

Duck Tracks

By TOM CHAPMAN
Emerald Sports Writer

A glance at the holiday sports scene: The fumble in football and the missed free throw in basketball have dimmed, but only slightly, the sporting chances of two state of Oregon athletic teams.

Miscues Hurt Beavers

Two first quarter miscues against the Iowa Hawkeyes cost the Beavers of Oregon State what little chance they had in the 43rd Rose Bowl game January 1, and these fumbles put enough daylight between the two teams on the scoreboard as to deny any chance for an OSC victory and an end to the long Big Ten supremacy which extended to ten wins in 11 games with the PCC representative. Iowa was clearly the better team, yet the Beavers were equal in first downs, and completed ten out of 14 passes, still not enough to quell the same team which had won by only one point earlier in the season.

Both Beaver fumbles led to Hawkeye touchdowns, with the first quarter yet finished, and the Beavers never came close after that, with Kenny Ploen tossing nine completions in ten tries for the Hawks, and Don Dobrino and Collins Hagler running for all kinds of yardage.

Earnel Durden, the Beavers leading ground-gainer during the regular season, carried the ball only three times (for 25 yards), but Joe Francis took up the slack with 203 net yards, 130 through the air.

But the final score of 35-19 showed a two-touchdown deficit, those two fumbled away chances in the first quarter by the Orange.

Trouble at the Foul Line

Now the free throw problems: those by a group of Oregon basketball players striving against the best intersectional competition in the country. The Ducks played seven teams and only two in friendly MacArthur court. Yet they won two of those, beating Texas by one point and then taking the second game of a three game tour of the midwest, from Tulsa.

But, for a certain ineptness at the charity line, the Ducks could have sewed up three more of those games, against Rice, Missouri and Wichita. Forget the first game when the Ducks would have been lucky to gain a spot in the Oregon A-2 tourney. The score, which was 79-46 in favor of the Portland Pilots, was as bad as it sounds, but the Pilots of Al Negratti are certainly not that good. It was just a green group of Webfoots taking little advantage of the opportunities which came their way.

The comeback which occurred the following evening against the traveling Longhorns and their All-American Ray Downs seemed unbelievable to the handful of spectators, but was an indication of future things to come.

Tucker 'Held' to 17

And when Rice, with their All-American center Temple Tucker, took the floor in the second of the holiday double-headers, the free throw jinx became costly for the first time. Oregon outshot the Owls from the floor, held Tucker to a mere 17 points (not very many for a boy who tossed in 43 points in a Southwest conference game last year), and generally outplayed the Texans, only to lose on a last second field goal. Then another free-throw loss to Missouri 59-52—the same Big Seven Tigers who are being counted upon to give Wilt Chamberlain and Company a run for the money when the conference season opens.

The Ducks' trip through the midwest brought more of the same against Wichita — they outshot the Wheatshockers from the field 26 to 19 — only to lose by five points. Odd enough, only six fouls were called on the Kansans, so one could hardly call it a failure at the free throw line. Just not enough chances.

The last two against Tulsa and Oklahoma City produced a win and a loss, with vet forward Charlie Franklin coming into his own with a 20-point performance in each game. The Chiefs provided too much with Hubert Reed, the third potential All-American to face the Ducks in their first seven games.

Odds and Ends: Bill Moore, senior forward, who was expected to sit out the final five intersectionals with a badly cut eye, jumped into the lineup against Tulsa and scored 15 points . . . Duck free throw tally sheet: 75 hits and 73 misses for a percentage of .507.

Webfoots Beat Southwest Foes; Face Cal Next

By JERRY RAMSEY,
Emerald Asst. Sports Editor
Oregon's quick Ducks put seven rugged pre-season hoop matches behind them in 1956, finishing their non-conference action with a two-win, five-loss record.

