

EMERALD Sports

Duck Tracks

By Jerry Claussen
Emerald Co-Sports Editor

Although it may be a bit premature, it's interesting to look ahead to the 1956 basketball season, when the Pacific Coast Conference plays a full round-robin schedule, and see what's in store.

As in 1954, few players on the coast this season are seniors and most of the clubs will have experienced and well-balanced lineups for the first full coast race. Oregon State, 1954-55 ND champions, will be most affected by senioritis, but the other eight teams lose few performers by graduation.

Beginning with our own Oregon Ducks, the emphasis on rebuilding this season will be continued in 1956 with only two players out of 18 being seniors. Those two are the most valuable, however—Co-Captains Jim Loscutt and Howard Page. Next year's lineup shapes up with Max Anderson at center, Jerry Ross and Ed Bingham at forwards and Phil McHugh plus Bill Moore, Rich Costi or LeRoy Nelson at guards.

Oregon State loses seven of its championship squad including Bill Toole, Tony Vlastetka, Tex Whiteman, Ron Robins, Reggie Halligan, Johnny Jarboe and Ron Fundingsland. But Swede Halbrook will be back to make the Beavers tough again and will be backed up by Jay Dean, Larry Paulus, Bob Allord and Jerry Crimmins, as well as Dave Gambia and several others up from the strong Rook team.

Washington will suffer the least from graduation with only Dean Parsons and Jerry Johnson not slated to return in 1956. Gary Nelson will take Parsons' place and a lineup of Karl Voegtlin, Jim Coshov, Doyle Perkins and Don Sunitsch will make the Huskies title contenders next season.

Idaho's spirited Vandals will lose Harlan Melton and Bob Falash from the first string plus sub Don Monson. They have a good freshman team, however, and will field a well-balanced lineup again with Jay Buhler, Tom Hoots, Jim Sather, Bill Bauscher and Jay Webb likely starters.

Washington State loses both of its top players, Ron Bennink and Bill Rehder, as well as Bob Klock and Jack Garton. The Cougars will need some help but have a big group of sophomores. Their 1956 five will probably be composed of Al Perry, Ron Foissy, Larry Beck, Doug King and Al Kamps.

Perennial Southern Division champion UCLA loses three starters, Johnny Moore, Ron Bane and Don Bragg, plus Eddie White and Mark Costello. The Bruins will still be tough, though, with Willie Naulls still at center and Morris Taft, Al Herring, Dave Hall and Lindy Kell filling the lineup.

Stanford loses scoring stars Ron Tomsic and Russ Lawler as well as veterans Jim Johnson and Leo Schwaiger from its 1955 squad. The Indians will have a big squad of lettermen back in 1956, however, including starters Bill Bond, Barry Brown and George Selleck plus the Wagner brothers, Hap and Ron, for a potent quintet.

California's disappointing Bears had as many troubles as a team could have this year and were building as well, but will be dangerous next year. The SD cellar-dwellers will lose all-coast Bob McKeen from the center spot, but only two other squad members with him. They had a big crop of sophomores this year and will field an all-veteran five of Mike Diaz, Frank Hess, Larry Friend, Bob Blake and Ev McKeen.

USC, 1954 coast champion, will be minus its top three of the past two years when next season rolls around. Roy Irvin, Dick Welch and Chet Carr as well as three more of the 16-man squad will graduate, leaving the Trojans a lineup of two-year veterans Tony Psaltis and Ralph Pausig plus Jack Dunne, Jim Kaufman and Jack Lovrich.

That's the way it shapes up for 1955. Washington, Idaho and California figure to improve, Oregon and USC figure about the same with OSC, UCLA, Stanford and WSC perhaps dropping slightly. The league as a whole won't be too strong. We hope the Ducks can take advantage of it.

Scoring Race Sees Wanaka Snare Second

Dave Wanaka has moved back into second place in latest Frosh basketball statistics. Paul Tuchardt still leads the Ducklings with 216 points, while Wanaka hit for 43 last weekend to make his total 124.

Only the other Duckling to get into the hundred-point column is Guard Wendy Rasor, who has 105 for the 12 games.

The Frosh split a pair on their trip to Washington over the weekend. They clobbered Vancouver's Moore's Drive-in, 96-69, on Friday, and blew a 16-point lead on Saturday to lose, 81-72, to Fernandez Loggers of Longview.

The Frosh close out their season against Oregon State's undefeated Rooks Friday and Saturday as preliminaries to the varsity Northern Division tussles.

Coached by Paul Valenti, the Rooks have beaten everyone in sight with a well-balanced, fast-breaking attack. Dave Gambia, 6'6" Corvallis slicker paces the Staters with an 18.9 points-per-game average. 15 rebounds.

The Ducklings must win both games to even up their season's record. They currently own a 6-7 mark.

Frosh scoring through 13 games:

Player	FG	FT	PF	TP
Tuchardt	90	36	38	216
Wanaka	48	28	38	124
Rasor	47	11	21	105
Ayre	38	20	27	96
Duffy	38	11	39	87
Hastings	36	13	30	85
Paris	14	4	13	32
Delbon	13	5	14	31
Swan	12	3	17	27
Slick	11	5	8	27
Williams	6	8	12	20
Didlock	6	4	9	16
Lindland	1	1	0	0
Phelps	0	0	1	0
Totals	360	149	266	869

Teams Eye NIB Tourney

NEW YORK (AP)—The 12-team National Invitation Basketball tournament will be spread over five days in the week of March 12-19 with one day and five night programs.

