

Duck Tracks

By BOB MULLIN
Emerald Sports Writer

A tragedy in one act

Scene: Campus Coke Cafe, Anywhere, U.S.A.—a typical college cafe with lunch counter and booths—which is a favorite hangout for students of Campus State College. Time: 2:30 in the afternoon. Seated at booth in front of stage are JOE, typical male college student with a taut, drawn, over-worked face, crew-cut and ivy-league dress, and his date BETTY, typical female college student with hair up in curlers, hidden under a bandana, well-built, and a cute but over-fed face. They are drinking coffee and talking as the scene opens:

BETTY: Oh, Joe, I'd really "love" to go out tonight, but our Activity Points Counting Committee is meeting at 7:30 and we may be busy until midnite or later.

JOE (obviously hurt) Gee, Betty, not even for a half hour? I've got a lot of studying to do, but I'd like to see you for a half hour. After all, you do have a lock of my hair and three more steps and we'll be pinned.

BETTY (obviously touched) Ohhh, Joe, you know what I ... (Betty stops talking as she sees MORT, a seven-foot tall, good looking student, enters. Mort, who is the star of CSC's undefeated basketball team, looks around the cafe and catches Betty's glance. He walks toward the booth.)

BETTY (swooning) Ohhhhhhh!

MORT: Uhhhhh, hi Betty.

BETTY: (regaining her composure) Hello Mortamer. Won't you sit down with us? Oh, Mortamer, this is an "acquaintance" of mine, Joe. Joe, Mortamer. (Mort sits next to Betty)

JOE: (sarcastically) It is indeed a pleasure to make your acquaintance.

MORT: Huh? O, yeah. Hi.

BETTY: (with pride) Mortamer is high scorer on our basketball team.

JOE: Yeah, yeah, I know.

BETTY: He's scored 204 points already this season.

MORT: 205.

BETTY: Oh, Mortamer, how do you ever get all your studies done, what with all that basketball and everything. You are a marvel.

MORT: (looking shyly at the floor) Aww, huh, it's really nuthin'.

JOE: (dryly) No doubt.

MORT: (looking at Joe) Whaat?

JOE: Oh, nothing!

BETTY: Gosh, Mortamer, how do you make all those points in those games?

MORT: (proudly) Superior play, I guess. At least that's what the papers say. My teammates just throw me the ball and I do the rest. I just outfox those other fellas and put the ball in the hoop.

BETTY: (impressed) Golly!

JOE: (bitterly) Betty, let's go.

BETTY: Not now, Joe. Go ahead if you want to.

JOE: (folds his arms and sits back in his seat, sulking) I'll stay.

MORT: Don't let me stop you from leaving.

JOE: (seething) I'll stay!

MORT: (leaning toward Betty as if to say something confidential) I gotta go back to the house as brush up for my test in Essentials of Relaxation. The coach give us a day off so I thought I better hit th' books. Can I walk you anywhere?

BETTY: Well . . .

JOE: (angry) Oh now Betty.

BETTY: (as if not hearing Joe's remark) Gosh Mortamer that would be nice.

JOE: But Betty . . .

BETTY: Oh Joe, don't be so childish!

MORT: Base! (Mort and Betty get up to leave; as they are walking out:)

MORT: And how about coffee tonight — say about 9:00?

BETTY: (swooning) Love to. (Betty and Mort walk off the stage; Joe sits brooding at his seat for a moment; then)

(Continued on page 5)

Cougar quintet seeks height, scoring punch

(This is the fourth in a series of articles on Pacific Coast Conference basketball teams Oregon will be playing, their conference outlook and potential).

By LARRY KURTZ
Emerald Sports Editor

The lack of experienced big men and a consistent scorer are the main factors that have made Washington State's PCC basketball outlook for the 1959 campaign a bit gloomy.

Not much of a threat in recent years, the Cougars currently are in a last-place tie with Washington and Idaho in the league standings and don't look to be much of a bet to get out, although they've come up with some good efforts.

Foremost among their bright spots was a stunning 71-54 drubbing of the always-tough UCLA Bruins at Pullman in the second "counting" contest

of the season. Just one night before, the Crimson and Gray had taken a 59-40 beating from Stanford.

The luster of the UCLA win vanished last weekend, however, when the Bruins gained sweet revenge with an easy 68-41 victory at Los Angeles after the Cougars found the basket with almost no shots.

Coupled with this defeat was a 73-67 loss to first-place USC which rounds out the WSC conference activity to this date.

Perhaps the most notable change in Pullman this year is the Cougars' new coach, Marv Harshman, who, for the past 13 years, has guided the Pacific Lutheran squad, always a contender in small-college circles.

