

EMERALD Sports

Duck Tracks

By Buzz Nelson
Emerald Sports Writer

The Northern Division baseball schedule is set to kick off this week with any one of four teams having a chance to nab the championship. Coach Don Kirsch's Ducks have won the last two years in photo finishes with Oregon State, and the Webfoots again are sentimental favorites around Eugene.

Oregon has a veteran lineup that swept Far West honors last season and played (somewhat ingloriously) in the national tourney at Omaha. The loss of star hurler Norm Forbes has cut deeply into pitching depth, but Duck boosters have been heartened by recent fine showings by Terry Maddox, Pete Williams, Bill Blodgett and some sophomore hurlers.

Beavers Claim Experience

Ralph Coleman's Beavers finished just one game behind Oregon in 1954 and also have a veteran lineup returning. All-American Jay Dean at first (.439 in '54), Chuck Fisk (.400) at second, transfer Jerry Bettendorf at third and Bob Boub (.324) at short round out a potent infield.

In the outfield Coley can call on Phil Jantze, Jerry Exley, Jim Ruggles, Jim Withrow and Johnny Frederick, all heavy hitters. Catcher is Jack Stephenson.

The mound staff is composed of Lowell Pearce, Al Giudotti, Joe Epperly, Lynn Mohler, Dick Wilson, Syl Johnson, Frank Weist and Merlin DeHass. Norb Wellman, wheel-horse of the staff in 1954, has graduated, but Oregon State has deep, if not first-class hurling.

With its terrific hitting, OSC might be figured to cop the championship. Yet the Beavers have been known to blow hot and cold (sometimes called choking up). The defense, especially in the infield, is quite porous, and the pitching staff has yet to really prove itself.

Washington Boasts Pitchers

Washington, which tied for second last year (Oregon 11-5, OSC 10-6, Washington 10-6, WSC 7-9, Idaho 2-14), is a distinct threat. Coach Bill Marx' Huskies have two top-flight pitchers in Bill Reams and soph Monte Geiger. They also have the number two hitter in the league in catcher Jack Ballard (.467). But Ballard has been edged out for the catching job by soph Jack Brady, who was batting .455 at last notice.

In the outfield Washington has Bill Eakin, Dave George, Don Hill, Rod Pressey and Lou Roselli. Marx is using a two-platoon outfield this year, with Geiger, Eakin, and George batting against southpaws, and Hill, Pressey and Roselli going against righthanders.

Larry Watson plays first, Harvey Jarvis second, Jack Scott shortstop and Dave McClary third. The Huskies have a lot of .300 plus hitters but haven't been too consistent so far this year. They were silenced by Seattle Wednesday, losing a twin bill by scores of 7-2 and 2-1.

Washington will have good defense, weak to fair hitting, and top flight pitching, with Geiger as the mainstay and a good bet for most of the league's pitching honors. They open the schedule this weekend against WSC.

Bailey Back at Helm

Washington State will again be noted chiefly for its colorful (a mild adjective) coach, Buck Bailey. Buck's club won four straight titles from 1947 to 1950 but has trailed since then. WSC has a young outfit, but if the juniors and sophs should come through, they could catch the other clubs.

The top pitchers are Ron Webb, Wes Stock, Jerry Bartow, and Ron Aiken. Bill Rich catches, Earl McIntosh is at first, Gordy Hershey at second, Bill Mashburn at third and Ron Foisy at short. Outfielders are Terry Sparks, Ron Overby and Jim Ford. Only McIntosh and Sparks are seniors.

Idaho has never finished higher than third in 22 seasons, and partly because of that is not considered a contender. Yet the Vandals have shown fairly well in pre-season contests. After losing three in a row, they turned around to win their next five. Flip Kleffner, third baseman, has been pounding the ball all spring.

So in case the rain should let up and some games manage to get played, we might pick a final finish like this: 1) Oregon, 2) Washington, 3) Oregon State, 4) Washington State, and 5) Idaho.

Oregon Netters Host Willamette In Clash Today

Three more non-conference matches are optimistically scheduled for Hilbert Lee's varsity tennis squad this week with Seattle's Chieftains, Willamette and Portland university providing the opposition.

Tuesday afternoon the Chiefs will take to the courts against the Ducks at 3, weather permitting. The Bearcats move in on Thursday while Portland's Pilots are booked for a Saturday date.

These matches, if sandwiched between rain squalls, will complete the non-conference schedule for the Ducks, who take on Washington's perennial Northern Division champions Friday here. In previous action the Ducks have beaten Reed college and the Oregon Medical school while losing to Portland.

Janet Hopps, one of the top women's singles aces in the Northwest, will spark the Seattle university team, and men's ace Jack Neer tops Portland university's strong squad.

Leading the Huskies again is Bill Quillian, singles champ of the division for three years.

Oregon's team, as usual, will probably be composed of Ron Carlson, Bob Baker, Dick Gray, Don Bonime and Dick Hamilton.

Boxing Champion To Battle Cuban In Feature TV Go

By MURRAY ROSE
Of The Associated Press

Lightweight champion Jimmy Carter, unbeaten in his last six fights, and Cuba's Orlando Zulueta, a non-winner in his last four, meet in a non-title 10-rounder in Washington's Uline arena Wednesday night.

The 31-year-old 135-pound king has a habit of getting careless in overweight scraps and the 26-year-old Cuban is hoping to catch him in one of those off-nights.

Zulueta once was the No. 1 contender but he never got a shot at the title. Three straight losses and a Jan. 31 draw with Danny Jo Perez has sent him skidding to ninth among the contenders.

Strange things happen in boxing, however, and if Zully should happen to have a hot night against the champ in their television tilt (CBS-TV, 7 p.m. PST) he might earn a crack at the crown after all.

In the other "live" coast-to-coast TV fight of the week, 19-year-old Willie Pastrano of New Orleans takes on Willie (No Clinch) Troy of Washington, D.C., in a middleweight 10 rounder.

Odd-Engined Car Given Approval

INDIANAPOLIS (AP)—A belated entry for the 39th annual 500-mile race here May 30 had officials of the Indianapolis Motor Speedway puzzled Monday—but they accepted it.

It came from Walter F. Strader of Los Angeles who entered a Planacircle Special which he said is fitted with an engine having neither cylinders nor pistons.

His entry blank gave this description:

"The fuel mixture is compressed in two combustion chambers through a system of rotors."

He added that the engine has a displacement of 137 cubic inches—half the 274 cubic inches allowed non-supercharged engines.

Golfers Go South For Match Play

A powerful University of Oregon golf team left for California early this morning where six Duck golfers will participate in the Northern California Intercollegiate tournament at Pasatiempo golf course in Santa Cruz.

Accompanied by Coach Sid Milligan, the Webfoot divoters will get their first taste of non-conference competition in the three-day meet slated to start Thursday. Last Saturday Oregon opened its Northern Division season with a 17-10 win over Washington at the Eugene country club.

The tournament will be played similarly to the NCAA championships in which the team title will be determined by individual performances in match play. At least 26 colleges from the North-

west and California will have entrants in the tourney.

The Duck traveling squad to the tournament included five varsity team members and one freshman. Captain Neil Dwyer headed a six-man squad that also included lettermen Bob Takano, Sophomores Barry Ott, Bob Norquist and Don Bick plus Freshman Bob Prall.

The Oregon team will practice on the tough Pasatiempo course Wednesday in preparation for the meet and will return to Eugene Sunday after the championships are decided. Oregon State, Portland university and Seattle university will also represent the Northwest. Strong San Jose State and Stanford, the favorite for individual and the team titles, are two of the California entries.

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