

# Club Sports

## Year-round activity

By BRIAN TEN EYCK  
Of the Emerald

During most of the school year the headlines of the sports page are going to relate victories and losses in Oregon's major sports. At the same time lesser heads will be devoted to another athletic program which often escapes the attention of all but the participants, their girlfriends and a few nuts who read anything in the sport section.

This program known as the Club Sports program, has been here since 1961 when the ski and rifle teams were the only two non-recruiting squads wearing the Lemon-n-Green. There are now 15 different sports for the recreation minded, the almost athlete, the older athletes who are no longer eligible for varsity competition and the fun loving hacks to choose from. Two of them are new this year, the rodeo club and the sailing club.

Don't get the idea that the Club Sports are not serious on the field, they have produced national champions and contenders and hold at least one NCAA record, but off the field they know what fun is and do not devote the hours to practice that the varsity athletes must. Most require two or three evenings of practice a week during their seasons though a few of the first string teams get a little more serious at times.

Club Sports are financed through the ASUO and what funds they are able to raise cleaning up Autzen Stadium after games or similar team projects. With this money they travel through the Northwest and to Canada and California to their competitions. State cars are the

## Gymnastics

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Trey MacDowell became Oregon's best gymnast ever last year as a freshman. He broke the all-around record with a 47.95 point production against Iowa State, in which also included a record-breaking performance on the high bar at 9.30.

Joe Percival, also a freshman last year, owns the Oregon record on the pommel horse and Kevin Cornelius returns as a junior holding the Oregon still rings record.

Another junior and the second-best all-around gymnast in Oregon history (behind MacDowell) is John Lehmann.

Two senior returnees are Greg Maxwell and Warren Weiseth. Both are high bar specialists. Maxwell doubles on the long horse and Weiseth doubles on the parallel bars.

Three returnees saw competition in the NCAA's last year which is expected to help the "Flying Ducks" in reaching their goals in the next few years, and assistant coaches Makoto Sakamoto and Hiromichi Sabo add

exceptional contributions in both recruiting attraction and coaching expertise. Sakamoto has been the top gymnast in the United States the last nine years

and Sano moved to Oregon from Japan where he was personal coach of the 1968 Olympic Gold Medalist.

mode of transportation and there is usually a small contribution towards the cost of meals supplied by the team along with sleeping quarters.

All members of the student body and faculty are eligible to participate on the teams with skill level, time available and in a few cases, level of study, determining which team a player will be a member of. Most teams have more than one level of competition. Coaches too come from the ranks of volunteers as there are no paying positions on the coaching staffs.

Several of the sports will require a small investment from the participants as they may have to buy some or all of their equipment.

## Rugby

Rugbers do not go into action until the mud is deep enough and football season is well under way but they do organize and practice a bit earlier in the school year. Keep your eyes on the campus briefs for an announcement of the date.

To make the team you do not

even have to know what a scrum or a line-out are but you will need the desire to mix it up a bit in the mud and a pair of soccer type shoes. The program will supply the rest.

For the more experienced players, many of whom carry a bit of cockney accent onto to the pitch, there is the first team which has built up quite a respectable reputation in the Northwest losing only a handful of games over the past few years and bringing home more than one championship cup. They travel through Oregon, Washington, Canada and California in filling a schedule and participating in tournaments each year.

Players newer to the sport find a happy home on the second team which plays the smaller colleges of Oregon several games each year as they build up the skill level which will allow them to play with the first in later times.

Both teams are under the wing of veteran player Chris Jones who takes his crack at coaching for the first time this year. Last year he provided the leadership for the seconds who played only a few games but organized great parties.

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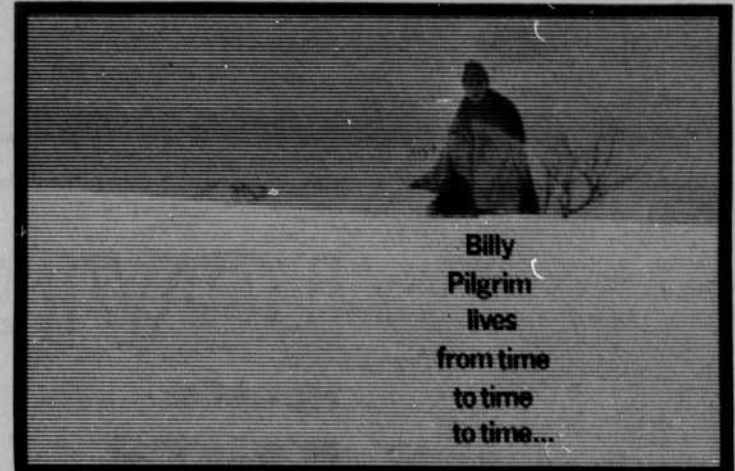
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