

Duck Tracks

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Trouble at the foul line seems to be the foremost topic for sports writers' discussion this week, so since it's Friday when we try to pour what's been left out all week into a warmed-over hash, we'll take our turn carrying the torch for a few paragraphs.

Writers have batted around the three minute rule, two kinds of one plus ones, statistics and figures, but the present question at hand is just why can't the Oregon Ducks find the basket when they get into that big circle all by themselves?

Sports Editor Dick Strite of the Register-Guard came out with the rather astonishing fact that the Webfoots lost a total of 50 points at the foul line during last week's pair with Washington. This, of course, is acting under the assumption that the locals could have hit all their free shots.

Oregon's season average for foul shooting is a meek .578, while its Northern Division mark is even worse. The Duck figures look pretty anemic alongside the ND leader, Oregon State, which is hitting at a .698 clip in conference play. George Washington university, number six in the Associated Press national hoop poll, tops the nation with a season's mark of .752.

The answer to the question which naturally follows all the comparisons is one which Coach Bill Borchert wants to know right away, preferably before Oregon drops any more ND games because of the inaccuracy.

The Oregonian's L. H. Gregory has been delving into the matter often as a space filler and has attracted several theories from his industrious letter-writing readers. One of the stronger possibilities concerns method at the foul line, with the reader favoring, along with quite a few coaches, the old two-handed, underhand shot.

OSC Example

The writing reader pointed to Oregon State as an example of the success of the old method, but chose a poor time to point a finger. The Beavers shoot all their free throws underhanded, but just before being bragged about, they hit their low peak against Oregon and the argument was weakened.

The old system of dragging the ball up from the floor is the most natural one, according to an assistant college coach we know. "As our friend, "and when it comes time to shoot a foul shot, their muscles tighten when they lift up the ball for a one-handed try. The natural way is to let their arms hang down and shoot underhanded."

Practically all the Oregon players shoot one-handed at the foul line, but they are free to choose the best method that gets the ball through the basket. It appears that they haven't found the best one yet. Borchert gave up prolonged practices at the foul line after the team's Washington series following a week of hour and a half workouts on free throws each day.

Unless one of Gregory's readers can come through with a quick solution, the Ducks appear doomed to the poorest mark on the coast.

Odds and Ends

Congratulations to Hal Reeve on his lucrative Canadian contract with Edmonton's Eskimos and on his brand new daughter . . . Also good luck to Jack Patera in his professional career, beginning next year with the Baltimore Colts . . .

Apologies for the Sports Department to Bill Bowerman for slighting him as track and field coach, and also to Bill Borchert who has enough to do without taking on Bowerman's duties . . . More apologies to Jasper McGee, not McGhee, and good luck in the junior college of his choice . . . Still more apologies to Alex Byler. Looks like news side will never spell his name right . . .

Thanks to Emerald Columnist Bob Funk for the asked-for satire on the grand old black-and-white-dressed men of the maple court in Thursday's paper . . .

In conclusion, a comment of the week cut from our partner's Monday column . . . Following Saturday night's Washington game, Husky Coach Tippy Dye bemoaned his team's shooting, "we're the worst shots in the league," he said. "If we could get somebody that could hit, we might win some ball games."

The Huskies won Friday hitting .244. Saturday they lost with a .424 mark. As Jerry said for Monday, "it's a tough league."

Hale Kane Drops Eagles for League Title

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a 1-1 deadlock, but the Legal Eagles drove to a 7-6 halftime margin. Hale Kane then fought back to take a 14-12 lead at the third quarter mark. Hale Kane moved to a bigger lead in the final stanza and they won the game going away. Pinjuv's nine points led the scoring.

Hale Kane (19)	(14) Eagles
Fujita 5	F..... Moore
Attig	F..... 1 Peterson
Averill 2	C..... 1 Thalhoffer
Kanada 1	G..... 1 Ingerson
Burt 2	G..... 1 Altman

Subs: Hale Kane — Yano, Pinjuv 9, Chang. Legal Eagles — Givan 4, Waliser 6, Nash.

