

# Oregon Ducks Slate Pilot Hoop Series

By PAUL POLSKY  
Associate Sports Editor

The Oregon Ducks travel to Portland Thursday for a non-league game with the Portland University Pilots. Game time is 8 p.m. at the Memorial Coliseum. Coach Steve Belko of the Ducks reports that his team is not taking the Pilots lightly. "It will be about as tough as any game we've had. They are dedicated to beating the big state schools," related Belko. "It will be a real contest, especially up there."

Belko rated the Pilots as a good team despite their somewhat poor 3-10 record. They are a predominantly sophomore team as four of the five starters Thursday evening will likely be first year varsity performers. The fifth,

Ed Maerz, is a two-year letterman senior from Salem.

On the front line the Portland squad, coached by freshman mentor Joe Etzel, since varsity coach Al Negratti was sidelined with a back injury, will start Jesse Perry at 6-5 from Columbia, Ga., and Maerz.

The center will be Chuck Stroughter from East St. Louis, Ill.

Starting at the guard positions will be Ed Clark, 6-2, and Paul Gloden, 5-11. Clark is from East St. Louis and Gloden is from Portland.

The number six man for the Pilots will be Hobert Herber from Vancouver, Wash. Herber, along with Clark, Stroughter, and Perry, all played against the

Ducklings last year as freshmen.

Belko reported that the Ducks got hit with a couple of problems during the week. Bill Jennings came down with a bad chest cold after presumably nailing down a starting position. His availability is still questionable.

Bill Thomas, who played one of his best games against the Beavers over the weekend, sustained a badly sprained ankle during the game but stayed in and played excellently. He is not 100 per cent ready but Belko said that he scrimmaged with the team on Tuesday and should be able to go Thursday night.

The Duck mentor hustled his charges through a light drill Monday but worked them hard and fairly long Tuesday. He said,

"If you don't play well, you lose, no matter how poor the other team may be. It is almost a matter of playing yourselves out there now-a-days."

He went on to say, "If we play well we have a good chance to win, but if we play poorly, they will beat us."

Belko plans to start Jim Barnett and Thomas at forwards with John Franz moving into a starting assignment at the center position. At the guards will be Dave Kafoury and Nick Jones.

Barnett's fingers are almost completely healed now, commented Belko on his star's hands. "It is now just a matter of getting

his touch back, but they are not nearly the problem they were two weeks ago."

Nick Jones has also looked good in practice, and Belko just hopes that his jitterbugging junior can maintain the fine play he showed in his last four games.

Belko mentioned one other thing about practice. Reserve guard Mike Nicksic, up from last year's frosh team, missed practice for the first time in two years. The fiery little sophomore was out with a cold.

The Ducks will return home Friday evening for a return encounter with the Pilots in McArthur Court. Game time is 8 p.m.

## Freshmen Face Stern Test

By DAVE BARONTI  
Sports Writer

Coach Dave Van Rossen's freshman swimming team has its work cut out for it this weekend. It meets two teams.

One has been the Washington high school champions in that

sport for (literally) umpteen years in a row.

The other is a frosh team that not only beat the above-mentioned high school team, but also defeated its varsity counterparts earlier in the season.

The high school team—Wilson

High of Tacoma, Wash. — the Ducklings meet Friday afternoon. The school has one defending all-American on its squad—Bruce Richards in the freestyle and medley events—and several others who could be.

So strong is the Wilson team that in last year's state meet they compiled over 230 points to swamp the second placer, which had 99. The year before, it was 67-29; in 1963, 97-53; in 1962, 83-31. That's as far back as Van Rossen's records go.

And furthermore, Van Rossen says, swimming competition in Washington is "much, much tougher than in Oregon."

"Wilson would annihilate any high school team in Oregon... maybe even some good university team."

So will the Ducklings peak for this? No.

The next day will be "even tougher."

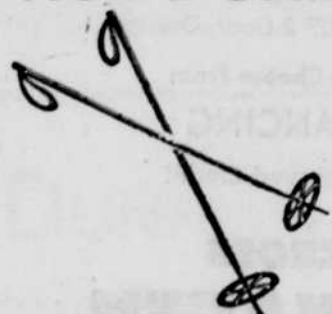
The team this time will be the University of Washington frosh, which beat Wilson last weekend, 50-45. The Pups have several high school all-Americans from all over the west coast, Oregon, Washington and California.

Oregon has none.

The frosh will try to counter with two swimmers who have performed "really tremendously" in recent weeks.

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