

DISFIGURED, BUT STILL LOOK GOOD

Oregon and Washington Seem to Have Best Teams in Field.

VARSITY ELEVEN SIZED UP

On Present Standing and Past Performances, State University Football Squads Loom Up Best Among Conference Colleges.

BY OBSERVER.

In spite of the 2 to 0 defeat administered to the Oregon Varsity by a team of old timers a week ago, and the ragged showing made by the University of Washington squad against Queen Anne High School, of Seattle, on the same day, to one following carefully the football situation in the Northwest, the teams of these two universities still loom up as the most formidable contenders for the 1909 championship.

Conditions at Oregon and Washington are much the same this year, with Washington having perhaps a shade the better of it. Each eleven will be composed for the most part of veteran players with at least one year's experience on the intercollegiate gridiron. And there has been a wealth of new material from which to fill the few vacant places in the line-ups. Each institution, moreover, is particularly fortunate in having for the second consecutive year the coaching of men who were brilliant stars in their own football days, and have had the advantage of a whole season's work with their present teams.

On the other hand, with the lone exception of Whitman, all the other conference teams have opened the season under heavy difficulties. At O. A. C., Idaho, and Washington State College, the coaches are new and have had to break in new teams around the slim nucleus of a few seasoned players. Next to Oregon and Washington, however, the writer considers Whitman the team most to be feared. Coach Blanchard, with his light, fast and tricky eleven of 1908 almost intact, has developed a team that will depend to great extent on speed, the forward pass and on-side kick, and cleverly executed trick plays for its gains. The Mezonians today are probably more advanced in their work and nearer ready to step into an important game without further preparation than either Oregon or Washington. Watch Whitman for with half a chance this team will give the two colleges made the closest kind of a rub for supremacy.

It was a very inferior grade of football which the writer saw the Oregon Varsity put up against its alumni team last Saturday. The collegians seemed to have lost most of their football knowledge and acumen, and were outgeneraled and outplayed by the alumni team at every stage of the game. Their defense was poor for the most part and at offense they seemed helpless, generally being hurried back for a half a dozen yards and not manage to fumble the ball.

Peculiarly enough, however, this very defeat seems to have improved Oregon's chances many per cent. The game was a revelation to the players themselves, many of whom had become unconsciously imbued with the idea that with so many veterans trying for the eleven, the hardest part was not necessary. The game showed up all the weak points, and since then the varsity men have realized their mistake of overconfidence. The hardest and stiffest practice of the season, with all-around improvement in play, has resulted. Before the alumni game this same overconfidence caused something of a relaxation in the observance of training rules, but now it is said that every man on the squad is training faithfully. One player who failed to be in his room by 10 o'clock in the evening, the time fixed by the trainer, was dismissed from the squad by the coach. This shows the earnestness with which Oregon is now preparing for the opening of the conference season, and justifies the belief that it must be considered one of the championship possibilities for when they find themselves there are many sterling players in its line-up.

Good Material at Eugene.

With the graduation of Fred Moulton as the only serious loss, and veterans like Gilles, Pinkham, Dodson, Kilz, Hickson, Clark, Hain, Michard, Groat, Latourette, Chandler, Sullivan and Scott, with such new material trying out as Mitchell at center, Bailey, 248 pounds and fast at guard, Walker at full and Kay at quarter, Oregon is sure to have a powerful team.

GRIDIRON MATERIAL OF U. OF O. IS MOST PROMISING FOR SEASON

Pinkham, Star Football Player of the West, to Close Career as College Athlete With Star Tactics—Dan Mitchell, a Terrific Center, Dean Walker, a Smashing Fullback—"Brick" Michael Is Great Line-Plunger.



LOUIS PINKHAM OREGON'S GREAT TACKLE



DAN WALKER, OF PORTLAND, PICKED TO MAKE VARSITY FULLBACK



DAN MITCHELL CENTER

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON, Eugene, Oct. 15.—(Special)—Louis H. Pinkham, without doubt one of the greatest football players ever developed in the West, is playing the best game of his gridiron career with the University of Oregon this season. This will be his last year at college, and he says that after the close of the present season he will never again don a football suit. In the three years he has already played on the Oregon eleven, Pinkham has twice been chosen All-Northwest tackle, and last year he was specifically mentioned in Walter Camp for meritorious playing, being the only Pacific Coast player to receive special notice.

Dan Mitchell, a big freshman, last year with the Eugene High School, is picked to make the center position on the varsity squad this season. Mitchell has had three years of training under George Hug, the present assistant varsity coach, who was twice named All-Northwest center when he played for Oregon in '06 and '08. Though Mitchell weighs only 182 pounds, he is strong and fast and charges with terrific force.

