

Duck Tracks

By John Whitty

Emerald Sportswriter

It will be interesting to see what Oregon hoop coach Bill Borchert has planned for tonight's hoop contest with the touring Cougars of Washington State college. Last Tuesday night at Gill coliseum in Corvallis, Slats Gill succeeded in throwing an effective blanket on the Cougars' scoring attempts through the use of a zone defense.

The men from WSC were apparently unable to come up with a means of cracking the zone set up by the Orangemen and spent most of the evening passing the ball around among themselves, waiting for good shots. From the final score, which saw Oregon State leave the floor victorious by a 39-27 count, it would seem that Jack Friel's Cougars spent too much time looking for scoring opportunities which were not presented to them.

From the standpoint of the fans who saw the contest, the game was dull and uninteresting, with few exciting moments to revive the lagging spirits of the watchers. When the total score chalked up by both quintets in a college game is only 66, it is an unusual occurrence indeed.

Cougars Crack Zone

By the time the Wednesday evening tilt got under way, silverhaired Jack Friel had come up with a method of cracking the zone defense that had proven so puzzling to the Cougars in the first game. Slats Gill alternated two platoons on the floor, one of which used a zone defense, while the other relied on the old man to man defensive standby.

It was against the zone defense platoon that the Cougars put on the scoring drive which eventually gave them the victory by a 50-45 tally and resulted in an even split for the series. Washington State now rests in fourth place in the ND standings, one-half game in front of the Ducks of Oregon and trailing the OSC Beavers by the same margin.

Considering the happenings at Corvallis earlier in the week, it would not be surprising if Oregon were to employ a zone defense in at least one of the tilts this weekend, although the fact that the visiting Washington Staters have seemingly learned what to do against this type of defense system would tend to indicate that Borchert will rely on the man to man game.

Looking for First

The Webfoots will still be hungry for their first Northern Division victory of the year, after having dropped two straight to the powerful Washington Huskies here in Eugene last weekend. A victory Friday night would move the Ducks into fourth spot in the circuit, dropping the Cougars to the cellar.

When the men from the Palouse hills came to Eugene last year they were treated to identical 59-45 beatings on successive nights, and they will be battling to gain a win over the Ducks on the home floor of the latter. In any case, we hope that the total points scored by both teams exceeds the 66 counters in Tuesday night's fiasco.

A press release from the PCC Commissioner's office received Thursday contains some information about past records that might prove of interest to Oregon basketball fans. Oregon holds both the individual and team records for most field goals attempted in ND competition. Paul Sowers tried 29 shots in a tilt with the Washington Huskies in 1949, and the 1951 Duck hoopsters threw up 85 field goal attempts against the Cougars of WSC to set a new ND mark.

Scorch the Mesh

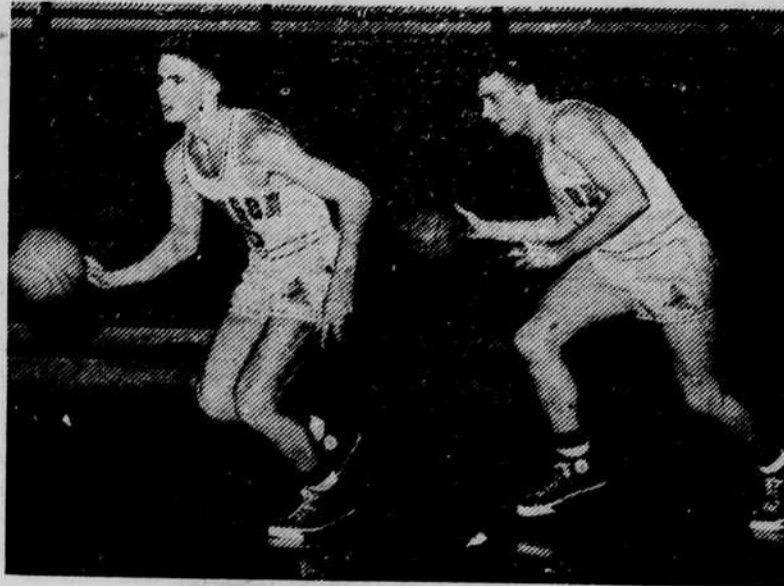
When Oregon made 35 field goals against Idaho in 1947, a new ND record went on the books, one which was later tied by Washington in 1951. In the free throw attempts department also, Oregon stands out. Two Oregon hoopsters, Roger Wiley and Will Urban, hold the Northern Division and PCC records for attempted free throws with sixteen each. However, the laurels for most free throws made in a single game go to another Webfoot, Bob Peterson, who made 14 in a game with OSC in 1951. This mark ties the record set by Roy Pflugrad of Oregon State in this department in 1938.

The Pacific Coast Conference and ND records for rebounds in a single game are also held by Oregon. In a contest with Washington State in 1952, Bob Peterson cleared 26 off the boards, while his teammates gathered in another 59 rebounds for a total of 85. Both the individual and team performances set new PCC records.

Another but more dubious honor which falls to the U of O is that of holding the record for the most personal fouls recorded in one game, although the Ducks share the title in this field with the University of Idaho Vandals. As might be supposed, the mark, which is, incidentally, 38 personals in one game, was made against Oregon's ancient rivals, Oregon State.

These are just a few of the records that might be broken by the Webfoots or the Cougars tonight or any night this season, although we hope that the record of 38 personal fouls in one contest stands for some time, for the sake of fans with high blood pressure, if for no one else.

