

Duck Tracks

By John Whitty

For the second consecutive year Coach Bill Borchers has surprised many followers of Northern Division basketball by turning out a quintet of fast-breaking basketball players who did much better than anyone but their elongated hoop mentor expected. Before this year's basketball season began, Coach Borchers said that his Webfoot basketball team would surprise a lot of people, and that is exactly what has happened.

At the start of the season this year, most observers predicted that the University of Oregon would finish in fourth place in the ND standings, but as the conference race looks at this point, the Webfoots have second place virtually sewed up.

Ducks Almost Win Upset

Not only have the Ducks established themselves as the leading contenders for the runner-up spot, but they are the only Northern Division five which has even come near to upsetting the league-leading Washington Huskies, currently ranked third in the nation.

Oregon will have its second and last shot at the Huskies this weekend at Seattle, and although the prognosticators look for two Washington victories, it is entirely possible that the Ducks may be able to come through with the upset that they almost registered during their last series with the men of Tippy Dye in the season opener at McArthur Court.

In that contest, the home hoopsters held a four point lead in the closing moments of the game, but largely due to the efforts of steady Husky forward Mike McCutcheon, the quintet from Seattle pulled into the lead and finally downed the Ducks 79-73. Big Bob Houbregs recorded 33 counters in the game, and was the main factor in the Washington win.

It is Houbregs, who has been breaking almost every existing Northern Division scoring record, whom the Webfoots will have to stop if they hope to gain even one win in the coming two-game series. Just how it is to be done is the problem now facing Bill Borchers, Oregon's tall cage mentor.

Same Points, Both Nights

Last Friday and Saturday, the Oregon quintet traveled to Pullman, Washington, for a pair of tilts with Washington State, and they repeated their performance of earlier in the year by sweeping the series. An odd incident of the series was the scoring of identical tallies in both games by Chet Noe and Ken Wegner. Noe led the scoring for Oregon in both games with 21 point totals, while Wegner was runner-up in each contest with 17.

After the Husky series this weekend, only two more tilts are on the slate for the Webfoots. As usual the season tail-enders bring the Ducks up against the Beavers of Oregon State, directed by veteran ND mentor Slat Gill. OSC is currently residing in fourth place in the conference with a 4-8 won-loss record.

The Staters travel to the Palouse hills this weekend for a series with Washington State, and if the Beavers lose even one of these games, they have no chance to reach second place by the end of the season. Idaho is the only other possible contender for the number two slot, and they could not even finish in a tie for the spot if they lose more than one of their remaining four games. Should Idaho win all of its last four contests, Oregon must only come out with two victories to definitely clinch the runner-up position.

Although it has been almost two weeks since Oregon's freshman basketball squad succeeded in turning back the powerful Rooks of OSC, we feel that they still are deserving of a verbal pat on the back. The Frosh had been pointing for the win ever since the start of the season, and the upset was no mere freak of chance.

Anderson Stands Out

Due credit should be given to all the members of the squad, but we feel that one member of the group in particular has a right to feel proud of his performance in the game. The man we mean is 6-foot, 7-inch Max Anderson, who came through with a 28 point total for the contest while also succeeding in finding a way to partially do away with the height advantage held by "Swede" Halbrook, the Rooks' seven footer.

Max solved the problem by developing a lay-in shot which he tossed up and around from behind the backboard and which had the big boy from Corvallis completely stumped. Max looked as smooth as any guard when he faked the Rook giant out of position time after time and drove under the bucket for two points.

Halbrook himself dropped in 30 counters, but most of his baskets came on tips and rebounds, for the Frosh set up a defense which virtually prevented him from ever receiving the ball from the guards. The main cogs in the defense were Kent Dorwin, John Foster, and Gary McManus, all of whom took turns playing jumping-jack in an effort to keep the ball out of the Swede's reach.

Sale of 'Mysties' Begins Today

"Mysties" go on sale today at seven booths on the campus. Locations include the Student Union, the Co-op, Carson hall, Hendricks hall, Straub hall, the library, and in front of the statue of the "Pioneer Father." Students will be able to purchase "Mysties" today and Friday at any of these booths. The second day of the sale, Friday, coincides with Women's Day on the campus. Other major events of the day will include the YWCA sponsored "Heart Hop" and the bridal show planned by the Associated Women Students.

Chairmen of this year's annual Mystic Sale are Marilyn Parrish, freshman in liberal arts, and Doreen Gienger, freshman in education.

Bridge Lessons Slated

The third in a series of beginning bridge lessons is at 3 p.m. today in Gerlinger men's lounge. The YWCA sponsored lessons are open to all women.

About 25 to 30 people have attended the preceding instruction classes, estimated Joan Cartozian, upper class commission chairman.

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