

Highclimber

By DICK STRITE

Granted the officiating of the Oregon-OSC basketball game at McArthur court was the worst seen here in years, the smarter and better quintet (Saturday night) won.

Coach John Warren has a better team than the one that lost to Oregon State. There was no master-minding by Stals Gill that brought victory to Beaverville, but the lack of teamwork on the part of the Oregonians. And unless the boys learn to change men more effectively on their man-for-man defense, against Oregon State's blocks, Oregon will suffer just as bad, if not a worse licking at Corvallis next Saturday.

Sure, and the officiating had some bearing on the outcome of the game, but we mean Oregon didn't play a brand of coordinated basketball that was worthy of victory. When Art McLarney walked out on the court with Emil Piluso before the game we nearly passed out. We saw McLarney work the Oregon-Washington games in Seattle last year, and according to reports from the Puget sound country the Seattle prep coach gave Oregon as bad a time this year as we witnessed last season—which was terrific.

Both McLarney and Piluso did a miserable job in the first minutes of the game, but settled down and did a comparatively good job later. The personal fouls called by the two whistle-toters weren't so far off line (and they definitely overlooked some Oregon fouls late in the game), but the violations they missed that really counted. Larry West either held his dribble or took steps virtually every time he gained possession of the ball, and Bernie McGrath wasn't far behind. There might have been some question regarding charging and blocking fouls, too.

There was one occasion when the OSC timer reached across Ed Siegmund to ring the gong while Jim Bartlett was shooting a foul, that caused some speculation. Jim made the shot, and it appeared as though McLarney didn't want to allow the score, but made Jim make another attempt. And it looked as though Piluso wouldn't agree.

Had it been an OSC player instead of Bob Hamilton who made that long field goal at the end of the first half we'd cry for a week that the field goal shouldn't have been allowed. Although the rules say that a player in the act of shooting as the time ends should be allowed the score, it seemed as though several seconds had elapsed after the half-time period ended before Bob got his shot away. McLarney, by the way, suffered several blows (one on the nose) while reaching the dressing room. So much for the officiating.

The Beavers would be lost without the services of Ephraim "Red" Rocha, the gigantic 6-foot, 8-inch center, but the loose-limbed hooper isn't a great hooper, by any means. He's a better man than Vince Hansen of Washington State, but lacks the competitive spirit—like most "tall firs."

Dick Wilkins of Oregon is so much the better player they're no comparison. . . . The Portland freshman gave a great exhibition Saturday night and had he remained in the game in the final three minutes of play (he went out on five fouls at that point) we believe Oregon might have tied and then won the game. Dick did a creditable job checking Bernie McGrath early in the contest, and after his fourth foul before the half ended he did an equally good job guarding West. Speaking of guarding, incidentally, did you notice Bob Hamilton wear McLarney's down so badly the Beaver captain had to retire?

Back to Wilkins. The ex-marine made one of the most spectacular shots of the season in the first 90 seconds of the game when he took a pass from Hamilton and scored with a two-fisted underhand shot while going under the basket and several feet off the floor. His fine heads-up play showed up more in the second half, however. In the first minute of the second half he stole the ball from McGrath and dribbled ahead of the field to score. With seven minutes remaining he did the same thing to West and again to McGrath within a 30-second period. That knocked the Beaver margin down to six points and McGrath out of the game.

Although we couldn't find an empty seat throughout the entire 1945 Saturday night, Graduate Manager Anne Cornell said there were some in the northwest section of the balcony—and that attendance was under 7000. . . . The capacity is listed at 7000, and there were something like 7800 for the Oregon-California playoff games in 1939. . . . But two sets of bleachers were set up where chairs were placed on the floor Saturday night. The stands can no longer be used because they block the entrances and exits. . . . Incidentally, there are few reserved seats remaining for the fourth Oregon-OSC game here March 2.

