

Duck Tracks

By Sam Vahey
Emerald Sports Editor

That's quite an impressive team of ex-Oregon baseball greats that Coach Don Kirsch's varsity baseball nine will be playing Saturday afternoon. There's every kind of player on it from good amateur to full scale professional ball players.

Mel Krause will appear on the mound for the Alums, a position he held regularly for the Ducks when he played for them in 1951. Another hurler will be Stu Fredericks, now a pro ball player. Joe Sugura, catcher, played for the Webfoots last season and is still at the university in his fourth year of PE.

Bartle, Koch in Infield

In the infield, the fans will see Dick Bartle and Barney Koch, seasoned ball-players in Oregon semi-pro ranks, at first and second base respectively. At third and shortstop, Nick Schmer and Joe Tom, also attending the university, will see action for the Alums. The outfield blossoms with professional players, including John Kovenz, Hal Zurcher, Bill Carney, Pat Wohlers, and Bob Caviness. Carney, manager for Portland's Archer and Blower pipe team, will be the playing manager of the All-Star nine, which by the way, will be wearing the Archer baseball uniforms.

Press releases from Seattle indicate that from the standpoint of records, percentages, individual stars and crowds, Washington's 1953 basketball outfit was the greatest Husky casaba aggregation in the school's history. We don't think the 1953 Husky supporters have much trouble proving this fact, either.

As a team, the Huskies broke no less than three NCAA tourney records, four Northern division marks, and two school winning totals. In the NCAA tournament books, the Huskies have the most points per game, most field goals during four games, and most field goals in one game.

ND records possessed by the PCC champs include most points per season, highest point per game average, most field goals and best field goal percentage, best free throw percentage, and 23 straight wins, starting in 1952 and continuing until almost the end of the '53 season. New school records for the team are 21 straight wins in one season and 23 straight home victories, a string that is bound to get longer.

Records by the Dozen

We'll not go into the exploits of Mr. Hooks, Bob Houbregs, but we will say that he ends his college basketball career with three NCAA tourney marks under his belt; ten Northern Division totals; and three new school marks. It's interesting to note that little Charlie Koon crawled into the record shattering spotlight for the Huskies, establishing a brand new free throw percentage, .865, or 32 out of 37 attempts. The previous gift toss record, incidentally, was held by Mel Krause, Oregon court artist two years back.

While on the subject of the U of Washington, we find that another press release points out that the Husky athletes excel not only in the field of sports, but also in the classrooms. One of the starting frosh basketball players collected five "A's" for a 4.0. Three other athletes got four "A's" and one or two "B's". The high scholastic list does not show any of Coach Tippy Dye's varsity men, though. The reason being, of course, that they had to delay their finals until they returned from the NCAA tournament.

With the topic of whether or not Rio Grande's basketball records should stay on the NCAA basketball record books such a popular subject these days, we can't resist taking a stand on the matter. Frankly, we don't think that scoring sprees against little-known teams, such as Rio Grande played, should go down in the books along with the marks established in higher circles such as the Big Ten and PCC. It isn't fair to the big fellas who go out and get their points the hard way against teams just as good as their own.

Houbregs Could Have Done Same

We'll not say that Bevo Francis couldn't have done as well while playing for a larger school against better squads; but we will say that a boy like Walter Dukes or Bob Houbregs could have done the same, if not more, than Francis, if he had been playing for a school of 90 enrollment.

Speaking last night in Portland were Basketball Coach Bill Borchert and Football mentor Len Casanova. The event was the basketball banquet at Multnomah hotel in honor of the 1952-53 casaba five. The seniors on the team each got a watch and the team's most valuable player was the recipient of the 'Bill Baker award.

40 MORE SCHOLARSHIPS

Grants-in-Aid Increased; 'Hunting' Program Set Up

In an effort to put athletics at the University of Oregon on an equal par with other members of the Pacific Coast Conference, the Oregon Athletic Department is increasing its grants-in-aid program from 60 to more than 100 athletic scholarships per year.