Shaw Selected As Outstanding Sports Figure

PORTLAND (AP) — George Shaw, the University of Oregon's star quarterback, was named the state's outstanding sports personality of 1954 in the annual Banquet of Champions here Thursday night.

Shaw, the nation's offensive leader in college football and the first man selected in the annual professional football draft, received the Bill Hayward memorial trophy at the banquet sponsored by the Oregon Sports Writers and Broadcasters association.

Selected by the vote of 50 members at the banquet, Shaw was picked over eleven other finalists in the final voting. A plaque was awarded to each of the others, including Oregon's top miler, Bill Dellinger and OSC's basketball 7-footer, Swede Halbrook.

Other finalists were Dale Leabo, Portland, softball; Ray Hyde, Portland, semipro baseball; Wayne Sturdivant, Milwaukie, high school coaching; Duane Mellem, St. Helens, high school athlete; Carole Jo Kabler, Sutherlin, golf; Bill Goetter, Hillsboro, bowling; Jack Pucas, Eugene, amateur boxing; Clay Brown, Portland, baseball ownership; and Maureen Murphy, Portland, swimming.

Duquesne '5' In NIT Field

NEW YORK (AP) — The big grab bag is now open for the post-season college basketball tournaments, and the National Invitation at Madison Square Garden has taken the initiative by plucking fourth-ranked Duquesne.

The Iron Dukes, runners-up last year to Holy Cross in the event and present holders of a 14-3 record for the season, confirmed Thursday they would play in the garden tournament March 12-14-15-17-19.

The National Collegiate Athletic association championship gets under way with regional playoffs March 7-8 and closes with the finals at Kansas City March 18-19.

Even if there were not a conflict in dates, NCAA rules would forbid a team playing in both tournaments. So there usually is a brisk tug-of-war this time of year for available strong independents.

The NCAA field consists of champions from 15 conferences and nine teams picked at large from the various regions.

The official college tournament is expected to get most of the members of the top ten in the national rankings, including the three leaders — San Francisco, Kentucky and LaSalle in that order.

San Francisco is an independent team which the NIT officials will make a strong bid for, but don't expect to get. "Our information is that Frisco is being pressured to play in the NCAA," a Garden spokesman said.

Utah, George Washington, and UCLA — No. 5, 6 and 8, respectively — are slated to go NCAA, if they qualify either through conference titles or special bids, as is the Big Ten's Illinois, No. 10. North Carolina State, No. 7, is on NCAA's probation list and ineligible.

Marquette, No. 9, is one of the teams in the squeeze, sought by the NIT and likely for an at-large invitation from the NCAA.

UO Wrestlers, Mermen Ready

Oregon's wrestling squad travels to Corvallis Saturday to tangle with the Oregon State matmen in a dual match in Gill Coliseum at 3:00. The event will be part of the Oregon State Dad's Weekend.

Last week the Beavers and the Ducks squared off in Mac Court and the Staters emerged on top by a 23-3 score. In evidence of last week's match, the Beavers will be favored again because of more experience and depth than the Ducks. However, the Oregon team gave a good performance last week and lost six of the eight matches by only a few points in decisions.

OSC Claims Champs

The OSC squad has two PCC champions in Gary McLain in the 123 lb. Class and Art Keith in the 147 lb. division. Coach Jim Dixon will pin his hopes on the performances of sophomores Melvin Lehman, Ron Hicks, Lou Taucher, Bud Gienger, and George Meyers in the heavy-weight group. Last week Taucher was the only soph to wrestle and not win.

Oregon Coach Bill Hammer named Roy Schlessler to wrestle in the first match against McLain of the Beavers. Schlessler will be out to win this for he previously lost only two points. In the next bracket Darrell Klampe of Oregon will face Mel Lehman of OSC in the 130 lb. weight. In the 137 lb. division Bob Williams will grapple with Orville Swindler.

Newland vs. Keith

PCC champ Keith will risk his record against Oregon's Dave Newland. In the 157 class Roland Wilson will tangle with Ron Hicks. At 167 for Oregon either Jack Hendrickson or John Woyat will wrestle against Bud Gienger.

At 177 Oregon's Ken Kelsey will grapple with Lou Taucher and Dick Barker of the Ducks will face Jim Schuster or George Meyers in the heavyweight match.