The Webfoots of Steve Belko stayed close to home for their first four games, and then took a three-game holiday tour through the Midwest, meeting Wichita, Tulsa and Oklahoma in rapid succession. The Ducks returned in time for registration and are presently drilling for their conference opener at California Jan. 11.

This was supposedly a rebuilding year for Belko's hoop



BILL MOORE
Bad eye didn't stop him

group, but their schedule doesn't look like it. The Ducks have been running in some pretty fast company; they've done right well in some instances and have kept up appearances most of the rest of the time. All in all, the Webfoot outfit bids fair to be a surprise package when PCC play opens next week.

Oregon initiated its season in disastrous fashion at Portland Dec. 7. The fast, well-balanced Pilots did most everything well, while the Ducks were lucky to break past the center line. A 79-46 walloping was the result of this affair, and Portland, one of the country's top small-college

teams, has lost one game since, and may be headed for a berth in the NAIA tourney.

Rather than returning home to lick wounds the next night, the Webfoots faced another strenuous test at Mac Court. They went up against the rawboned Longhorns of Texas, and no one really expected much of a battle. But Belko's influence was displayed prominently that night, as the Ducks withstood a late Texas comeback to win a real thriller, 65 to 64. Home folks got their first glimpse at the new talents of Hal Duffy, Wimp Hastings, Eli Morgan and Bud Kuykendall and went away impressed—as did the Texans.

Then followed a ten-day timeout for finals for the Ducks, which ended Dec. 18 against Rice. Home again, Oregon faced a team with much national acclaim, and a 6'10" All-American candidate named Temple Tucker. The Owls should have been too much for the locals, but they weren't; in one of Mac Court's top thrillers, the two teams stayed close at every turn, until a Rice substitute broke a 59-59 tie with about ten seconds left to buy his team a 61-59 triumph.

Trading foes with Oregon State the following eve, the Webfoots had free-throw trouble again and lost to Missouri by a 59-52 score, despite a field-goal edge. The Show-me-state boys had knocked off Slat's Gill's squad by 30 points on Tuesday night, and they made their Northwest junket a perfect one by playing smart ball against Oregon, but the game was close.

After Christmas, Oregon's hoopsters took a trip of their own: a three-games-in-four-days circuit through the Midwest.

Starting things in Kansas Dec. 28, the Webfoots came up against a strong Wichita squad, struggled mightily, but fell, 63 to 58. Charlie Franklin turned in the first of three fine performances on the road in this game, but his effort wasn't enough, and the Ducks lost their fourth game.

Oregon moved across the line to meet Tulsa, Oklahoma, the following evening, and rebounded to grab victory number two by a narrow margin, 57 to 53. Tulsa made things rough, particularly in the tilt's closing moments, but Belko and Co. pulled things out with sharp ball handling.

If the Ducks hadn't been in an underdog position before, they were for sure on New Year's Eve: they faced mighty Oklahoma City, ranked eleventh in the nation, and a consistent basketball power in the Southwest. Unfortunately, the final score bore this situation out: the Oklahomans had a good night and won by a wide 74-52 count.

Statistics-wise, Oregon displays good balance, with Charlie Franklin leading scorer with ten points plus, and others clustered around him.

Meeting Scheduled For Tennis Squad

The varsity tennis team will meet Monday, Jan. 7, at 9 p.m. in the Student Union. The room number of the meeting will be posted in the near future.

This meeting is important and all team members should attend.

Duck Records

Player	FG	FT	REB	TP
Franklin, f	83-28	34-18	74	74
Duffy, c	70-23	26-14	85	60
Kuyndall, g	84-26	8-4	30	56
Bingham, f	47-18	20-10	27	46
Hastings, g	49-19	14-5	14	43
Morgan, f	42-17	15-6	18	40
Moore, f	34-13	9-3	22	29
Valentine, g	24-5	8-7	4	17
Lundell, g	17-6	4-2	8	14
Ronquillo, f	12-2	9-6	6	10
Team total	462-157	148-75	290	389

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