

Duck Tracks

By John Whitty

Every time Basketball Coach Bill Borchner sends his cagers onto the floor at Oregon's McArthur Court, he is also fielding another quintet at the same time. The members of this team never practice, yet they take part in each home game played by the Ducks.

The five young men whom we are discussing are the keepers of the charts used by Borchner to assist him in pinpointing the weaknesses of his fast-breaking cagers. Besides aiding Borchner in his coaching duties, the facts gathered on these charts provide a source of material for the permanent records of the team, kept by Borchner himself, apart from those issued by the Athletic News Bureau.

The first of these forms is the shot chart, a mimeographed reproduction of the basketball floor. The statistician marks the number of each player taking a shot on a place on the chart corresponding to the position of the player on the floor, at the time he put the ball up. If the attempt is good, the number is circled. At the end of each half, the shots attempted and made are tabulated and the shooting percentage for each team is determined.

Noe Not Unnoticed

Two more statisticians are occupied in keeping rebound charts, one of which is kept for each team. The facts found on these forms are of particular interest at this time in view of the leading position now held by Big Bob Peterson in national rebounding. Borchner's records credit Pete with 293 rebounds in 14 games for a terrific average of 20.9 per game. It is interesting to notice that Chester Noe has accumulated 210 snatches off the board for a per-game average of 15.0.

The system used by Borchner in tabulating rebounds permits a rebound to be counted even if it is not gathered in until it has bounced on the floor. A rebound is a ball which bounds off the backboard or the hoop. A player gets credit for sweeping the boards each time he gains possession of the ball off the backboard or tips to a teammate who gains possession of the ball. Each statistician keeps the rebound for one team, both those off the offensive and the defensive backboards.

Another important, but little-known chart is that which records ball control. The function of the ball control chart is to keep track of the number of times each player loses the ball to the opposing team and gains the ball from the opposing players. A loss is recorded each time a player goes out of bounds, throws the ball away, is tied up by another player and forced into a jump ball, or causes his team to lose possession of the spheroid in any other way.

A player receives credit for a gain when he steals the ball, ties-up an opposing player and forces him into a jump, or takes the ball away from the other team in any other manner. The man who keeps the ball control chart, records violations—that is, losses of the ball due to an infraction of the rules other than a personal foul. The ball control record is not easy to keep.

Pass Assists

The last, but not the least important chart, is the record of assists. An assist is a pass to another player who scores immediately after the pass. The basket must come at least partly, if not entirely, as a result of the action of the player who receives credit for the assist. Since considerable discretion is exercised by the statistician in deciding whether a pass is an assist or not, he should have a fairly comprehensive knowledge of the game.

In games played through the Washington State series, Ken Hunt had compiled more assists than any other man on the team, with 38. He was followed by Peterson, with 21, and Streeter and Wegner, each of whom have recorded 20 assists.

The shot percentages computed from Borchner's shot chart show that Ken Wegner has the most accurate shooting eye on the team during game time, as he has dropped in 40 of 104 attempts for a commendable .385 average. He is followed by Peterson, who is either first or second in almost every department of the records, with a .353 average.

A Foul Leader

Big Pete also has the dubious honor of being the "meanest" man on the squad, as he has committed 53 personal fouls since the start of the season. Mel Streeter is doing his best to take over the lead in this department, as he has accounted for 50 persons in his first 14 games.

Another very important branch of basketball statistics is that which records the success of free throw attempts. For players who have more than ten gift shot tries, Capt. Ken Hunt leads the team with a hot .654 percentage compiled on 34 made out of 52 attempted.

Frosh Might Earn Four Hoop Letters

By Martin Meadows

An opportunity to become one of that rare species, a four-year letterman, belongs to Ron Bottler, freshman performer on Coach Bill Borchner's Webfoot basketball aggregation.

Ron, a 6'1" PE major from Portland's Roosevelt High, has operated at both forward and guard positions so far this season, though he has no preference as long as he is able to participate in the games.

With Oregon's brilliant guard combination of Jack Keller and Mel Krause having graduated last year, Bottler helps to provide capable reserve strength for Borchner. Ron has not had much chance to do much scoring yet, but is a rough man on the backboards.

Checks Swede

The authority for this is none other than Wade "Swede" Halbrook of Lincoln High in Portland, who last week regained his state single game scoring record by racking up 66 points against Mollala. Bottler was assigned the task of guarding the seven-footer when their teams played each other last year, and "limited" the beanpole to less than 50 points in two games.