Dean Walker is another freshman who will probably make the first eleven. Walker comes from Columbia University in Portland, where for two successive years he was All-Intercollegiate fullback. He is playing a smashing game in the fullback position, and Coach Forbes is hugely pleased with his work. Walker seems to have a natural ability to find holes in the opposing line. He is a hard tackler and very strong on defensive play. Altogether, he is one of the football finds of the season.

Graham J. Michael, generally known as "Brick," may do the punting for Oregon this season if Captain Dudley Clarke is kept at end. Michael first played for Oregon last season when he was a freshman, and was picked by several critics for All-Northwest end. This season he is being played at end and half. Michael is a terrific line-plunger and a very consistent kicker. He punts 50 and 55 yards several times in practice, and easily averages 45 yards. With two punters like Michael and Clark, Oregon will be very strong in this department of the game.

Warren and Polly, who are back in the game after a year out of gridiron harness. Joy has resulted at Idaho this week over the decision of Montgomery, Idaho's 4-5 sprinter, to turn out for fullback. Montgomery at first said he would save himself entirely for track work next Spring, but finally relented before the pleas of his team-mates.

Coach Grogan will have fairly good material with Jewell, Stokesberry, Cooper, Lundstrom, Hillman and Montgomery of last season's squad. Idaho's first game is played October 12 against the University of Puget Sound, the first heavy game being against Washington at Spokane on the 10th.

Pullman Has a Chance.

The arrival of Wallace De Witt, a star punter and drop-kicker last year of the Spokane High School, has brightened prospects at Pullman. Coach Keimholz will send his squad into its first scrimmage Tuesday, October 19, against Puget Sound University. In his line-up there will be Mizner, a strong player on the '08 and '07 teams, and Laird in Cherry's place at center. Most of the other positions will be filled by second-team men and freshmen. Pull-



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GRAHAM J. MICHAEL

man's outlook is not particularly encouraging. With only four 1908 men in the line-up—Wolff at full, Keck at quarter, Enberg at half and Captain Evenden at tackle—the Aggies managed to hold their alumni team to a scoreless game Saturday. Coach Metzger's men, many of whom have not played football before, put up rather a ragged game. Their work showed much improvement over earlier in the season, however, and before the first conference game Metzger will have many of the awkward spots smoothed out. One of the new men who did well was Bergman, the crack hurdler and sprinter, at half.

Whitman has already been mentioned at some length. It only remains to be said that in a practice game Saturday the varsity eleven trounced Pendleton High School clearly by the score of 23 to 0. Whitman used forward passes to advantage several times in this game, and played fast and consistently throughout. The game was a good indication of the style of football this eleven will undoubtedly use throughout the season. Among Whitman's players this year are Borleske, Johnson, Dresser, Clemens, Benquist, Matthews, Morrow, Neill, Willson, Fortier, Wylie, Lewis and Belt.

FANS BID ADIEU TO GAMES TODAY

Portland and Vernon to Meet in Last Clash of the Season.

8-CLUB LEAGUE WANTED

Ewing's Idea Regarded as Another Baseball Lemon—Some McCredie Star Players to Say Farewell for Good.

BY W. J. PETHAIN.

This afternoon when the Portland and Vernon teams clash on the Vaughn-street lot, the fans of Portland will bid farewell to league baseball for 1909, as McCredie's team will leave tonight for two weeks in California, playing the San Francisco and Los Angeles teams in the fortnight of play remaining.

It has been a most successful season in a good many respects, and even though Portland has hardly one chance in a hundred of winning first honors, the members of McCredie's team have done so well that they are practically sure of finishing in second place. In a six-club league and with a number of new players, the record established is not so bad at all.

With the end of the present season in sight and baseball occupying much of the attention of the sport-loving public, speculation on next season's prospects continues to interest the fans.

Ewing Idea Not Wanted.

The consensus of opinion among the most faithful fans is that Portland's claim to recognition in the formation of an eight-club league should be recognized, and they do not want the "Ewing idea," favoring three Northern towns and five in the South, at all. This city has been handed so many baseball lemons by the California moguls that "half a loaf" will never be acceptable again. While they will patronize the game to a certain extent, the continual hammering and such a deal as Ewing suggests will eventually have a deteriorating effect on the box-office receipts. In this manner the sporty-fans faction will realize the mistake.

Last week the Northwestern League held its annual meeting, when Judge McCredie announced he would prefer to array his team with the Northwestern League. Unless Judge McCredie can prevail on the National Association of Professional Baseball Leagues that the Northwestern League is the best for baseball, as well as to get the "consent" of the five California towns to his withdrawal, Portland will continue to be enrolled as a member of Ewing's circuit, owned and controlled by California.

Unable to Decide.

