

Harter: 'A man would be an ass not to change'

By PETE SHEPPARD
Of the Emerald

The poet Alexander Pope once wrote that "Hope springs eternal in the human breast," and a short chat with University of Oregon Head Basketball Coach Dick Harter shows he is no exception.

Harter came to the UO last year from a Pennsylvania team that went 26-0 in regular season play and was ranked third in the nation by wire service polls, only to be plunged into the worst season of his career as the Ducks failed to win a single Pac-8 conference game.

Despite such a shock, Harter has retained his confidence in his style of play and coaching. He is convinced that given a little time, his techniques will pay off for the Ducks.

"We're not going to be real quick to forget a tough season like that," said Harter, "but every season is a new one. I don't think last year was the result any more of our coaching than it was of the effort of our team, we just did not have the players. People would say a man was an ass if he refused to change," said Harter, "so we'll be making some adjustments, but our basic program will remain the same as last year. We've got a program that we believe in so we aren't going to change it just like that," Harter concluded.

Harter's program is founded on three things: extensive recruiting, an aggressive man to man defense



Photo by Peter Weinrobe

Dick Harter

and varied offensive patterns, and finally, hard work on the practice court.

"What we've done is to set out to attract guys who really want to win, to work hard to catch up with and get

on top of the Pac-8," said Harter.

"I think it'll be the type of year where we can start repaying in some small way the people who supported us so well last year. We'll win some games we let slip away from us in the last few minutes," noted Harter.

Part of Harter's program is already bearing fruit in the form of a fine group of incoming freshmen. With the NCAA now allowing freshmen to compete in varsity sports, Harter says the Ducks will likely keep more than one or two freshmen on the squad.

Six of the best freshmen are likely to be: Ron Lee, a 6-4 high school All-American from Boston; Mark Barwig, a 6-5 forward from Chicago, Bob Catching, a 6-6 forward from Joliet, Bruce Caldren, a 6-9 forward from Santa Barbara, Gary Macdonald, another 6-9 forward from Santa Barbara, and finally, Jeff Nelson, a 6-10 center from San Diego.

Though Harter and the Ducks could definitely use the height and skills of the new recruits right away, the personable coach is concerned about the effects of high pressured varsity play on freshmen. "For the sake of winning one or two more games I would not take the chance of ruining a boy by throwing him in the fire too soon," said Harter.

Doug Little is the only senior who returns to the Ducks with a substantial amount of playing time. Billy Ingram and Paul Halupa are two juniors who Harter expects to help out.

IM forms are due

The 1973 intramural program kicks off Oct. 3 with the first round of touch football play. Sigma Phi Epsilon is the defending champion and returns many of those who slushed and slogged through the muck they tagged, hopefully, as "the IM football field."

Fall sports on tap are touch football, wrestling, volleyball, and bowling, according to IM Director John Borchardt.

A meeting of all intramural managers will be held next Thursday, the 28th, in the Men's Physical Education building, room 105 PE. The football schedule will be ready at this time for distribution.

Borchardt, who took over directorship of the University's IM program in 1967, reminds that entry forms must be turned in on or before Wednesday of next week by 2 p.m. in 171 PE for football, volleyball, wrestling, and bowling.

There is an insurance fee each term of \$5 per team, says Borchardt. IM insurance checks should be sent to Mary Longland, 207 Emerald Hall, extension 3212. The money goes into the IM insurance fund.

Persons wanting to officiate football games should see Borchardt or sign in at the IM office as soon as possible. A sign-up sheet is posted at 171 PE. The first officials' meeting is Oct. 2 at 3:30 p.m.

Schedules for cross-country and wrestling will be sent out at the same time that the touch football schedules are ready, around the end of the month.

Physical conditioning, of course, depends on the individual. But article VI of the IM regulations deals with physical examinations. "All men participating in intramural sports should have an 'unlimited status' physical rating. If there is any doubt concerning any student's physical condition, he should be re-examined by the Health Service. It is the responsibility of players to check their physical rating."

In all 20 team events make up this year's IM program.

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