While in high school Ron played two years of varsity basketball and was one of the mainstays on Roosevelt's 1950 Portland championship team, which also placed third in the state tournament. On that team, incidentally, was Ken Wegner, present first-string guard on the Duck team. Last year Ron's total of 210 points in league play led Roosevelt to a surprising third-place position and enabled him to land on the All-City squad.

Ron is equally as skillful in baseball, and played four years on the Roosevelt varsity as catcher. As a sophomore he helped his team win the city and state titles, being chosen to the All-State squad in the process, as was his brother Bill, now a sophomore at Oregon. Roosevelt again captured the state title in 1950, but an eye injury kept Ron out of the state playoffs.

Last summer Bottler performed for Norgan's Beavers, a semi-pro outfit, and compiled a .303 average as Norgan's won the ABC tournament and the right to play in the nationals in South Dakota, where they were eliminated with a 1-2 record.

Credits Dad

Credit for his interest and ability in athletics belongs entirely to his father, who, like Bob Feller's father, started his sons early in the sports department.

"We have as good a chance as anyone in the Northern Division race," Ron believes, but the Webfoots have lost seven straight games to Washington and will need at least a split in this weekend's crucial series to break the jinx and remain in contention. Reserve strength may spell the difference, and if that is the case it will be quite a chance for the freshman to prove himself under fire.

Duck JVs Play OSC

(Continued from page four)

ing line-up Saturday and they include guard Ron Phillips, leading point maker with 51; Doug Rogers at center; and Don Siegmund at forward. Running mate for Phillips will be Howard Page, a freshman and second highest scorer with 50 counters.

Hugh Marxer, also a freshman, will start at the other forward post. Expected to see action will be Wayne Johnson, Bill Choat, and Alex Byler, centers; Rex Davis and Bill Blodgett, forwards; Bob Hinman and Paul Byhre, guards.

The O.S.C. tentative lineup will probably include guards Ron Fudingsland, a standout star on last years Rook squad, and George Allison, Bud Shirtcliff, centers, and Carlos Houck and Johnny Jarboe, forwards.

Pre-game dope favors the Rooks, partly because of a lack of practice for the Ducklings and also because the Rooks have some excellent backboard men.

Los Angeles City College Retires Novikoff Jersey

One of the greatest honors that can be accorded an athlete was bestowed upon Los Angeles City College's top sports star of all time Tuesday night at an athletic awards banquet in the California city.

The man?—Tom Novikoff; The honor?—His old football jersey, number 32, was officially retired ala Ruth's number three, Jehrig's number four and DiMaggio's number five for the baseball Yankees.



TOM NOVIKOFF

Novikoff, a junior student at the University of Oregon, was twice voted all-junior college all-american while performing for the LA-CC Cubs during the 1949 and 1950 seasons.

His greatest feat according to the Los Angeles Collegian newspaper was when "he picked up a punt five yards deep in the end zone and ran 105 yards for the longest touchdown run in Cub history." Modesto Junior College's Pirates were the losers in that game which ended—6-0.

Novikoff was unable to attend the banquet.

Kappa Sigs Fall 26-16

(Continued from page four)

pi Phi in the final game of the evening in a 25 to 12 walk-away. The Beta's held a 17 to 12 half time lead and only gathered eight more in the second half... John Southworth and Harlan Mickey led the winners with eight apiece while Tonis and Woode tallied four each for the losers.

See the Intramural schedule for the games to be played this afternoon.

Military Ball: \$2.25 per couple. Paid Adv.

Bowling . . .

PIKA 4, SAM 0.
Phi Kappa Sigma 3, French 0.
Betas 4, Chi Phi 0.
Cherney 4, Kappa Sigs 0.
Bill Bauer of Cherney hit a 525 series, Robert Rines of PiKA had a 510, and Jim Drew of French bowled a 227 game.

AOPi 4, Alpha Gamma Delta 0.
Hendricks "A" 2, Pi Beta Phi 2.
Alpha Phi 4, Carson 0.
Hendricks "B" 3, Chi Omega "A"
Marilyn Moore of AOPi was top bowler of the evening with a 399 series, as play continued in the WRA tournament.

Military Ball. Saturday evening.—Paid Adv.

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