

Game Birds and Waterfowl Show Increase

Interest Seen In New Dams

By ARTHUR HENDERSHOTT

A survey of conditions in Lane county indicate that 1940 has proven a banner year for migratory waterfowl and upland game birds. Hunters have had one of the best seasons of duck and goose hunting in recent years and the China pheasant and other game birds, protected by law for the past two years, have shown a steady increase within the year.

Up until two years ago the upland game birds have been hunted vigorously and after a closed season in 1939 the increase was not sufficient to again open the season. However, with a second closed season under most favorable hatching conditions it is remarkable how the birds, especially China pheasants, have staged a comeback.

Quite a large percentage of our local sportsmen were disappointed that the state game commission declared a closed season in the Willamette valley. The commission gave as its excuse that in some parts of Linn county and Marion county the pheasants were still scarce and the closing of the entire Willamette valley seemed to be the smart thing to do. I claim to belong to the conservationists and agree that the commission acted wisely.

20,000 Birds Released

The state has three splendid hatcheries, two in the Willamette valley and one in eastern Oregon and has hatched and liberated better than 20,000 birds this year — a mighty good record.

The China pheasant lends itself admirably to parts of central and eastern Oregon and really does better over in that higher, dryer climate.

Generally speaking the past five years, ducks and geese have increased by leaps and bounds. That's easy to understand if one takes into consideration the time and money spent and new regulations that have been put into effect during the past five years.

I will mention some things done that materially effect our waterfowl. First, the open hunting seasons have been shortened; less hours in the days; no shooting before sunup and no shooting after 4 p.m.; no baiting of ponds; no live decoys allowed. The U. S. government exacts a \$1 toll from every duck shooter.

'Ducks Unlimited' Helps

This fee, known as the Federal Duck Stamp, goes toward the rental or purchase of large areas used as hatching grounds. A scientific study has been made of summer resting and hatching conditions in the northern parts of North America. An organization known as "Ducks Unlimited", has been instrumental in this work and has collected and spent thousands of dollars in improving waterfowl conditions during the past five years.

It's going to be interesting to see what part our new Willamette valley dams play on ducks and geese. The past few years the Willamette valley has been so terribly dry in the fall birds in making their winter flight south, took two distinct routes—one along the coast to Mexico and southern states while the other was by way of eastern Oregon, making Klamath and Tule lakes their first big stop.

We Lane county sportsmen are in hopes the completion of the Fern Ridge dam will provide a rest haven for waterfowl and will eventually bring to the Willamette valley a much greater number of ducks and geese.

Ducklings Have Banner Year

By DON A. PLATH

Athletic teams representing the 1940 University of Oregon freshmen turned in one of the most successful years in history.

Competing in a total of 56 contests, the Ducklings won 48 and lost a small total of eight.

Baseball gained the highest average. Coach John Warren's baseball nine went through the season undefeated. Basketball was next in line. The Frosh hoopsters winning 16 games and losing one gained a percentage of .941. The track team, coached by Ned Johns, won two and lost two for a .500 percentage.

Against their traditional rivals, the Oregon State Rooks, the Ducklings won 16 out of 18 meetings. A clean sweep was made by the Oregon teams in football, basketball, swimming, and golf. And they split in track and tennis.

The Frosh victories in basketball were won by two point margins.

A sketch of Frosh sports follows:

BASKETBALL

Coach Warren's hoop squad was made to order for Webfoot style. The first string line-up was composed of three tall front-court men, and two speedy guards. In winning 16 games out of 17, the freshmen scored a total of 703 points against their opponents' 493. The Frosh averaged 41.3 points to their opponents' 29.

Three of the Frosh — Wally Borrevik, Warren Taylor, and Quentin Sidesinger who are now

on the varsity team—were the high scorers of the 1940 Duckling hoop squad. Borrevik scored 50 field goals and 13 freethrows to lead the squad with 113 points.

The single Frosh defeat was administered by Longview high. The Ducklings later topped this team 47-27.

BASEBALL

Fifteen wins and no defeats was the record made by the Duckling baseball nine. The hitters on the Frosh team were paced by Johnny Bubalo, Chuck Clifford, Tony Crish, and Don Kirsch. Bubalo cracked out 28 hits in 60 times at the plate for a .433 average. Don Kirsch and Johnny Bubalo were the shining lights in the Frosh's defensive play.

Dean Van Lydegraf and Howard Robertson, catcher and outfielder from Springfield and Eugene high, respectively, were next in line in the batting.

Coach Warren's main pitching staff was composed of Stew Fredericks, Nick Begleries, and Bob Reber. Begleries pitched a no-hit, no-run against Gresham high, and pitched a four-hit shut-out game against the Oregon State Rooks.

