

# Duck Tracks

By Don Dewey

As the Winter Olympics went into their sixth day the United States had dropped from its unofficial team leadership. But still the Americans were performing in a manner that would have been thought impossible only a few years back.

Some complain that bad breaks for the Americans played their part, but it was chiefly a collection of top-notch Austrian skiing and skating performances that put the Austrians ahead of the U.S. in team totals.

Andrea Mead Lawrence, already a gold-medal winner in the giant slalom, fell twice Sunday in her second outing; but so did nearly everyone else on the treacherous Oslo, Norway, course. Ken Henry, who placed first in one of the speed skating events earlier, was weakened by influenza and finished a poor 30th. But it's most unlikely that he would have provided serious competition to Norway's world record holder, Hjalmer Andersen. Our final "bad break" came when Paul Wegeman suffered a slight brain concussion and leg injuries while jumping on famed Holmenkollen hill. Wegeman was not considered as a likely winner, anyway.

## Americans Pull Winter Olympic Upsets

Totaling our three bad breaks of the week-end, you have to conclude that we'd probably have dropped into second place even with good breaks.

Despite our lapse in team points, the Americans are putting on a remarkable performance at Oslo. In 1948 the United States winter Olympic team won three gold medals and was much-feted for the accomplishment. With less than half the championship medals awarded this year, the Americans have two (Lawrence's and Henry's), are rated a cinch in the men's figure skating and still have strong hopes for their women skiers and skaters.

The greatest satisfaction from the Olympic competition has not been the performance of favored Americans; the Americans entered in events already conceded to Europe have provided the most excitement. American bobsledders took a second and a fifth-place in one race.

But the biggest surprise was the victory of Ken Henry in the 500-meter speed skating race. Americans just aren't supposed to win at speed skating in Europe. In races held in Europe, skaters race against the clock rather than against each other. This has always tended to baffle American speedsters. Their years of experience at fighting through an American-style mob of skaters is to no avail in Europe. Henry's victory and Don McDermott's close second marked the first American victory in an Olympic speed race held in Europe. The Yanks' only previous victories in these events came when the races were held American-style at Lake Placid, New York.

## Slalom or Salami—Who Knows?

The Winter Olympics can usually be depended upon to confuse a large amount of the American sports-conscious population. People in areas that don't even have snow will have trouble translating such terms as slalom, compulsory figures, Nordic or Alpine combined—but they can understand the difference between winning and losing and they can take pride in the Americans' performances.

Our team is doing pretty well at sports that are the national pastimes of certain other countries—as, for instance, hockey is almost strictly Canadian sport and skiing and skating were practically invented by the Scandinavians. But before we sound like we're complaining we should point out that the almost exclusively American game of basketball is included in the Olympics. For the Americans to play basketball in the Olympics is about as fair as it would be for the Cubans to insist on jai alai being included in the Olympic repertoire of athletics.

## On the Local Scene . . .

The American Olympic team has a rough week ahead of it; and so do three University of Oregon athletic teams. The Oregon basketball, swimming and skiing teams are coming up to what will probably be their toughest week-ends of their respective seasons.

Coach Bill Borchers' basketball team will make their annual divide swing through the Inland Empire to play four games in five nights. Now standing in third place, even at the board with five wins and five losses, the Webfoots can consider themselves fortunate if they win as many games as they lose in Pullman and Moscow.

The Oregon slatmen travel even farther for their competition Friday. They'll be near Reno to take part in the University of Nevada's "Winter Carnival." Last year Oregon's queen candidate was a winner, but that was this institution's only major accomplishment at the carnival.

## Student Union Recreation Tips

(To better acquaint students with the SU recreation program, all events sponsored by the SU recreation committee will henceforth be covered in this column every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.)

### Dancing

Winners of tonights' SU dance contest will have their names engraved upon a trophy in the recreation basement's trophy case. Scheduled for 7:00 in SU rooms 213, 214, and 215, the contest will replace this week's dance lessons.

Anyone interested in entering the contest may come in couples or pair off after they arrive. Recreation committee chairman John McAloon invites everyone with, "Come out tonight and prove what a good dancer you are."

Judging the contest will be Mrs. Edith Jacobs, counselor for women, Dr. John James, professor of sociology, Gloria Barry, member of the recreation committee, and Bill Owen, junior in architecture who has been instructing the dance lessons.

### Ping Pong

Winners of the current SU ping pong contest will be determined today at 4:00 as the finalists meet in the last round. Games at 3:00 will decide the semi-finalists.

Rosemary Hampton, who has been guiding the tournament, reminds participants, "All matches must be played at the time they are scheduled or they will be forfeited." Bob Shaw has been assisting Rosemary Hampton.

Games scheduled for 3:00 are Rose vs. McDonald and Mecklem vs. Moore. At 3:20 Virtanen will play the winner of the McDonald vs. Rose match and Nakhai will play the winners of the Mecklem vs. Moore match. The results of the latter game will determine Ekstrom's opponent.

Read and use emerald classifieds.

## Ducks Slated To Meet Washington's All-Star Sprinkled Swimming Team

By Ron Ricketts

The University of Oregon swimming team will entertain its toughest competition of the season when it meets the defending Northern division champion Washington Huskies at the men's pool Friday.

The Huskies, coached by Jack Torney, are undefeated in all meets so far this season and are spearheaded by three All-Americans: Pete Salmon, Dick Magnuson, and Merrill Hodges. The squad's ten lettermen scored 99 points in the 1951 Northern division meet, 28 points more than the total points of our second place Ducks. Six of these men were placed on the 1951 Northern division All-Star team and three are on the Northern division All-Star aggregation. This gives a good idea of the tough

row the AquaDucks will have to hoe this weekend.

Salmon is easily the star of the team, being 1951 champion in both the 50 and 100-yard freestyle and the 150-yard individual medley. He set new ND records in both freestyle events, exceeding the 1947 times of former Husky, Pete Powell. He has been named to six events in the ND all-time All-Star swimming team and has twice won NCAA All-American honors.

Other noteworthy Huskies are: Magnuson, holder of the 100 and 200-yard breaststroke short course records and undefeated in the conference in 1951; Hodges, 1-meter and 3-meter diving champ and National AAU Junior platform diving titlist; Jim Portelance, sopho-

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