There will be no tripleheaders as in the past, NIT officials said Tuesday.

The program will open Saturday, March 12, with an afternoon and night doubleheader. Then there will be two games each night on the 14th, 15th 17th and 19th.

Eight teams, including Holy Cross' defending titleholders, have accepted bids to date. Four teams remain to be chosen.

Others already in the tourney include Duquesne, beaten finalist in 1954, Dayton, Cincinnati, Louisville, Manhattan, Niagara and St. Francis of Loretto, Pa.

Possibilities for the final four berths include Alabama, Tennessee, Kentucky, Texas Tech, West Texas State, St. Louis, Tulsa, Connecticut, Fordham, Lafayette, Williams, Depaul, Memphis State, and Texas Christian.

Signatures Asked

Students attending school on athletic grants-in-aid are asked to sign for their grant-in-aid at the athletic office immediately, according to a Wednesday athletic department announcement.

Thirty-six persons were killed when the Hindenburg zeppelin burned at its mooring at Lakehurst, N.J., on May 6, 1937.

UO Keglers Face Staters

Oregon's varsity and coed bowlers will take on Oregon State in a home and home match this weekend. The first three games will be run off at Corvallis Friday afternoon, starting at 3, and the series will finish up at the Oregon Student Union on Saturday, also at 3.

Coach Lou Bellissimo will send Bob Boyce, Vern Jackson, Scott Page, Bryce Reimer and Ray Christensen into action for the Duck varsity.

Bowling for the coeds will be Bob Brooks, Robbie Mulkey, Pat Diency, Nancy Reine and Sue Starnes.

Four Teams Get Bowling Victories

Four teams picked up 4-0 victories in intramural bowling action Tuesday. Delta Upsilon downed Kappa Sigma, Pi Kappa Alpha tripped Campbell club, Sigma Alpha Epsilon bumped Phi Kappa Psi, and Theta Chi toppled Tau Kappa Epsilon.

Slides of Greece to Be Shown to Cosmo Club

John Gaitanakis will speak about Greece at the Cosmopolitan Club meeting Friday at 8 p.m. He will accompany his talk with colored slides. All persons interested in a ski trip to Hoodoo with the Cosmo Club Saturday are urged to attend this meeting. Refreshments will be served.

All Departments Led by Bruins In SD Scoring

UCLA's champion Bruins lead every team department of the weekly statistics released today by the Pacific Coast Conference commissioner's office. The figures also showed California's Bob McKeen and Ron Tomsic of Stanford within easy range of smashing the division scoring record.

UCLA ranked atop every team department as follows: most points—75.6 per game; field goals—43.7%; free throws—75.0%; rebounds—430 to foes' 293; fewest opponents points—64 per game; lowest opponent field goals—37.7%.

McKeen wrested the individual scoring lead from Tomsic last weekend and now has 219 points to Tomsic's 208. Field goal leader is Dick Welsh, Southern California, 55.8%; with Eddie White, UCLA, leading in free throws, 83.3%, and Willie Naulls, UCLA, rebounds, 12.3 per game.

McKeen and Tomsic are expected to better the division season record of 238 points (Bill Sharman, USC, 1950) in their final series this weekend. McKeen already has broken the varsity career record of 612 points (Hank Luisetti, Stanford, 1936-38). Including games as a freshman (freshmen were eligible for varsity during his first season), McKeen also has exceeded the mark, as may Moore and Tomsic this weekend.

US Amateurs Field Strong Track Squad

NEW YORK (AP)—A powerful 33-man track and field team, which one authority said "could have won any Olympic Games," was picked Sunday to represent the US in the Pan-American Games in Mexico City, March 12-26.

Jim Kelly, University of Minnesota coach and coach of the American forces in the first Pan-American Games in Buenos Aires four years ago, said "It's an outstanding squad. It could have won any Olympic Games ever held and will do great in Mexico City."

"This is an idea of what we'll have in the 1956 Olympic Games in Melbourne," Kelly added. "We're not sitting still and waiting for the Russians. The armed forces have done a great job. Their cooperation has been terrific."

The team, selected by an 18-man committee headed by Kelly and representing the AAU, colleges and armed forces, is well represented by servicemen.

Only two of the stars who won 14 of the 22 track and field

events in Buenos Aires are back for another chance at the gold medals.

They are Mal Whitfield, the Olympic great and winner of the 400 and 800 meter runs in Argentina, and the Rev. Robert Richards, Olympic and national AAU pole vault king and AAU decathlon champ.

Whitfield, of the Los Angeles A.C., will run in the 800 meters and the 1600-meter relay. Richards is entered in his major specialty, the vault, and will be listed for the decathlon, although he may not compete in the 10-event grind.

The regular decathlon entry is young Rafer Johnson, a UCLA freshman, who piled up an amazing 7055 points in a meet Saturday.

The 30-year-old Whitfield, two-time winner of the Olympic 800-meter run, was presented with the Sullivan Trophy Sunday for being the outstanding amateur athlete of 1954.

The presentation was made at a luncheon at the New York A.C. by Lou Wilke, of Bartlesville, Okla., president of the AAU. Whitfield was forced to default from the 600-yard run in Saturday night's National AAU championships because of a heavy cold.

Sports Staff

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