TRACK

Coach Ned Johns' cinder squad wasn't considered an outstanding team but clever handling enabled the Ducklings to gain a split in their four meets. The Frosh were defeated 5-0 in the annual relay meet with the Rooks. They defeated the two Eugene high schools in a three-way meet, but lost to

a strong Medford track team that won the state championship in the spring. In the final meet of the season the Frosh turned the tables and downed the Baby Beavers, 67 to 55.

TENNIS

A six-man tennis squad made up of Manning, Kahananui, Hill, Westfall, Baker, and McInnis had a great chance to go through the entire season without a defeat, but lost the final match to the Rooks, 4 to 3. The Duckling squad had defeated these same Rooks by the same score earlier in the season.

GOLF

Freshmen golfers, paced by Dick Hansen, topped the Oregon State Rooks twice. The freshmen lost to the strong University high five-man team, state high school champions.

SWIMMING

Russ Cutler's swimming team won four out of their five meets. The squad, composed of Dick Allen, Tom Corbett, Warren Finke, Lee Ghormley, Bob Wagner, and Ralph Huestis and Earl Walrath, Eugene boys, defeated the Rooks and Salem Y twice. Their loss was to the Portland Aero club.

FOOTBALL

Coach John Warren's football team did two outstanding things this season. First they avenged two defeats handed them by the Rooks last season, and second, their victories over the Rooks enabled the teams coached by Warren to make a complete sweep over the Rooks in all contests for the year of 1940.

The loss suffered by the Ducklings was handed to them by the University of Washington Babes, 9 to 0.

A sweet pair of halfbacks in Jimmy Newquist and Inky Boe were the main offensive threats on the '40 Frosh eleven. Newquist was the leading ground gainer, and Boe had the best punting average. Outstanding linemen who will have the best chance to crack into the varsity line-up next year are Chuck Elliot, guard from Eugene; Brad Ecklund, center from Milwaukie, and Bert Gianelli, end from Longview.

Wrestling and boxing under the tutelage of Eric Waldorf and Vaughn Corley respectively was quite prominent, but very few contests were scheduled.

Trap Shooters Active Here

The boys who shoot to kill and don't bring back any live game—the trapshooters—have just finished one of their most successful years, as far as Lane county and Eugene are concerned.

Top event of the year was the opening of the new Eugene gun club grounds, six miles west of the city. At the inaugural shoot, Troch won all-around high honors, with Ray Glass second.

In the Pacific International Trapshooters Association shoot at Salem, Glass and Troch tied for first place.

Other teams showing well in various meets throughout the year were Cottage Grove, McKenzie-Gateway of Springfield, Siuslaw of Florence, Notti, and Upper Willamette of Dexter with Florence representatives, led by George Nelson and L. R. Swarthout, particularly impressive.

The Eugene club, already with the largest membership ever enrolled and possessing one of the best grounds in the state, hopes to hold one or two major tournaments in 1941, and further intends to have registered shoots regularly, alternating with Portland and Salem in this respect.

Diamond 'A' Softballers Lose Out in Oregon Tourney

By BUCK BUCHWACH

Baseball's fast growing competitor, the spectacular game of softball, continued to be an athletic success in 1940 in Eugene, although the financial returns were not too gratifying.

The Diamond "A" softball team tumbled the 1939 champions—Sterling Furniture — from the throne in 1940, but only after a tough battle that saw Sterling drop a 3-2 overtime championship tilt that meant the title.

Although the Diamond "A" club showed plenty of batting and fielding power throughout the summer months, evidently it was off form in the state tournament in Salem, for the first game of the tourney was dropped to Benneville by a 7-6 score. The game took but 55 minutes as Biff Gorgeson fanned numerous of the heavy Diamond hitters.

However, in city competition the Diamond team proved it had what it takes. After it had beaten both of its closest competitors in the double elimination play,

it sat back and watched Sterling win from Fenn's Tire Shop by a 11-2 count.

Then in the Shaughnessy system playoff, Diamond "A" won its game from the Knights of Columbus 8-0, while Sterling did away with the champions of the minor loop, the Army Engineers to the tune of a 7-1 win.

Gordon Bailey of Fenn's won the major league batting championship, with an average of .555 which topped the last year's champion's mark by a cool .055. Taylor of Sterling was second with .490, Russell of Diamond "A" was third with .474, Wilson of Diamond "A" had .471 and Hamer of Sterling finished with .412.

In the minor league batting standings, Christensen of Cottage Grove was at the top with an average of .476. He was closely followed by Bujan of the Engineers with .448, Brunton of the S. P. shops with .444 and Pavlunas of the Engineers with .409.

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