Harshman compiled an outstanding record at PLC, and looks like a capable replacement for the veteran Jack Freil, who retired after 30

years at the helm.

The nucleus of Harshman's first WSC squad is led by Jim Ross, a 5-8 senior guard who has earned two varsity letters and often gets into the double figures in scoring. Ross was a prime factor in Washington State's upset of Oregon last year at McArthur Court and will be one of the men to watch when the Cougars come to town on February 9.

Another big cog in Harshman's attack is John Maras, a 6-6, 200-pound junior center from Spokane. A good rebounder and scorer, Maras led WSC in both departments last winter in his first varsity season.

Mert Kennedy and Dick Axelsson are two other two-year lettermen who give the Cougars a bit of needed experience. Kennedy, 5-11, teams with Ross to give WSC a pair of scrappy, veteran backcourt men who have seen a lot of PCC action.

Axelsson, who scores off and on in bursts, is 6-3, 200, and a rough man to keep off the boards. Even so, however, Maras is the tallest man in the fold, and Axelsson is too short to be a constant backboard threat.

Speed and scrappiness the Cougars have, but height, no.

If they are to escape the second-division of the conference in 1959 Washington State will have to play more often as they did in the first UCLA game, hitting on a good shot percentage and holding on to the ball.

Others who look promising on the team include Duane Ranniger, a second-stringer last year who has broken into Harshman's first unit, Jim Miles and Bruce Baker, a pair of one-year lettermen, and sophomore Parke Hinman, a 6-0, 175-pound forward from White Swan. Arnie Pleasant, a baseball star, is also giving basketball a fling.

If they can come up with a combo of good shooting and ball-handling, Washington State could pull a lot more surprises before the curtain rings down. They might just do that.

Frosh basketballers slate weekend action

The undefeated Oregon Ducklings resume action this weekend following a long layoff. Last Duckling game was against Valley Motors of Salem on December 12.

The yearling cagers resume action Friday night against the Oregon Dental School with a battle Saturday night at Corvallis against the OSC Rooks.

The Rook cagers have also gone through their first few games undefeated. The Ducklings took three victories before laying off for fall term examinations and Christmas vacation.

In Saturday's practice the freshmen scrimmaged against the varsity. Next home games for the Ducklings following the Dental School and Rook contests will be January 23 and 24 against McKay's Market of Eugene and the Porter Truckers of McMinnville.

The Friday game with the

Dental school is a preliminary contest to the Oregon-Washington game. Last year the Dental school ended the Duckling hopes for an undefeated season by dumping the yearling hoopsters.

Saturday night's fracas with the Oregon State Rooks is a preliminary to the OSC-Washington game. The Rook-Duckling series last year was split as both clubs captured two games apiece in the four-game series.

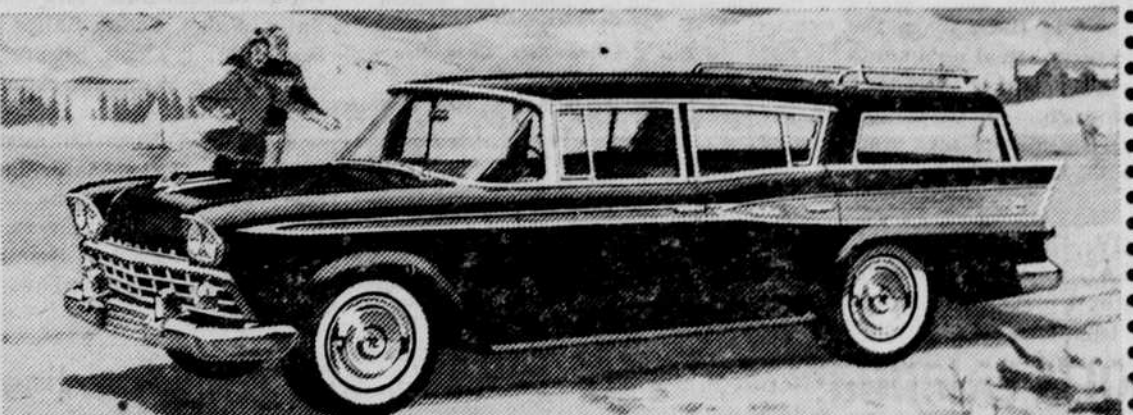
'Mural bowling clubs slate season openers

Intramural bowling activity for winter term begins tonight as Tuesday league action gets underway. League action is also slated for Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday. Saturday action is reserved for freshmen dormitories with the all-campus organizations competing Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

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