At the meeting of the Northwestern League that organization was unable to decide upon a circuit because of the unique position of Portland in baseball. The Northwestern League desires to retain Portland in the fold, but could not definitely do so last Monday for the reason that its occupancy of this territory is optional with the Pacific Coast League for one season. Therefore the Northwestern magnates voted to take a decided stand at the conference of baseball leagues, when they will endeavor to convince the association that Portland logically belongs to the Northern circuit.

Except for the fact that the Northwestern League has not much chance of winning recognition as a Class A organization, the fans of Portland might relish the change as welcome. However, if the Northwestern cannot produce the quality baseball which the Pacific Coast League, the Portland fans will not warm up to the proposition at all.

In making a fight before the National Association the Northwestern League must battle for the higher classification, and if the Western and Southern Leagues are tendered such a rating, the great Northwest should be similarly honored. American League and Southern Leagues have enjoyed the higher rating for several seasons, but, as in the past, the Northwestern had been given a promise or two and let down with that. If the magnates of that circuit continue to be satisfied with a promise now and then, they deserve to be trodden upon all of the time, just as has been their fate in years gone by.

Hog All, Safe Policy.

"We want everything" should be the Northwesterner's battle cry, for the only way to succeed in a baseball meeting is to play the "whole hog" act; then something is usually accomplished. Note Ewing, for instance. J. Ed Ewing has conned more advantages out of the National Association of Professional Baseball Leagues than any other league president in the country. The San Francisco magnate has done it simply because he is the king-pin bluffer of the entire country, and the association magnates fell for him soon with the greatest of ease. What the Northwestern League must do to be adopted similar tactics, only go to further lengths than did

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Ewing. It is up to them to get busy, the rest of us can't help them any.

With the parting of the fans and the ball-tossers reminds us that some of the fine young players enrolled on McCredie's staff are bidding us adieu, probably for good, for they are to advance to the major leagues, where they will have to show their worth, and if they make good a career of long standing is open to them. "Speck" Harkness, Al Carson and Ote Johnson are the players lost to Portland either by sale or draft. Carson, the more promising of the two pitchers, goes to the Chicago National League and his earnestness in endeavor and application will undoubtedly carry him through successfully. He is yet a young man, and is only just starting on his career. Two years ago he was playing "bush" ball in Southern California when picked up by Ike Butler, who recommended him to George Schneider, the Tacoma magnate. Last Fall he was drafted by McCredie and proved one of the most reliable twirlers who ever wore a Portland uniform.

Speck Harkness, likewise a youngster, and even more of a youth than Carson, for he is scarcely out of his teens, goes to the Cleveland American League. Being young and far from serious, Harkness has not done himself justice yet, and may not do so for a season or so. He does not take the game seriously. He is so successful and accomplishes it so easily he thinks it a joke most of the time. When he makes his debut among the majors and gets a few bumps and a hard knock or two he will commence to realize that baseball is a serious game, and he will make it to better advantage.

Ote Johnson, probably the greatest favorite with the Portland fans this city has known, is to become a New York American League player next season. Johnson's prowess with the bat, as well as his good, though not stellar work in the field, has caused him to enjoy great popularity, not only in Portland, but all over the circuit. He is one of the steadiest and most conscientious players in the game today, and authorities like Plaster Jones and others acquainted with the fine points of the game predict that Johnson will make good in the big brush.

Ote will return to Portland after the final week in Los Angeles and expects to remain here the greater part of the winter. A month or so before reporting time rolls round again Ote will take his family to the old home in Ohio for a few weeks, and the queer little animal answer her call and eat from her hand. She has five young hedgehogs, hardly bigger than mice. These animals roll in a ball, showing nothing except their spines, when strangers cross their path, but they are quick to make friends. One of the daughters of Premier Asquith has two hedgehogs. The girl the other day refused the dignity of a visiting diplomat by walking into the drawing-room of the official residence in Downing street with the two bristling little fellows at her heels.

Hedgehogs as Pets.

New York Press. Women of fashion in England have taken to hedgehogs as pets. The hedgehog is common to Europe and Western Asia and is easily tamed. The Countess of Craven, who was Miss Bradley-Martin, of this city, has a dozen pet hedgehogs in her country place in England, and the queer little animals answer her call and eat from her hand. She has five young hedgehogs, hardly bigger than mice. These animals roll in a ball, showing nothing except their spines, when strangers cross their path, but they are quick to make friends. One of the daughters of Premier Asquith has two hedgehogs. The girl the other day refused the dignity of a visiting diplomat by walking into the drawing-room of the official residence in Downing street with the two bristling little fellows at her heels.

WRESTLING MATCH

JOHN BERG, Champion of Pacific Coast vs. WALT EVANS, Champion of the South. Three Fall Round, 15 minutes. Dreamland Hall, Monday, Oct. 18. Ringside, \$1.50; reserved, \$1.00; gen. adm., 50c.

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Cartoonist Murphy Pictures the Eclipse of Baseball and Arrival of the Football Player

