

EMERALD Sports

Duck Tracks

By Chuck Mitchelmore
Emerald Sports Editor

With the start of the conference season play, the basketball "dope book" influx is upon us, and this year's crop is as varied as usual. We've got everything from Colorado's slick pictorial edition to Stanford's mimeographed comprehensive prospectus.

It's too bad that these labors of love by the athletic publicity directors are wasted only on the press and radio, with all the little items that are tossed in to make a "readable" book.

There was a time when the dope book contest between the schools was a matter of who was firstest, but now, thank goodness, it's a matter of the mostest.

Indian Book Comprehensive

Stanford's Don Liebendorfer once again comes through with the most comprehensive player notes. The Indian prospectus has no pictures or illustrations to put it in running with the Hollywood-style books, but when it comes to pure information, you can't beat what's packed into the 13 large, economy-sized pages.

At the other extreme, the Colorado book boasts pictures of everybody from the University president and faculty representative to the freshman team and individual varsity members. Of course this limits the amount of information for this year's team, especially with the list of game scores every season dating back to 1902.

UCLA's five-man publicity staff again comes up with just about everything possible in the way of information, including thumbnail sketches of the freshman players, a service which was matched only in part by Oregon's Art Litchman.

Huskies' Printing Best

Washington's John Thompson, the loop's newcomer to the publicity ranks, has a contender for top honors with the purple and gold covered Husky book. Information is good, as it was in football, and the printing is the best.

Covers are the real competition sparks, with action shots featuring top players the most common. In this department, however, the patriotic Oregon State display takes the cake.

John Eggers' 1956 product is fronted by a lanky blue beaver dropping a red ball through a red and white basket. Inside pictures are the usual coaches and administrative staff officials.

Beavers Emphasize All-Stars

As for information, the Beaver dope book may replace most any encyclopedia for variety of coverage, but there's not too much to say about Oregon State basketball for 1956, which is, after all, the book's title.

Main feature of the book is a 27-man all-time, all-star team chosen by Slat Gill from his best men in specialized hoop skills, such as "shooting on the run" or "scoring from foul line, either side of the keyhole."

Art Litchman's contribution from the Oregon athletic department features a nice, sidelighted shot of the Mac court student entrance, pictures of the five lettermen returnees and a wrestling prospectus, th only one on the coast so far.

Home Advantage Cited by Borchers

EUGENE (AP)—One of the major problems in basketball is the decided advantage held by the home team, coach Bill Borchers of the University of Oregon squad said Wednesday.

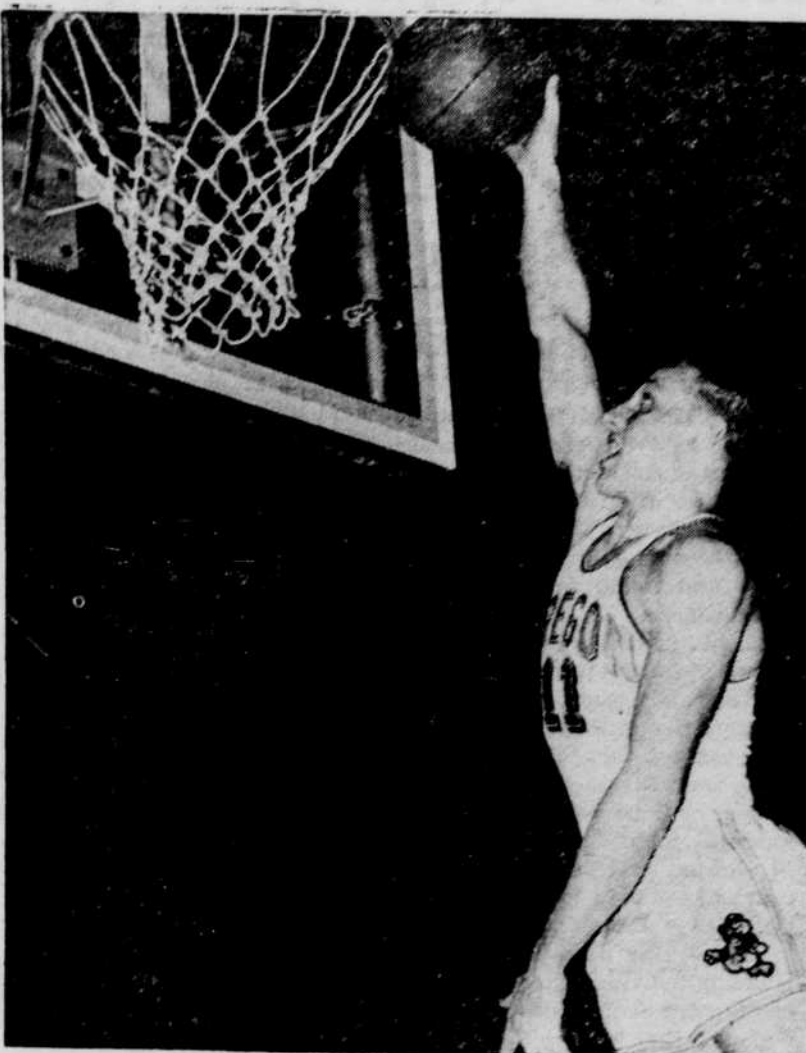
He said that in the 34 games played so far this season on home courts, Pacific Coast Conference teams had won 24 and lost 10. But in the 28 games played on the opponents' home court, the same teams had won only 3 and lost 25.

