

EMERALD Sports

Duck Tracks

By Buzz Nelson
Emerald Sports Writer

The Webfoots dragged down their third consecutive Northern Division baseball championship last weekend and a most welcome win it was, too. It meant a lot to those seniors—and to those other players who have played on the previous Oregon winners.

It means a lot to the student body and those connected with the University. The year 1954-55 was one of the best for athletics at Oregon in a good long time. Not only did the Ducks have the finest football team in the Northwest and a tremendous individual performer in George Shaw, but they also captured championships in track and baseball.

The season isn't quite over for the last two sports. In the PCC meet here Friday and Saturday Oregon track fans will finally get a chance to see Bill Bowerman's stalwarts perform against top-flight competition. And after the PCC, there will be other meets for such stars as Bill Dellinger, Ken Reiser, and Jim Bailey.

Forbes Loss Overcome

Coach Don Kirsch did a good job with the baseball team this year, especially considering the arm trouble of all-Coast pitcher Norm Forbes. With only one dependable hurler in Terry Maddox, Kirsch still managed a 10-3 ND mark.

Another big test is set for this weekend when the Ducks invade the lair of the Trojans. Southern California, playing on its home field, will be heavily favored, despite losing in the Far West playoffs last spring. Coach Rod Dedeaux and his veteran club remember those 1954 losses and will be in a vengeful mood.

If Oregon gets by El Trojan there will still be another hurdle before the NCAA playoffs at Omaha June 10-14. The winner of the PCC will be matched against the survivor of a tournament of four at-large teams.

Willamette In Tournament

This double elimination tourney, to be played at Fresno, Calif., opens today with Pepperdine playing San Jose State and Willamette, Northwest Conference winner, meeting Fresno State. The playoff between the PCC champ and the winner of this tourney will be held June 3-4 at Los Angeles. Then on to the NCAA at Omaha.

Since the PCC playoffs were inaugurated in 1947, no Northern Division team has ever won in the Southland. Washington State, in 1950, Oregon State, in 1952, and Oregon, in 1954, won on their home grounds. But the closest an ND team has come to winning in California was in 1951 when Oregon State lost two games to one to USC.

That was the year that big Bailey Brem took the first Saturday game in high style, but was batted out of the box when Coach Coleman started him again in the Saturday nightcap. The Beavers made a late-game rally but couldn't catch up.

Ducks Without Precedent

So the Ducks have no precedent to work on. If they win they'll be the first. And to win they'll have to play the best they have all year. That means top flight pitching, and not only from Terry Maddox. Two Medford sophomores might have to pitch two games if the series goes to three games, but somebody will have to take a mound turn.

A possibility, of course, is Forbes. He's only pitched three innings all season, but Kirsch may decide to throw him against the Trojans. If not, then Bill Garner or Bill Blodgett will probably get the nod for the second game. Garner looked good against OSC Saturday, and but for several fielding lapses (one of them his own), might have emerged a 4-2 winner.

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Norb Wellman of OSC was the Northern Division's workhorse pitcher in 1954. The Beaver captain pitched 66 innings and struck out 45 batters while winning four games and losing three.

Ducks, Trojans Start Conference Playoff



DICK SCHLOSSTEIN
Ready for Trojans



JIM JOHNSON
Duck Second Sacker

Oregon goes after its second Pacific Coast conference baseball title in a row this afternoon in Los Angeles, meeting the University of Southern California in the first game of a possible three-game series.

Following today's game (starting time 2:15 p.m. (PST), a Saturday game will be played at 11:30 a.m. (PST). If neither team has won the first two, then a third and deciding contest will follow.

Duck Coach Don Kirsch will probably start Terry Maddox on the mound against the hard-hitting USC club. Trojan Coach Rod Dedeaux is likely to nominate either Ralph Pausig or Vic Lapiener for first game chores.

The rest of the Oregon lineup will be Dick Schlosstein at first, Jim Johnson at second, Pete Williams at third, John Keller at short, George Shaw in center, Jerry Ross in left and Norm Forbes in right, and Neal Marlett catching.

USC will counter with Kent Hadley 1b, Jim Oros 2b, Bill Faddis 3b, John Stevenson, ss., Gerry Mason rf, Gary Robin lf, Tony Santino cf, and John Garten c.

Oregon has an 18-8 won-lost record on the season while the Trojans sport a 27-8 mark.

Sigma Chi Gets Softball Crown; ATO's in Track

Sigma Chi, Alpha Tau Omega and the Dorm Counselors were elevated to intramural championships in softball, track and tennis as a result of Thursday afternoon games.

An error-filled contest saw the Sigs edge Phi Kappa Psi 8-7 in the softball final, delayed for three days; the ATO's downed Sigma Phi Epsilon in track 39½-29½; and the Dorm Counselors took Hale Kane, 2-0, in the net final.

Sigma Chi's Unbeaten

Supplanting Phi Kappa Sigma as softball champs, Sigma Chi completed a march to the finals defeating four league opponents handily, and whipping Barrister Inn and the Legal Eagles in playoff action.

Outfield errors hurt the Phi Psi cause as the Sigs put over three first-inning runs on two errors by the losers. Phi Psi countered with three tallies in the second, but Sigma Chi got the go-ahead tally in their half.

Two-run innings in both the third and fifth gave Sig pitcher Rich Butler margin enough to win. Phi Psi got three runs in the fifth, with Bob Somerville's two-run single the big blow, and a final marker in the seventh. Larry Anderson was the losing hurler.

Morris Leads ATO's

In track, Al Morris led Alpha Tau Omega with wins in the pole vault and three-quarter mile run. Max Anderson took a 5'8" win in the high jump, Jerry Jones put the shot 49 feet, and Sam Notos broad-jumped 20'5" for other ATO wins.

For the losing Sig Eps, Don Spinus captured the 70-yard high hurdles and Tom Moreland took the 75-yard dash. The relay trio of Moreland, Spinus and Tom Taylor also won.

Defending champions for the three sports were Phi Delta Theta in the track competition, Phi Kappa Sigma in softball, and Alpha Tau Omega in tennis.

IM Titles Split

This spring's results saw two fraternities and two independent teams capture titles. The Hale Kane team won the golf title in an earlier contest.

The softball win was worth 150 points, with the runner-up Phi Psi's getting 134 tallies. Track accounted for 100, with 87 for the second-placers. And tennis was good for 100 also, and 87 for second.

Test Runs Ended For Indianapolis

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Drivers made their last test runs today for the 500-mile auto race Monday at speeds up to 138.5 miles an hour, indicating they expect Bill Vukovich's 130.84 mile-an-hour record last year may not be fast enough this time.

They were driving at supposed racing speed with full tanks of fuel to test carburetion and fuel consumption.

Ed Elisian of Oakland, Calif., scattered a broke brake casting over the track and Eddie Russo of Crown Point, Ind., picked up a nail in one of his tires. But both kept their cars under control and will be in the lineup Monday.

Indianapolis Motor Speedway officials and a drivers' committee approved four rookies for relief driving, under a rule change letting newcomers into the race without qualifying a car.

Athletic Honorary Gets UO Members

Bob Reid, Terry Maddox and Dave Newland have completed all 15 requirements for Sigma Delta Psi, national athletic honorary, according to Gene Evonuk, instructor in physical education.

Maddox, top pitcher on the baseball team, and Reid and Newland, both pole-vaulters on the track team, were a select few to finish the rugged tests necessary to become a member of the honorary.

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