

Chief Retires after Eleven Years Service



THE "CHIEF" explains a piece of athletic history to his predecessor—Carroll Williams. Battle-worn jersey No. 77 is not just any old jersey. It's given only to an exceptionally outstanding and dedicated tackle prospect. Past wearers included all-American Steve Barnett and Jerry Inman. But unless someone comes up with something unexpected this year, he says, it'll stay in the locker room.

Photo by Shota Ushio

By RICK FITCH
Emerald Sports Writer

"I'd do it without pay." So said retiring athletic equipment manager Donald "Chief" Shreve about the job he has held for 11 years.

Most can't wait for their jobs to end and retirement to begin, but "Chief," as he is called by almost everybody, finds it hard to quit the hectic business of taking care of all the Oregon athletic teams.

"I'd like to continue or work part time after I retire," said the sometimes ornery Chief. "I like athletics. I like being around kids."

A veteran of World War I, Chief was born in Stayton, Ore., and played baseball at Lincoln High in Portland, but went to work at the University of Tennessee after World War II. He started his present position in Oregon in 1955.

"Chief" got his nickname because of the Naval position he held during World War II, and it has stuck with him ever since. "Anything else would be a misnomer," said chief.

Though he occasionally presents a gruff exterior to his athletes, he essentially likes and admires them.

"You can get along with them if you half try," he remarked. "You have to learn how to handle a kid. Some you can be gruff with, some you can't."

"Two Gun" (Bob Officer), the athletic trainer, is his favorite verbal sparring partner, and also a close friend. "We sure needle each other," he said. "But you always do it with a smile." He has known "Two Gun" since high school days. Both are honorary members of the Order of

the O, an organization which gave Chief a special recognition plaque during half-time of the Alumni-Varsity football game.

Athletes who gripe, athletes who are messy, and freshman hotshots are people "Chief" could do without. "The all-Americans give you the least trouble," he said. "You just throw them the equipment, and they put it on."

"Sometimes I think they should have brought their mothers with them," he said, grinning about the manners of his athletes.

But he doesn't do special favors for any of them.

"Here, the lowliest freshman gets just as much treatment as the high school hotshot who has been fed on a silver platter."

"We don't give them the best of everything," he continued. "We like to see them earn the right to be on the varsity."

After he retires in June, Chief still plans to be active in Oregon sports circles.

"I like athletics and hope to be at Oregon games," he said.

But you can bet he won't be left without anything to do.

"I love to do yard work," he remarked, walking around his garden of roses.

Chief also has a cactus that came directly off President Lyndon B. Johnson's ranch in Texas. "My pride and joy," he smiled.

Oregon Gets Meet

A Pacific Athletic Conference meeting in Palo Alto, Calif. earlier this week officially confirmed that Oregon will host the 1967 PAC track and field and swimming meets.

The group also decided to award UCLA sprinter Tom Jones, who won the 100 and 220 title in the conference meet this year, an additional year of eligibility after he was injured in the first meet of the 1966 season.

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'Krets' Quits Coaching Job

Varsity golf coach Elwood "Krets" Kretsinger resigned his position Wednesday because of "increasing responsibilities" arising from his position as chief engineer for the University's radio and TV operations.

Kretsinger won over 70 per cent of his matches in his three years with Oregon, and this season placed second to Oregon State in the Northern Division, before placing fourth ahead of the Beavers in PAC competition.

"I have enjoyed my association with the athletic department and the young men who have played on the golf team," Kretsinger said. "I'm sorry I have to resign."

Kretsinger is also an associate professor of speech at the University.

For Woodell Track Meet

Tickets Going Fast

"Tickets are going like hotcakes" for the Bob Woodell Invitational Track Meet June 2, the Athletic Department reported Wednesday.

The six-event meet, which will cost spectators and athletes \$1 alike to enter, will feature the greatest mile duel on Hayward Field in some time—Dyrol Burleson, Jim Grelle, Wade Bell, and Roscoe Devine.

Burleson and Grelle are each considered among the world's premier milers—Burleson having run the distance in 3:55.6 and Grelle having run it under four minutes more times than any other person in history.

Devine broke Burleson's old Oregon freshman mile record this year by running four laps in 4:05.9, while Bell placed second in the 1966 PAC in that event with a 4:03.4.

At the present time, no Oregon State athletes are scheduled to enter.

Proceeds from the meet will go to pay the \$10,000 hospital expenses that Woodell, a long jumper on the Oregon track team this year, incurred in a Millrace accident.

Tickets are still available at all fraternities, the Student Union, and the athletic ticket office.

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