

Quack Cracks



'New Plan' For Stadium

By DAVE BARONTI
Emerald Sports Editor

APPARENTLY, THERE IS MORE to the stadium issue than meets the eye.

Everything concerning the project is "go" as a column I wrote last week suggested. But the key question is: "Is this—everything being so dogmatically certain—good or bad?"

Why ask such a questions?

Because—outside of the University officials involved—not everyone connected with the project seems to feel that it is being handled properly.

The first and foremost reservation concerns finances—obviously one of the key issues of the entire project.

CHARLES T. PARKER CONSTRUCTION agency in Portland—the same Parker for whom Oregon State's stadium is named—submitted a plan to the Athletic Department and several Eugene firms earlier this year. That, of course, was before the current stadium design submitted by the Portland architectural firm of Skidmore, Owings and Merrill, came out for public display in March.

Parker's plan for a North Bank Stadium includes provisions for seating 45,000 fans—5,000 more than is currently planned—and at a cost of less than a million and a half dollars. That's \$500,000 less than the current estimate.

But Skidmore, Owings and Merrill, as of Monday, had never heard about his plan.

This is unfortunate—especially since Parker is entirely willing to work with the firm on all necessary construction details.

Parker himself said that he is not interested in whether or not his company builds the stadium. "I just had my engineers draw up a plan," he said Monday. "And I know my plan is a lot more practical than the present one. I wish it would be given consideration. But I don't want to step on anybody's toes."

However, George R. Wallman, architect in the University's physical plant, said that "I think if Mr. Parker would submit the plan to the architect, they (Skidmore . . .) would go over it in detail with them. They would welcome it."

BUT, WHOEVER IS INVOLVED and whatever the reason, the plan obviously has not reached the proper people.

Certainly, even though the other design has been approved, Skidmore, Owings, and Merrill should at least know about it.

Having built one major stadium in Oregon already, Parker is certainly qualified to volunteer his services—especially after he made some preliminary studies of the land.

Certainly \$500,000 and 5,000 more seats is worth it.

WELL, TO THE NEXT QUESTION. How does Parker propose to save the University all this money and at the same time build a bigger stadium?

Two ways.

First, instead of building the bowl-shaped structure around a continuous and curved frame, he proposes to build it in segments—which, he says, would be much cheaper.

Secondly, his stadium would be horseshoe-shaped. This means that earth would be piled in only three sides of the stadium—leaving one end "open" where a dressing room could be situated. Bleacher seats over the room would also occupy the "open" end of the structure.

That, says Parker, would make construction much easier. A crane or any other machine necessary could be brought directly into the stadium to construct the interior parts of it.

"It wouldn't be necessary to tear a 15 by 15 hole in the wall or leave a part of the stadium undone for this purpose," he said.

THAT BASICALLY SUMS UP his plan. He and his engineers, of course, have worked it out in more detail. But the detail is up to the stadium officials and architects to consider.

My only interest is a hope that the proper officials will consider it—and seriously—before they go ahead with their plans. What they decide on after consideration is up to them.

A second alternate stadium proposal which involves a sort of drive-in game-watching has been submitted by the Bessonette Construction Company in Medford.

It's not as inexpensive as the proposal submitted by Parker, but its design—which includes an area from which people could watch the game from their cars—is most interesting.

It, too, might be considered.

I will discuss Parker's plan more thoroughly in another column tomorrow. Included will be the Athletic Department's answer to this column and an explanation of what they have done about it.

OTHER PEOPLE HAVE DOUBTS about the way the stadium project is being conducted, too . . . notably city and county officials.

The public will get a chance to hear them at an open forum at Harris Hall in downtown Eugene Thursday.

If you're interested, attend.

ONE OTHER THING—These stadium "objectors" are as interested as anyone to see the work get started immediately . . . so the September, 1967, deadline can be met.

But it should be remembered that the stadium will be a permanent part of the Eugene and University landscape. It might as well be done well.

At Oregon Club

Duck Athletes Awarded

By RON EACHUS
Emerald Sports Writer

Oregon coaches honored graduating seniors of winter and spring sports in the Oregon Club's final meeting of the school year Monday at the Eugene Hotel.

Each coach reviewed the season briefly and presented the seniors with plaques purchased by the Club.

Comments on last weekend's baseball and track activities by Don Kirsch, Oregon baseball coach, and Bill Bowerman, track coach, highlighted the ceremonies.