On neutral courts, PCC squads have won 10 and lost 7.

Oregon plays Portland University in a non-conference game Saturday night.

Phil McHugh, standout football and basketball player at Oregon, should make the All-American scholastic team with ease. McHugh has maintained a 3.4 grade point average in addition to competing in both sports.

Ducks Host Portland Quint



JERRY ROSS, 6-1 senior from Portland has become the Webfoots number two scorer with over 13 points per game average. A stand-out forward last season, Ross switched to guard this year and has found his touch in the last four games.

Portland university's free-wheeling Pilots will move into McArthur Court Saturday night in the hope of registering a win over Bill Borchers' Oregon Webfoots, as the two schools clash in their only game this season.

For the Ducks, it will be the first action since the twin wins over Colorado A&M during December's last week. The Pilots racked up a win over Lewis & Clark Tuesday night in their last contest.

Al Negratti's Portland club has been the racehorse team of the area thus far, attempting to stifle opposition by turning loose fast guards Jim Winters and Jack Scrivens. The front-line men of the PU forces are center Bob Altenhofen, a 6-4 senior; sophomore Gene Kutsch and freshman Frank Rector (a second team all-stater from Medford last year).

Back for the Ducks will be Ed Bingham and Charley Franklin, forwards who missed most of the Colorado A&M games. Franklin was unable to reach Eugene because of travel difficulties and Bingham suffered a groin injury in the first Aggie tilt.

Expected to start as usual for the Ducks are the three top scorers, center Max Anderson and guards Jerry Ross and Phil McHugh. Anderson leads the team with a 17.3 avg. and Ross follows with a 13.4 mark. Franklin and Bingham are expected to be candidates for the forward slots along with Bill Moore and Ray Bell, who performed against A&M.

Oregon outfought the Pilots last year in an 82-78 contest at Portland that was decided in the last few seconds, maintaining their 13-2 lifetime edge in games with Portland. Portland has lost but two games this season, both in overtime.

In addition, the game will be Family Night, with 5000 seats set aside for a special section. A single \$2 ticket will admit parents and children of school age.

College Basketball

By the Associated Press

Dayton 68, Duquesne 52
Pitt 72, Columbia 58
Ohio U. 98, Georgetown 79
West Ky. 75, Xavier 73
St. Louis 110, LSU 79
Clemson 98, Miami 96
Tulane 72, Georgia 56
Colgate 92, Puerto Rico 69
Manhattan 79, St. Peter's 66
Maryland 62, George Wash. 48

Patty Berg Named Athlete of Year

CHICAGO (AP)—Patty Berg — Thursday named Woman Athlete of the Year for 1955—calls herself a "meat and potatoes" player.

"By that I mean that last year I was hitting the greens in regulation" said the 37-year-old redhead who won six major tournaments. "That's the meat and potatoes of golf—the key to the game."

"Every winter down at my home in Fort Meyers, Fla., I give my game a complete self-analysis" she told a reporter. "A year ago I decided that my drives and long irons could stand some improvement. So I concentrated on that phase in practices. This winter I'm going in for chipping and putting."

It is the third time Patty has been voted Woman Athlete of the Year by the nation's sports writers and broadcasters. She won the honor in 1938 and again in 1943—two years after shattering her knee cap in an auto accident and spending 18 months in hospital.

In 1955 she became the first woman to take both the money-winning title \$16,492, and Vare Trophy based on a low scoring 74.47 stroke average in the same season. She polled 200 points in the voting—beating out golfer Babe Zaharias by 54 and tennis player Doris Hart, who was third, by a whopping 107.

Bowl Players Complete Training

MOBILE, Ala. (AP)—Northern and Southern squads wound up heavy training Thursday for Saturday's Senior Bowl game.

Both South Coach Paul Brown and North Coach Buddy Parker said they were "well pleased" with the way the squads shaped up.

The South's No. 1 quarterback Bob Hardy of Kentucky—was hampered slightly by an arm ailment in the afternoon drill. Brown said the injury—a swollen vein—was minor and Hardy probably would be in shape by Saturday.

The South team had been installed as a one-touchdown favorite—largely on the quarterbacking of Hardy—most valuable played in the Blue-Gray game.

Sports Staff

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