ATO Keglers Top Sigma Phi Epsilon

Alpha Tau Omega topped Sigma Phi Epsilon in an intramural bowling league match Wednesday night by a 3-1 score. Other matches saw Hale Kane top Sigma Chi 3-1, Phi Kappa Sigma down Alpha hall 3-1 and Gamma hall tie Sigma Alpha Mu, 2-2.

It was Scott Page as usual pacing the ATO triumph. He bowled a high singles of 231 and a top series of 560. Maurice Bell led the Sig Eps with his high singles of 188 and top series of 513. Pins went to the ATO's, 2395-2290.

Bob Takano's high series of 529 paced Hale Kane to its win over the Sigs' The high singles for Hale Kane was 206. Sigma Chi was led by Bob Pollock, with a high singles of 202 and a 469 series. The pin score was 2448-1935, with Hale Kane on top.

In the Phi Kap-Alpha match, it was Sam Sorenson leading the way for the winners with a 168 high singles and 456 top series. Norio Takayama had a 167 high singles while the high series for Alpha was 413. Phi Kappa Sigma took the pin totals, too, 2033-1825.

Gamma hall edged Sigma Alpha Mu in pins, 2060,1906, but the match ended in a 2-2 deadlock. Topping the Sammies was Norm Seidenverg with a 167 high singles and a 449 high series. The Gamma high marks were 176 and 438.

Coach John Borchardt's Duck swimmers will attempt to get back into the winning habit in a pair of weekend meets with Idaho and Washington State at the UO pool Friday and Saturday.

Beaten last week by Oregon State for the first time in 16 years, the Duck mermen will entertain the Vandals Friday at 3 o'clock and the Cougars the following day at 2 p.m.

The Cougars are making a strong bid for the conference title now held by the University of Washington team, while the Vandals claim an outstanding individual performer in 200-yard freestyle man Fritz Holtz.

A good chance is being given to Harry Fuller and Yoji Matsu-shima of the Ducks in the 200-yard freestyle event and Pete Tyerman, the top Oregon diver, will face a reputedly-good Idaho board man.

Another pair of close races are expected Friday when Jerry Froebe and Howard Hedinger of the Ducks go against Vandal sprint star Jerry Jones in the 60-yard and 100-yard freestyle events.

The rest of the Oregon lineup for both meets will probably be as follows: 300-yd. medley relay team — Bob Hays, Phil Lewis and Jim England; 180-yd. individual medley — Bob Hays and Fuller; Diving — Walter Ching; 200-yd. backstroke — England; 220-yd. breaststroke — Hays and Jean Bowles; 440-yd. freestyle — Fuller, Froebe, Hedinger, Matsu-shima and Lewis.

Washington Club Aims at Second

SEATTLE (Special) — Third place—and an outside chance at a final second spot—will be at stake Friday and Saturday night in the Northern Division basketball series between Washington and Washington State at Seattle.

The visiting Cougars, with a 4-7 mark, currently are in third place, a half game ahead of Tippy Dye's Huskies, who have a 3-7 record after splitting a series with Oregon last weekend at Eugene.

The Eugene split left the Huskies with hopes of overtaking the second place Ducks in the final six games of the season, but it will require a clean sweep of their next four games, all in Edmundson Pavilion, against the Cougars and Ducks.

Washington State naturally is the first target, and the Huskies hope to win both games to atone for what they consider a lost opportunity. That came three weeks ago when the Cougars edged them 74-73 with a foul shot after the final gun.

Since Dye's quintet won the first game of the series 89-68, they have been installed as favorites in the Pavilion battles, but first must find a way to slow down Ron Bennink, second high scorer in the division.

Jerry Johnson held Bennink to three field goals in the first game at Pullman, but was injured that same night and hasn't seen action since. Husky medics hold little hope that he will play much, if any, this weekend. With Johnson out of the lineup, the defensive assignment on Bennink probably will fall to Ron Olsen, his replacement.

Dye came up with a new offensive pattern last weekend as the Huskies beat Oregon 54-52 in overtime Friday and lost a 64-63 chiller Saturday.