.

Financial Disaster Averted by Villard Donation in 1881

One school for sale cheap! That's right, in 1881 the University of Oregon was threatened to be wiped off the map because of construction debts.

However, Henry Villard, financial leader and railroad builder, stepped forward with assistance. He not only assumed these debts, but also provided additional funds for library books, and scholarships and physical equipment. A later endowment of \$50,000 was among Henry Villard's generous contributions.

Villard hall was erected in his honor, and was to overlook the mill race and the river. The laying of the corner stone took place in September 1885 and the building was completed one year later.

The new structure, housing the English and Latin departments, was a two-story building providing four large class rooms on the ground floor and an assembly hall above.

Almost a half a century after Villard hall was built it was remodeled and the University theater was added. The theater was formally dedicated to the University of Oregon in an official ceremony Feb. 11, 1950.

A new third floor offered the benefits of radio studios, while the theater allowed for opportunities in the development of new techniques in production and staging. This annex was the solution to all the problems of the drama students.

This is not the history of Villard hall, rather, it is the history made by Villard hall.

New Science Building Rises To Replace Vine-covered Deady

By Irene Bullard

At the beginning of the spring term of this, the 75th year of the University of Oregon, another new building, the science building, will be ready to use for classes.

This modern building will be a pleasant change for those students who have grown used to trudging up and down the many flights of stairs and around through the many nooks and crannies of the oldest building on the campus, Deady hall.

The new science building will have many conveniences lacking in Deady, such as modern lighting, modern labs for all of the various science departments, storage rooms, and a large animal room on the third floor. It will even be smellproof because of the new double-wall de-ventilating system which takes bad smells outside as soon as they are produced.

But Deady hall will still retain a spot in the hearts of those who have heard their grandparents, or perhaps their great-grand-parents tell how the funds to build it were

raised by the farmers through donations of wheat, corn, hogs and other produce, and how, for awhile, it not only housed all the college classes, but some high school and grade school classes as well.

Junior Weekend at Deady

Old alumni will probably also remember when the juniors used to try to tear down the sophomores' flag from Deady's tower each year during a period known as Junior weekend. He may even remember the year when workmen digging in the basement found the fossilized skeleton of a man.

What is going to happen to old, vine-covered Deady now that the new building is taking over for the science department? Plans are underway to renovate it, if the funds can be raised. But whether or not this is done, it will be turned over to the mathematics department.

The new building? Perhaps in another 75 years another Emerald writer will be trying to tell something of the history of "that old building just off the corner of 13th and Onyx street."

Ph.D's in Chemistry, Biology Offered Chance for Fellowship

Students of chemistry and biology who have a Ph.D. degree and unusual talent for research may apply for the Merck postdoctoral fellowships between now and Jan. 1, the National Research council has announced.

The fellowships are worth from \$3,000 to \$5,000 for one year of study, and they will be awarded by the Merck Fellowship board as soon after Mar. 1, as possible, the council said.

All fields of chemistry and biology, including the pre-clinical medical sciences, are open to applicants. The purpose of the fellowships is to give those students who wish to supplement mastery of one field by competence in another a chance to do so.

It is hoped that this will result in new knowledge of the identity and character of cellular processes and the action of chemical substances upon them, the council stated.

Any student who wishes to apply for a fellowship may write to the Merck fellowship office, National Research council, 2101 Constitution ave., Washington 25, D.C.

Final Listings Released

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gon mark of 10.

Novikoff Leads Scoring

Leaders in individual departments were as follows: Rushing, Tom Novikoff, fullback, with 311 net yards gained. Novikoff led scoring as well with 22 points, followed by Ted Anderson, halfback, with 18.

Duham, as mentioned, led passing while setting new Duck records, and he also gained 918 yards via the air route. Versatile George Shaw was next with 34 completions for 82 attempts, and 412 yards gained.

Brethauer's 27 receptions for 292 yards led the Ducks followed by diminutive Tommy Edwards, halfback who snared 18 tosses for 219 yards.

Shaw's Returns Tops

George Shaw also led punt returns with 74 yards on 10 tries, and of course topped pass interceptions.

Brethauer paced the punting efforts with an average of 36.2 yards in 32 kicks.

Ted Anderson racked up a first place in kickoff returns with 231 yards gained on 14 tries.

SU To Hold Party

A social hour will be held between 6:30 and 7:30 p.m. today in the Student Union for all students who are interested in SU work, the directorate and board membership.

Last Emerald Friday

The last regular issue of the Emerald will be published Friday. A special issue will be distributed Dec. 10. Regular publication will resume winter term on Jan. 4.

Recent SU Confab Drew 50 Delegates

About 50 delegates from nine schools attended the recent Student Union regional conference, according to Donna Buse and Dick Williams, who organized the conference.

Williams stated that the delegates considered service at the SU soda bar to be very satisfactory, despite local student complaints on that subject.

The temporary rope railing system, installed to improve the soda bar service, has been in operation since Tuesday and will remain in place until the system is proved to be either satisfactory or unsatisfactory, Williams announced, adding that if the railings are successful, permanent fixtures will be installed.

PCC Marks

(Continued from page four)

There were several individual records set during the season:

Bob Burkhart, WSC sophomore, passed to 15 touchdowns to top the PCC mark of 14, set by Don Heinrich of Washington in 1950.

WSC end Ed Barker caught 46 passes for 864 yards and thus broke Bill McColl's record set in 1950 of 39 for 671 yards.

John Williams of Southern California returned kickoffs for 386 yards. The old mark was 348 set by Ted Narleski of UCLA in 1950.

Cougar end Barker also wrote his name in national record books, as his 864 yards on receptions bested the former mark of 820, set by Stanton of Arizona in 1941.

In the individual columns, other Oregon men placing well were as follows:

Hal Dunham, quarterback, was second in passing with 82 completions for 918 yards. Monte Brethauer, junior end, caught 27 passes for 292 yards and fifth place in that department. He was also sixth in punting with a 36.4 average.

Aside for George Shaw's aforementioned interceptions record, Duck halfback Ted Anderson was the only other to place well, his 231 yards on kickoff returns giving him fourth place.

California was the leader in rushing and total offense; leading the rushing column for the second straight year. USC copped defensive team honors, while UCLA had the top average on punt returns.

Famous Movie Billed

"Birth of a Nation," a movie, will be sponsored in the Student Union Jan. 6. The film was shown during the summer, and attendance was so high that the SU movie committee has arranged for another free showing.

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