Double Dribble



BOB HAWES, BARNEY HOLLAND
Webfoot Guards Ready for Friel's Best

SPORTS WHIRL

Decathlon Champ, Stanford Back Named 'Athlete of Year' by AP

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — The Associated Press "male athlete of the year" for 1952 is Bob Mathias, decathlon marvel, Stanford football ace and track star.

Mathias was chosen in a poll of sportscasters and sportswriters. It was the twenty-second such poll, and the sports wonder man from Tulare, Calif. amassed 249 points to outdistance Rocky Marciano, the runner-up, with ease. Marciano had 135 points.

Mathias won the Olympic decathlon title at Helsinki, Finland, last summer. It was his second straight victory in the testing event. He also was the first-string fullback on the Stanford football team.

Despite his many honors, Mathias is a modest fellow. His reaction to being named the AP athlete of the year is characteristic. Interviewed at Stanford, he thanked the newsmen who took part in the poll. But personally, Mathias said his own choice of athlete of the year is Horace Ashenfelter, the former Penn State distance runner who was an Olympic teammate. Ashenfelter

Stagg Condition Better

STOCKTON, Calif. (AP) — Coach Amos Alonzo Stagg is expected to be well enough to leave the hospital on Saturday. He was hospitalized here Dec. 3 because of an intestinal ailment.

won the Olympic 3,000 meter steeple chase, coming through in the stretch to upset the favored Vladimir Kazantsev. Mathias says his friend's upset victory was a real inspiration to him in the last Olympics.

Pro Bowl Saturday

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Except for an all-star game in Hawaii, and the kids in the backlots, the football season will definitely be over with Saturday's Pro Bowl game Saturday in Los Angeles Memorial coliseum. This is the contest bringing together the all-stars of the National Football league's two conferences, American and National.

Sedgman, Kramer Even

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Frank Sedgman of Australia and Jack Kramer are even up, one match apiece, in their professional series. After Kramer won in straight sets Wednesday at Los Angeles, Sedgman called the tall Californian the best player he's ever faced.

Ducks Sign San Jose

University of Oregon and San Jose State college will meet in football next season for the first time. The game has been scheduled at Eugene for Oct. 24.

Maritime Coach Makes Changes In Swim Team

By Jay Fournier
Emerald Sportswriter

Lack of reserves has forced John Borchardt, Oregon varsity swimming coach, to convert several of last year's men into middle distance swimmers.

For the past several weeks, Harry Fuller, Ken Cardwell and Phil Lewis have been working on the distance swims. Borchardt hopes to have these men in condition by the end of January when the first meet will be held.

Orlando Mathias, a transfer from the University of Hawaii is being groomed for the sprints. According to Borchardt, he expects Mathias to be the fastest man in the conference by the end of the season.

Jim Allan, a sprint man, had a bone spur removed from his left elbow recently. Because of the spur he had been unable to work out with the team.

The first dual meet of the season will be with the Aero club of Portland, made up mostly of high-school students. The meet will be held in Portland Jan. 24. The following week, Jan. 31, the team will participate in the state AAU meet, also in Portland. The first conference action will start on Feb. 6, when the squad travels to Corvallis to compete with the Oregon State swimmers.

Jimmy McLarnin beat Fidel La Barba for the second time Jan. 13, 1925. McLarnin later won the welter weight title twice and lost it twice.

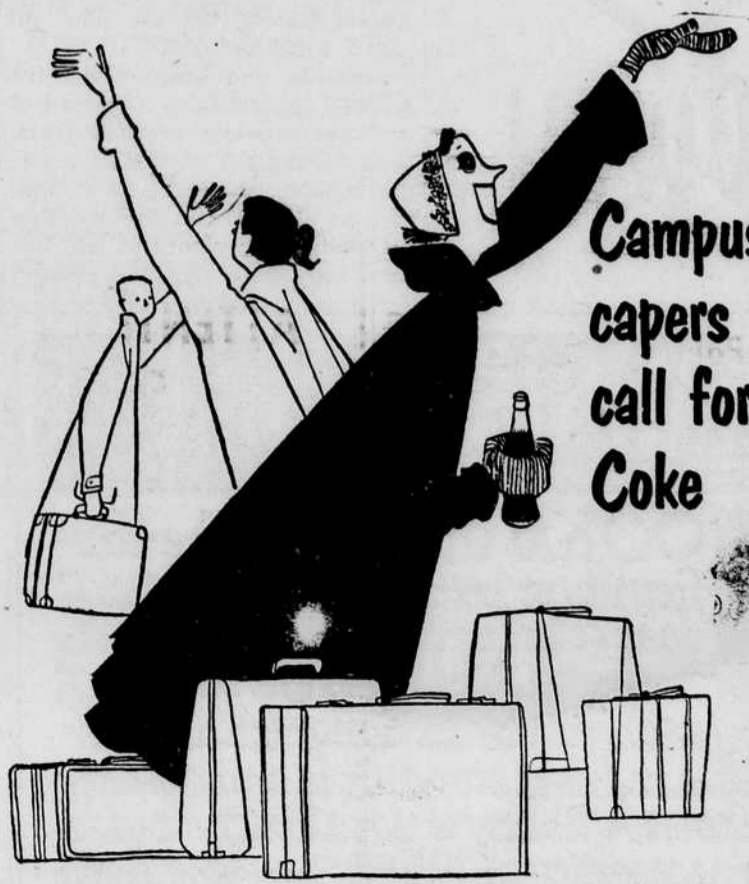
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