Stated Jim Hubbard, alumni member on the grant-in-aid committee, "The University of Oregon is the second smallest school in the Pacific Coast Conference. We are therefore under a handicap in competition with bigger PCC schools."

Set Up New Office

First step in the new program has been to set up the office of Assistant Athletic Director to specifically administer and supervise the subsidation program. Track and frosh football Coach Bill Bowerman was selected for this post.

The additional financial help to athletes became possible as a result of a conference ruling which allowed schools to furnish all, not just part, of an athlete's tuition. Previously the institutions had been allowed to give full support to veterans only, with the rest of the students getting only partial assistance.

The jump from the previous 60 grants-in-aid to the proposed 100 will enable the athletic department to offer additional scholarships in football, basketball, baseball and track, especially to in-coming freshmen, a group somewhat neglected because of the too-small number of scholarships.

For instance, in football, where before 27 scholarships had been offered to varsity players and 13 to freshmen, there will now be 70 grants-in-aid altogether—45 to the varsity and 25 to the frosh.

In basketball the number of grants shall be extended from only 10 for both varsity and frosh, to 20, 12 to the big team and eight to the juniors.

Baseball, Track, Too

Instead of four scholarships being given in baseball, eight will be awarded, divided almost evenly between freshmen and upper classmen. The same will hold true in track also.

In order to offer these 40 additional scholarships, the grants-in-aid financial budget will have to be extended from the 1952-53 total of \$27,500 to a new goal of \$60,000. According to Bowerman, the eventual sum may be raised to \$90,000 in order to provide a reserve for the fund.

The increase, according to the athletic department, is not a change in the school's policy to provide "unauthorized and excessive" assistance to the university's players.

"It merely is an effort to provide more adequate manpower under a sensible, well-supervised program of aid to those athletes in need of financial help."

The department hopes to take care of the additional expense through increased pledges and cash donations from an increased number of individual donors. Since receipts from athletic events cannot be used, all tuition assistance must come through donations to the grants-in-aid fund.

Maximum Per Month

Through this fund, the GIA committee can pay both tuition and wages to needy athletes. The maximum support, however, is \$75 per month at \$1.50 an hour. Beginning last fall, it has been the policy, however, to do away with work during the term of sports participation.

In direct correlation with the grants-in-aid program, a network of "Duck Hunters" is being set up through the state and in

Washington, Idaho and California.

Throughout Oregon, 12 districts will be set up for this purpose. One person will be responsible in each area as a contact between the individual "hunters" and the central committee.

Each "hunter" will be responsible in the following ways:

First, he will inform the Oregon coaches of prospective athletes. Second, he will screen the prospects. Third, he will personally contact the prospect and try to persuade him to come to Oregon.

Fourth, he will secure information on the prospect through the athlete's friends. Fifth, he will encourage a campus visit by the prospect. Sixth, he will aid the prospect, possibly through a summer job. And finally, he will help to transport the athlete to the campus at the beginning of his first year.

It will be up to the university coaches, in this program, to work through the duck hunters; encourage the prospect to visit the campus; give the "duck hunters" a list of alumni who might be of assistance; and advise the alums in their search for sports talent.

At first the program will not extend out of state, but eventually it will be expanded to other west coast areas, because, as Bowerman pointed out, "We can't build a good team on 100 per cent Oregon state boys."

In the opinion of many involved, these two programs, the grant-in-aid and the "Duck Hunters," will offer absolute means of putting "Oregon athletics on a more competitive basis with other bigger PCC schools."

Two Lettermen On Net Squad

Only two returning lettermen greeted Coach Captain Lawrence as formal tennis practice began last Monday. Despite the lack of depth, Lawrence was pleased with the turnout of 23 prospects for positions on the varsity and frosh squads.

The early part of the week was spent on "volley shots" while later on the weaknesses of the individual players.

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