

Swimmers Set Finals

By GORDON ROSENBERG
Sports Writer

Oregon's swimming team winds up the 1966 season this week in the Pacific Athletic Conference swimming and diving championships at Los Angeles.

All eight league schools will be

participating in the meet, which starts Thursday and runs through Saturday. Defending conference and national champion Southern California is the heavy favorite to retain the title.

Oregon coach Don Van Rossen and 13 of his swimmers flew to

Los Angeles Wednesday. These 13 are the Ducks who qualified for the finals by equaling or bettering the slowest time in last season's finals in their respective events.

Among those making the trip are Bob Brockhouse, Larry Folinsbee, Jay Greening, Bruce Hess, Monty Holding, Don MacKenzie, and team captain Dale Wood.

Rounding out the squad are Don Merkt, Jud Shutts, Pete Shutts, Don Smith, Mason Smith, and Scott Volker.

USC Is Favorite

Mason Smith will be specializing in the 50- and 100-yard freestyles, while Shutts will swim the 200-yard backstroke and the 400-yard individual medley.

With Southern California a good bet for the championship, Van Rossen figures UCLA and Stanford will battle for the runner-up position. Both the Bruins and Indians knocked off the Ducks this season.

"We should battle the University of Washington for fourth place," added Van Rossen.

The Ducks defeated the Huskies soundly, 62-33, in their top effort of the season last January in Leighton Pool.

Oregon finished second behind USC in last season's finals, and went on to capture tenth place in the NCAA championships.

Stanford and UCLA placed third and fourth, respectively, behind the Ducks. But Oregon is without the services of all-Americans Dick Boyd and Charlie Staples, who led last season's charge. Meanwhile, the Indians and Bruins have most of their stars returning.

Greening Has Chance

"Greening has probably the best chance to place high," stated Van Rossen.

Jay has this season's fastest time in the 50-yard freestyle in the conference. He won the event in 22.2 seconds against Washington State University to set the mark. He will be trying to win this event in the finals against such greats as USC's two-time all-American, Roy Saari.

Another top Duck performer for the finals should be diver Folinsbee, who won the league title in the three-meter diving and finished second in the one-meter diving last season. Larry also won the NCAA three-meter title in 1965.

Holding, who has been the top Webfoot all season long, will be going in the 200-yard butterfly and 1650-yard freestyle.

"Monty has a good chance of finishing near the top in the butterfly," said Van Rossen.

Van Rossen also said that Don Smith and Jud Shutts have good chances to finish in the top three in their events.

IM Schedule

Basketball

4:00—Court 40, Boynton B vs.

Watson B

4:45—Court 40, Theta Chi B vs.

Hauna B

Track

Preliminaries for all running events will begin at 4 p.m. on either the IM field or Hayward field tracks. In order, the events are the 75-yard high hurdles and 75-yard dash, both on Hayward field; and the 330-yard run, the 3/4-mile run and 3 x 75 shuttle run, all on the IM track.

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Year Rewarding

By RANDE WILMARTH
Sports Editor

Far be it for us to make excuses for this year's edition of the Oregon basketball team. Steve Belko's put together a squad that was battling for the AAWU title until two weekends before the finish of the PAC slate—quite a change from the previous season when the Ducks lost nine of their last ten counting ball games and finished dead last in the conference race.

And now the Webfoots still have a chance to cause a little bit of confusion in the remaining weekend of AAWU play by sweeping the two-game series Friday and Saturday with Oregon State.

We listed a series of facts on this page Wednesday concerning one reason why the Ducks have lost 11 out of 24 contests—long periods of little or no scoring—and now here's another set we'd like to present:

FACT: Oregon captain Jim Barnett has surpassed his performance of last year—even if the scoring figures don't show it. Barnett has scored less points than last year at this time, but his worth as a floor leader and team man have been continually pointed out by Belko.

FACT: Barnett is in touching distance of ol' Charlie Warren's career scoring mark. The Oregon senior needs 40 points to pass Warren (1,322-1,283) and can do it was a 20-point average in Oregon's last two games.

Without Barnett . . .

FACT: Barnett missed three games in December after injuring his hand a short time before the Webfoots' first appearance in the Far West Classic in Portland.

These three items stress, one, Barnett's improvement over last year and, two, his importance to the Oregon team.

Without Barnett, Oregon appeared lifeless in three losses in the



That's the Spirit, Tzar! No Time for Apathy

Classic and, although Barnett competed in the first weekend of PAC competition in Los Angeles, he was not at full strength and the Ducks fell by large margins to UCLA and USC.

We don't need what is mentioned next to prove that Oregon has had a rewarding season; but, for those who look at won-lost records to determine whether a year has been a fairly successful one or not—

Drop those three Classic losses from the Duck's 13-11 mark and that leaves the squad at 13-8, with a chance for a 15-8 finish after this week. But continue with the first game of the season when Oregon opened up an 11-point lead in the second half against Idaho and Belko substituted freely, admitting that he was "experimenting." The Vandals pulled ahead against the Duck reserves and nabbed an 86-81 victory. If we can hypothetically reverse that decision, Oregon would stand at 14-7.

And add one more—the Washington State contest in Pullman Monday night. Reports of the questionable referee's decision that took the ball away from the Ducks, behind by a single point, with less than a minute left in the game indicate to us that the results of the game could be thrown out in the same way we've tossed out the Classic contests. That changes the Oregon record to 14-6—a record that is an indication of quite a rewarding season.

But Barnett Still Has a Chance . . .

Incidentally, Barnett would have been a cinch to break Warren's scoring mark had he played those three Classic games. He had been scoring at a 17-point average in his previous four games and three extra games at that clip would leave him far about Warren's mark now.

This and that . . .

Five Oregon seniors will be making their final collegiate basketball appearances this weekend—Barnett, Dave Kafoury, Bill Jennings, John Franz and Don DuShane. . .

It's fairly certain that the Oregon and Oregon State wrestling teams could add a few wins to their records if they took a tour of California. Tom Hansen of the AAWU writes that "Stanford and California placed one-two in the San Francisco State Invitational" recently. If the Indians and the Bears are the class of the Bay Area, just think what the two Oregon teams could do—both Stanford and Cal fell by big scores to the Ducks and Beavers this year in dual meets. In fact, Cal didn't win a match against either Oregon or OSU in February. . .

Other California teams to fall to the Ducks this winter in dual meets have been Fresno State, Cal Poly and San Jose State.



RUGBY ACTION will be as fast this Saturday afternoon when Oregon's ruggers host OSU in the season's final game. Two Ducks battle for the ball as two University of Victoria opponents look on in last Saturday's action. Oregon came from behind to defeat Victoria, 12-3.
Jim Chaskin Photo.

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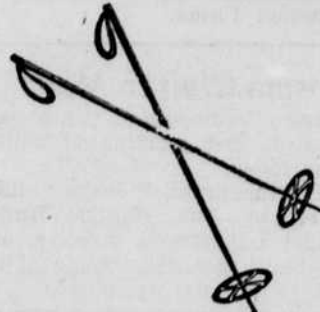
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