

EMERALD Sports

Duck Tracks

By Allen Johnson
Emerald Sports Writer

Airmen Defeat Army! Fliers Down Midshipmen! Air Force Eleven Wins! It may not be too many more years before these headlines become commonplace on the nation's sports pages when the newly-created Air Force Academy at Colorado Springs becomes a full-fledged athletic power in the class of its sister institutions, Annapolis and West Point.

The foundation of a third service academy has opened the door for another new independent team to grab its share of the sports scene. It could be an important boost to the Rocky Mountain area, a region not known for great football teams, though boasting top-flight basketball clubs.

A visitor to the Academy site today, some 60 miles south of Denver, would probably see little more than rough construction taking place, but plans say the institution will open its doors this fall to the first class of some 300 cadets. 1956 will see 400 more added and 624 men will enroll in each of the next two years. The full allotted strength of the Academy is 2496.

Oregon Alum on Faculty

Brigadier General Dan Zimmerman, an Oregon graduate in geology in 1923 and a member of the West Point class of '29, is dean of faculty at the new school and revealed some interesting items about the athletic future of "Air" at the Phi Kappa Psi Founder's Day banquet held recently in Portland.

"We hope to be able to compete effectively with Army and Navy by 1960," the general remarked optimistically. He stressed the fact that the Air Academy would have a full sports program, both intercollegiate and intramural, and that it would be in the class of the other service schools.

The seriousness of the program of athletics was indicated early this year when Buck Shaw, ousted coach of the San Francisco 49er professional football team, was hired as an "advisory assistant" for Air Force grid machines. Zimmerman emphasized, though, that the new coach, as yet unnamed, would definitely be a regular Air Force officer. Lieutenant Colonel Robert V. Whitlow is the current athletic head there.

Class Schedule Limits Practice

The plan now is to start slowly with the athletic buildup, fielding frosh teams in the major sports next season, and gradually expanding standards and activities of the cadets in varsity competition. One hitch, Zimmerman explained, is that the tentative class schedule drawn up for the first school year doesn't even allow time for football practice until after 5 o'clock.

The 1955 freshman football team of the Academy will face an eight-game schedule, meeting such freshman teams as the Colorado university, New Mexico and Oklahoma frosh elevens. It should be worth watching to see how these first cadets fare on the gridiron, as they will be together for only a few weeks before the first game begins. They will carry the first athletic honor of the Air Force.

In their second season, the cadets will be pitted against varsity teams from smaller leagues such as the Rocky Mountain conference. Probably their schedule will include such small grid powers as Idaho State, Colorado college, Montana State and other intermountain teams. Then with three classes to draw from in 1957, the Airmen hope to jump a notch to the Skyline conference level (Utah, Denver, Wyoming, Brigham Young).

Oregon vs. Air Force?

And in the fourth year, Air Force teams may be meeting such opposition as Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska. These rates of increase may be a bit hard for the young cadets to handle, though, and the first year's experience next fall should go a long way toward determining the Academy's future in sports.

Who knows? With negotiations started recently for a possible Oregon-Navy football game in or near 1960, perhaps some day the program will read: Oregon vs. Air Force Academy. It will probably be quite a while before the Airmen can think about facing Coast conference teams in any sports. But they will soon be a definite power on the athletic scene and should be interesting to observe.

Gola, Russell Get All-America Spots

By TED MEIER

NEW YORK (AP)—Tom Gola of La Salle's defending NCAA champions, Robin Freeman of Ohio State, Bill Russell of San Francisco, Dick Ricketts of Duquesne and Darrell Floyd of Furman were named Wednesday to the 1955 Associated Press All-America basketball team.

Gola, regarded as the best present day collegiate player, dominated the voting by 323 sportswriters and broadcasters. On the basis of five points for a first team vote and two points for a second team vote, Gola polled 1488 points. He received 294 firsts and nine seconds.

Freeman, who injured his ankle and did not play the last month, nevertheless was a strong second with 955 points. Russell followed with 748, Ricketts with 725 and Floyd with 585.

Don Schlundt of Indiana, who made the 1954 first team, missed out this year. He polled 577 points to top the second team. Rounding out the second quintet were Dick Hemric of Wake Forest, Si Green of Duquesne, Dick Garmaker of Minnesota and Ron Shavlik of North Carolina State. Thirty honorable players received honorable mention, including Wade (Swede) Halbrook of Oregon State.