Kirsch began with a tribute to Oregon State baseball coach Ralph Coleman who is retiring after 36 years at OSU.

He called Coleman an "outstanding gentleman, a fine coach and a fellow I enjoy competing with."

Kirsch then described Oregon's weekend series sweep with OSU in which the Ducks slammed four homers in a row in the sixth inning of Friday's game at Corvallis.

"That was something I wouldn't have believed if I hadn't seen it," Kirsch said in reference to the homers. "By the time Bunker gets up to bat," he quipped, "if he hits something like a single he breaks up a rally."

Bunker, incidentally was the one who hit Oregon's fourth homer after Ron Delplanche, Dale Ehler, and Scott Cress had connected.

Kirsch Satisfied

Kirsch summed up the series by calling it a "satisfying way to end the season. I'm sorry to take wins from him (Coleman)," he continued, "but of course I needed 'em, too."

He then gave baseball awards to Dale Ehler, Dick Ogan, Ken Hadden, and Rich Armstrong.

Before Bowerman presented awards to his 14 seniors, he

praised the spirit of Oregon's track team. "Spirit is important, and this team had it in abundance," he said. "They demonstrated it last Saturday when they came back after Friday."

The Ducks were nearly wiped out of every event in Friday's AAWU track championships at Stanford but came back on Saturday to take third place.

"We were faced with the prospect of coming home either on our shields or carrying them," Bowerman grinned. "To do an about face like that isn't physical, it's psychological."

Injuries Heavy

He also commented on the loss of an unusually large number of prominent team members due to injury. "Never before have I had the experience of losing so many men. It must have been 25 per cent," he said.

Receiving track awards were Ken Moore, Paul Elliot, Jay Bowerman, John Buller, Bruce Mortenson, Marcial Hunter, Peter Mayne, Werner Sonnenschein, Dennis Keller, Gordon Payne, Jim Wood, Don Scott, Al Phillips, and Dave Bilderback.

Moore, the scholar-athlete who won the AAWU steeplechase on Friday, was lauded by Bowerman as "a great man to have on anybody's track team, or anybody's anything."

Swimming coach Don Van Ros-

sen awarded his four seniors, Ken Isenstein, Dave MacKenzie, Don Meier, and Dale Wood, congratulating them for "providing the inspiration which has been established as part of the tradition in swimming at Oregon."

Wrestling coach Art Keith presented awards to four seniors, John Malpass, Bob Mitchell, Bruce Glenn, and Doug Robertson.

Nucleus Lost

"We may be losing only four but we're actually losing the nucleus of the team," he said. "Next year will be tough but we're looking to the future."

Keith provided ample reason to look for the future as he named a few of the outstanding wrestlers he has recently recruited.

Golf awards were presented to Bob Lovejoy, Bob Kleez, Tom Kabler, and Bill Ward by Oregon golf coach Elwood Kretsinger.

"I was proud of the boys. They played good and they played hard," he said.

John Konahui, substituting for tennis coach Vern Ball presented tennis plaques to Bob Kendall and Jim Horn, and gymnastics coach Dick Smith gave awards to Larry Jackson and John Palmer. Palmer is Oregon's first three-year letterman in the sport.

Don DuShane, John Franz, Bill Jennings, Dave Kafoury, and all-American Jim Barnett received basketball awards.

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3 Receive 'O' Awards

The Oregon Lettermen's Club, the Order of the "O", announced Monday that it will award its annual scholarship grant—signifying the outstanding frosh athlete entering Oregon each year—to three athletes this year. The recipients of the grants are Bob Beall of Hillsboro, Greg Morgan of David-Douglas, and Ron Zielinski of Wenatchee, Wash.

Beall is an all-league baseball player and Morgan is a three-time state champion wrestler who has won 71 straight matches.

Zielinski was last year's runner-up for the Washington State tennis championship and is ranked fifth in the Northwest in his age group.

This is the first time in the organization's history that more than one award has been given, and also the first time an out-of-state athlete (Zielinski) has been so honored.

Captain Named By Hardballers

The athletic department announced Monday that slugging shortstop Ron Delplanche has been reelected captain of the Oregon baseball team for the coming season.

He, along with infielder Denny Baldrige, who will also be back next season, was also named the team's most valuable player.

Co-ed Game Set

Off-Campus, representing the Tuesday League, and Chi Omega, Thursday League champion, tangle at 5 p.m. Tuesday on Gerlinger Field for the Women's Recreation Association's softball intramural championship.