

Oregon to induct 27 athletes into new Hall of Fame



Former Duck Norm Van Brocklin will be one of the first 27 inductees into the University Athletic Hall of Fame.

By Steve Mims
Emerald Sports Reporter

Bill Byrne's final gift to the University is unveiled this weekend when 27 former athletes, coaches and administrators, along with three teams, are inducted into the school's Athletic Hall of Fame.

The inductees will be honored during halftime of the Oregon-California football game Saturday.

The idea for the Hall of Fame came from departed athletic director Byrne a year and a half ago, when the Casanova Center was completed and room for the exhibit became available. University Sports Information Director Steve Hellyer said nominations are accepted by the athletic department and a selection committee makes the final decision as to who is inducted.

Heading the list of initial inductees are former football standouts, and current network broadcasters, Dan Fouts and

Ahmad Rashad.

Fouts set 19 school records at Oregon between 1969-71, including those for career passing yardage (5,995) and total offense (5,871). Following his days in Eugene, he starred for 15 years with the San Diego Chargers, where he threw for more than 43,000 yards. Fouts is now a broadcaster for CBS and still resides in Central Oregon.

"I'm really thrilled," Fouts said. "It is hard to put into perspective because it is such a great group going in."

Rashad, whose name was Bobby Moore while at Oregon, also played at Oregon from 1969-71 and was a strong runner and receiver for the Ducks. Rashad rushed for 2,306 yards and caught 131 passes while racking up 226 points during his career.

"Ahmad was a player you could give the ball to at any time and he could score," Fouts said. "He was the most talented player out there every time he took the field, and he was on our side,

which was good. He made so many big plays and did so many amazing things, it was really great playing with him."

Seven other former football greats and one former football coach will also be inducted to the Hall.

Len Casanova, who coached the Ducks from 1951-66 and was athletic director from 1967-70, is being honored by the athletic department.

"I'm very pleased," Casanova said. "A distinction such as this really makes me proud. It's great to be a part of the first induction class."

Four of Casanova's former pupils are being inducted with him, including former quarterbacks Bob Berry and George Shaw.

Berry led the Ducks to three consecutive winning seasons from 1962-64, and his 4,297 passing yards is fifth on the all-time Oregon list. Berry starred for nine

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