The son of a Philadelphia policeman, the 6-7 Gola is the first to be chosen All-America for three consecutive years. The sportswriters have been hard put to find new adjectives to describe his brilliant all-around play. Usually he gets as many rebounds as he does points and his opponents will vouch that he gets too many of those.

Freeman, a frail 155-pounder, was spectacular for Ohio State until his ankle mishap. Standing only 5-11 he nevertheless ran rings around taller opponents and was one of the top scorers in the Big Ten conference. Like Gola, he is a great competitor and has the deft touch of a natural shot.

Russell, a 6-10 Negro, is perhaps the surprise of the season. Virtually unknown before the season started, Bill the Stuffer, as he is called, has led San Francisco to the No. 1 ranking in the weekly Associated Press poll.

Ricketts, other than Gola, the only senior on the team, is the highest scoring player in Duquesne's history and one of the best, defensively, too.

Floyd, at 6-1 the second smallest player on the team, came into his own this year at Furman. He was overshadowed last season by his teammate, Frank Selvy, who virtually rewrote the record book with his scoring feats.

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UO Pool Hosts Top Swimmers

Oregon's antiquated men's pool will play host to the top swimmers of the conference Friday and Saturday for the Northern Division swim meet. Events start at 3:30 Friday afternoon.

Oregon Coach John Borchardt predicts tight battles in all events, but the Washington Huskies, from the season's results, are favored to take the trophy.

Washington has Dan Cramer, John Goode, Larry Dalrymple and Dale Jewett, all consistent

tape-breakers owning the fastest times in their events.

Slawson Leads Beavers

Don Conner and Gary Staples are the backbone of Washington State's tank squad, and Dick Slawson will probably carry a major proportion of OSC's load.

Closest race could come in the 50-yard freestyle, where Washington's Cramer, Oregon's Howard Hedinger, Washington State's Art Mindheim and Idaho's Jerry Jones will be the top entries. Each man has lost to a rival who, in turn, has lost to a man the first man has beaten.

In the individual medley event, Goode, Slawson and Conner look best, in that order. Diving will feature Bryan Richards from Idaho, who must better OSC's Eric Jones and Staples of WSC.

Goode Tops Entries

Goode seems to be the dominating back stroker, with Cramer and Barrie Davis ranking two and three. In the breast stroke, Jewett, Don Flaherty and Ron Taylor of Washington, Bob Coiner of OSC and Bob Hays of Oregon are the leading entries.

The 200-yard butterfly event is comparatively new to swimming circles and for this reason is a wide-open event, with Jewett, Flaherty and Hays all figuring in a possible first-place finish.

Best 440 freestyle time is Slawson's 5:12.9, but Oregon's Harry Fuller, Idaho's Fritz Holtz, WSC's Conner and Washington's Dalrymple could all take a spoiler's role.

In the final event, the 400-yard freestyle relay, Washington State's 3:39.5 is the season's best, but Oregon is the only undefeated ND relay quartet.

Sports Staff

Desk Editor: Jack Wilson.
Staff: Jerry Claussen, Al Johnson, Buzz Nelson, Bob Rogers, Chuck Mitchelmore.

Jim Konstantly of Philadelphia was the last pitcher to get the National league's valuable player award, winning it in 1950.

Oregon Riflemen Take League Win

University of Oregon's varsity rifle team fired its second high score of the year Tuesday night to take a Willamette Valley Rifle league win from the Eugene Moose, 967 (951-16) to 952 (931-21).

Four Webfoot marksmen hit 190 or above for the first time this season. Lee Tucker topped all shooters with 192/200. Ben Kahalekulu followed with 191 and Dick Bufflington and Norm Silliman tied for third with 190's. Michael McKenzie, newly-elected team captain rounded out the all Oregon top five with a 188.

Saturday the Air Force ROTC members of the team travel to Corvallis for a Sub-Area 3 match with Oregon State, Portland university and Willamette. The results of the four squads firing at Oregon State will then be compared with other schools in other northwest AFROTC sub-areas.

Sederstrom Gets Track Triumph

Sederstrom hall moved into the championship bracket Wednesday by rolling to a 53-22 IM track victory over Sherry Ross hall. Sederstrom will meet Omega hall for the freshman dorm championship tonight at 3:45.

Sederstrom took eight out of nine firsts, three seconds, and three thirds. Milt Blevins got the only Sherry Ross win in the 40-yard dash.

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