

Weather Hurts Ducks For Baseball Opener

Emeralds Slate Opener Tonight



FIVE OREGON BASEBALL PLAYERS level their war clubs as they prepare for a possible Northern Division baseball double-header with Idaho today here. From left to right the Ducks, all of whom were all-ND choices last season, include Norm Forbes, Johnny Keller, Neil Marlett, Pete Williams and George Shaw.

By Buzz Nelson
Emerald Assistant Sports Editor

Oregon's baseball team just can't seem to beat the rain.

Monday's game was rained out and every effort will be made to get in a doubleheader against Idaho today at 1:30 p.m. But just between us and the government meteorologist (who has forecasted more rain for the rest of the week), there is little likelihood of any games being played.

Yesterday's rainout was the fifth Northern Division game that Oregon has had cancelled or postponed until a later date. And before that four games with Linfield college were drowned out.

The first OSC series can be made up on May 21-22 when the teams meet again in a home-and-home series. But last week's home games against Washington State have been cancelled permanently. WSC will not make another trip to the Willamette valley to try to play Oregon and OSC. And Oregon will certainly not try to play six games or eight games in five

days when they tour the Inland Empire.

The same goes for today's schedule. If the games against Idaho are rained out, they will not be made up.

And coming up this weekend is another home series against the Washington Huskies. The Ducks would be sorely hurt to miss these home contests where they stand their best chance of winning.

Washington and Idaho are the only teams that have managed to get in games, the Huskies winning all four. If all the rest of the Northern Division games should be rained out, the Huskies would be ND champions.

In case the weather improves sufficiently to let the teams play today, the contests probably will be played on the Frosh diamond, below Howe field.

Oregon Coach Don Kirsch has a well-rested mound staff and can pitch any one of a number of hurlers. Bill Blodgett (2-1) and either Bill Garner (1-1) or Terry Maddox (1-0) are likely start-

ers, with John Lundell (1-0) and Pete Williams (1-0) in reserve.

Clem Perberry, Idaho mentor, will call on Dick Dodel and Aubrey Stephens to start, with Tom Vopat, Rog Ranta and Dominick Polillo ready to go in.

Centerfielder George Shaw is still the leading Oregon sticker with an average of .400. Shaw has had no trouble holding his position since April 8 when the last games were played.

Oregon Net Team Faces Willamette On Courts Today

The last non-conference tennis match of the season is on the schedule for today with the Willamette Bearcats. It will depend on the weather conditions and will begin at 3 p.m. if played outside.

An earlier match with the Bearcats was rained out, but there is a possibility of playing indoors at McArthur Court. The Ducks finally got in two matches last weekend, but lost two straight to Washington and Portland universities.

Next match for the Duck netters will be this weekend at home against Oregon State's Beavers. The Ducks and Beavers will be meeting for the first time this season, with the approval of the weatherman.

Gridder Wrenches Knee

SEATTLE (AP)—The University of Washington football camp suffered its first injury of spring training Monday as Coach Johnny Cherberg put the squad through a tough scrimmage session.

Veteran guard F. Robinson was pulled with a wrenched knee and Cherberg said the big lad would be sidelined the rest of the week.

By The Associated Press

The Northwest Baseball League, only seven-team circuit in the nation, swings into its first season Tuesday night with untried clubs and high hopes.

Opening night schedules of the new Class B league place Eugene at Salem, Wenatchee at Yakima and Spokane at Lewiston. The seventh club, Tri-City, draws a bye for the first three days.

The Northwest League takes up where the Class A Western International League left off. Eugene is the only club in the new circuit that wasn't a member of the WIL in its troubled 1954 season.

Eugene Renews Franchise

Headed by Dick Richards, the former general manager at Yakima, Wenatchee and Tri-City, Eugene returns to professional baseball after a four-season absence. The Emeralds were in the Class D Far West League when it folded in 1951.

The WIL closed down after last year's disastrous season, when Calgary, Spokane and Victoria all disbanded during the year.

The six surviving teams voted to enter 1955 with a Class B operation, the Northwest League, and Arthur H. Pohlman of Wenatchee was elected president.

Fans Own Team

Pohlman was president of the Wenatchee club in 1950 and 1951, when Wenatchee became the first community-owned team in the WIL. All the Northwest League clubs now are operating on a fan-owned basis.

On the eve of the season Pohlman, at Wenatchee, expressed optimism.

Good Season Viewed

"The WIL enjoyed some of its best days from 1946 to 1952 when it was a Class B league and the new league is looking forward to a very successful first season."

Pohlman announced these umpire teams and their opening day assignments: At Yakima, Gordon

Bogle and Bob LaRue; at Salem, Ted Howe and Phil Reed; at Lewiston, Mike Runyan and Mel Ross.

Managers of the league teams, all veteran baseball men, are Edo Vanni at Wenatchee; Hub Kittle, Yakima; Cliff Dapper, Eugene; Hugh Luby, Salem; Don Pries, Tri-City; Eddie Lake, Spokane, and Hillis Layne, Lewiston.

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