

EMERALD SPORTS

WEBFOOT-PRINTS . . .

Mat Team Rises

By RANDE WILMARTH
Sports Editor

The Oregon wrestling program is on its way up. Results might not be apparent at the moment, but they'll come. And when they do, one man might just be the reason. Art Keith, after being named head coach of the Duck grapplers in the middle of last week, gained his first collegiate coaching win Saturday night in McArthur Court against a visiting Washington team. It was also the first win for the Webfoots this season and, if Keith and his team have its way, there'll be plenty more.

Keith just finished a nine-year coaching stint in the Oregon high school ranks and, in that period, his teams, all in the A-1 department, picked up one state championship and a couple of runnerups. What is interesting about this fact is that each of these three high finishes were scored by different teams. Keith spent three years each at Newberg, David Douglas and Medford, which shows, if anything, that he needed no more than three years to build a first rate team.

But whether Keith will be able to match his successful prep finishes with a good college team will only be discovered in time. "By the end of the season we'll be real tough," Keith said before he took his team east and north this weekend for a three-meet outing. And, in wrestling, the end of the year is more vital than the initial seven or eight weeks, as that is the time of athletic season that conference and national tournaments are held. It's fairly obvious that Keith will be aiming for the AAUW tourney where he hopes to have his team primed to top the fourth-place tie the Ducks gained in 1965.

. . . and Bruce Glenn

And this is where Duck fans might see the results that will indicate a rise in the Webfoot mat status. Keith's got the personnel to do it—Oregon has a pair of defending AAUW champs in Bob Mitchell and Doug Robertson—and Bruce Glenn.

Glenn, a 177-pounder ineligible to compete last year, has bolstered the Oregon squad in the best way possible—he's a winner. The Duck senior is now 2-0 after the opening meets last weekend and shows a lot of form that gives him a right to be called a former national AAU champion. He gained a fall in the Washington meet and, after attempting every pinning combination conceivable, settled for a decision in the Western Washington match.

"Glenn's a superb wrestler," said Keith. "And he hasn't reached top form yet as he's missed some practice." Since Glenn nabbed an individual championship in the Washington invitational way back in last December—and he's been winning since—pity his poor opponents when the PAC tourney rolls around in late February.

Confidence and Two Falls

If Glenn is confident in his ability, he sure shows it. An example is the Washington meet when he had control of Steve Wight during the second round. With Wight on his back, referee Don Barnhart indicated that Glenn had pinned his Husky opponent. But Glenn differed with the referee's call and the official changed his decision.

"It was an excellent case of sportsmanship," mentioned Keith. "The referee made a mistake and knew it; and Glenn also knew it. Bruce even pointed the mistake out to the ref." It didn't matter. Glenn gained his pin about forty seconds later.

Keith appears pleased with the squad. A few remarks on individuals: Curt Scott, 137 pounds ("His quickness is his asset. Curt is continually driving all the time") . . . "Robertson's a real good rider; I think Mitchell and Bruce initially are our top riders" . . . Bob Lawrence, heavyweight ("He repeatedly tried to do (in the meets last weekend) what he's learned in practice. All the kids are working at learning").

A Senior Starts Again

When a senior graduates, that's the last a coach usually hears of him. But not so with Steffen Criner, 145 pounds, and Keith. Keith coached Criner at Douglas for two years and now is doing the same thing here in Eugene. "He has basically the same technique," Keith said, "but he's much stronger. He has a tremendous amount of drive, determination and desire. He's not basically that strong, but he has improved."

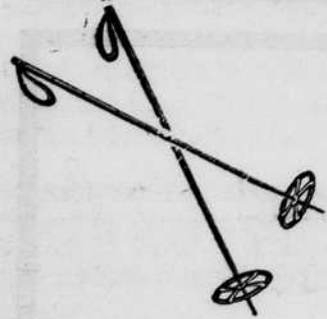
Criner, a starter for the Ducks with a 1-1 match record, gained a third place under Keith in the 1964 A-1 high school mat tourney.

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Cougars Test Ducks



Let's Go to Town This Weekend!

By BILL MORRIS
Sports News Editor

Two 5'11" guards and a 6'9" center, who have led Washington State to a 9-4 record this year, will be making their season debut at McArthur Court Saturday night when Oregon tangles with Washington State.

The guards, senior Tom Tommervik and sophomore Ray Stein, and the center, Jim McLean, lead the young team that Cougar coach Marv Harshman thinks is the finest he has had in years.

Last year Stein, McKean, and six other varsity sophomores played for a freshman team that went undefeated. This year they continued winning for seven games until they came up against Stanford in the Far West Classic, where they were beaten 88-77.

Quickness Big Asset

Rounding out the first five, Harshman has Dennis Kloke, a 6-3 deadeye, and 6-4 ex-football player, Bud Norris.

Harshman has been getting good scoring from McKean, who played an excellent game against Michigan in the Classic. Though the Cougars got beat, McKean scored consistently around the basket against the big Wolverines, and rebounded well.

Tommervik is an excellent shot from outside the key, and is floor leader of the Cougars. During the Classic he scored best when the Cougars needed it most.

Harshman feels quickness is his teams' biggest asset, while lack of height is their greatest weakness. Aside from the 6-9 McKean, Norris at 6-4 is Cougars' biggest man that plays consistently.

The Cougars are 1-1 in league play as they were beaten by California, and then dropped Stanford, who had beaten them in the Classic.

Barnett Back

The Cougars trounced Oregon in the Classic, but the Ducks were Barnett-less and not playing up to their potential.

Barnett will be back in the Duck lineup Saturday, along with Bob Craven, John Pinkstaff, Nick Jones and newcomer Dave Kafoury. Kafoury played well during the Classic, and looked good on the Southern California tour, where the Ducks were beaten by USC and UCLA.

"I honestly feel we looked real good this week in practice," said Steve Belko, the Duck basketball coach. "Of course Barnett's fingers are not as painful, and so he can do a lot more, which makes the team look better."

Kloke Key

"Barnett is playing with a piece of sponge over the injured fingers this week. Last weekend he had a hoop over his injured fingers that was almost like a claw," Belko added. Barnett was not able to use that hand in rebounding and handling the ball as well as he should be able to use it this week.

Belko said he thought Kloke, the 6-3 forward, will be the key to the Cougars' attack Saturday night. "He's a good shot and can handle the ball well," said Belko. He has the strength of a forward and the mobility of a guard. "Their guards are awfully quick and are good shots. They could hurt us," said Belko.

Belko said he thought that he

to make mistakes, and UCLA took advantage of them, and beat us badly.

"I thought Pinkstaff played his best game since Denver against UCLA," Belko added. "We'll probably play him all but a couple of minutes this weekend. He got tired easily during the classic, because he had a virus," Belko added, "but he's all right now."

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