Two long-distance telephone calls from Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, received by the University of Oregon telephone operator Saturday night, inquiring about the outcome of the game will be investigated by Cornell and the NCAA. . . . The calls were believed to have come from gamblers because the party calling did not know in what city the university was located. . . . It's reasonable to believe that any ordinary person interested enough to pay \$15 to find the result of the game would have known of Eugene.

Gail Bishop's northern division scoring record of 224 points for 18 games, which appeared so certain of standing for years and years when he set the mark in 1943, now seems certain to go by the boards. . . . If Hansen of the Cougars can maintain his present pace of 15.75 points per game, he will finish the season with 232 points.

Did you notice in Harry Grayson's NEA story on Hobby Hobberson's proposed basketball rule changes, appearing in our Sunday edition, that the on-leave Oregon coach is "about to go overseas on army coaching duty"? And now comes a rumor that a telegram sent to Hobby in New York was returned because he could not be found at his former address.

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Oregon's scoring punch is expected to be improved. Center Ken Hays, who missed nine of ten field-goal attempts in the first half, has been in bed with a heavy cold until the day before last week's game. Del Smith, the freshman forward who gave one of his poorest exhibitions of the season, was handicapped by a Charley-horse which is expected to be improved by next Saturday. Close followers of Oregon basketball anticipated no change in the starting lineup against the Beavers this week.

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Ducks Train For Beavers

No Injuries On Squad

Coach John Warren said here Tuesday that his University of Oregon Webfoots came out of the 55-51 licking at the hands of Oregon State here last Saturday night in fair physical condition, with only bruises that will mend before next Saturday's third meeting between the intra-state rivals at Corvallis.

Oregon won the first game at Corvallis 51-44 and need another victory to retain its one-game lead in the northern division, Pacific coast conference. A defeat would send the Webfoots and Beavers into a deadlock, with Washington State trailing by a half game.

The Cougars, who meet Idaho in a home-and-home series and Washington in Seattle before closing the season, are still very much in the race.

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Vandals Trip Huskies 39-34

NORTHERN DIVISION

Standings	W.	L.	Pct.	Pa.	Opp.
Oregon	4	1	.800	33	533
Oregon State	3	2	.600	30	501
Washington State	1	4	.200	15	523
Idaho	1	4	.200	15	523

MOSCOW, Idaho, Feb. 13.—(AP)—University of Washington Cougar—defending titlist in the Northern Division, fell before Idaho 39-34 last night, bringing to seven their number of losses on the road this season in as many starts.

The Huskies have one more chance to win an away-from-home contest when they meet the Vandals again tonight.

Washington held the upperhand throughout the entire first half, leading 20-5 at one point and holding a 24-16 lead at halftime, but Idaho scurried home with 12 points within three minutes after the second half opened to take its first lead 28-27. Jeff Overholser, with six, O'Connor with eight and Leonard Pyne with three accounted for the Idaho victory margin.

Overholser and Pyne paced the victors with 10 each although Dick King of Washington laid in 12 for evening's honors.

The game made no difference in the division standings, Idaho retaining the cellar position behind Washington in fourth place.

Summary	FG	FT	PP	TP
Washington	10	12	3	2
Idaho	10	12	3	2
O'Connor	4	0	2	8
Overholser	3	0	2	10
Taylor	1	3	2	4
Pyne	4	3	1	10
King	6	0	4	12
Blowers	2	0	3	3
TOTALS	15	4	10	34

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16. Setbacks missed: Washington—Crawling, Brooks, King, Blowers, Idaho—O'Connor, 2, Taylor, 1, Carbaugh.

Halftime score: Washington, 24, Idaho 16.

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Hobson To Aid In Army Setup

Howard A. Hobson, University of Oregon baseball and basketball coach now on sabbatical leave for study on his doctor's degree at Columbia university in New York City, will leave soon with seven other well-known civilian coaches for the Mediterranean war theater.

Hobson and the coaching staff selected from other schools throughout the nation will conduct coaching courses for army officers who will be in charge of athletics for troops returning from combat.

The announcement, made by the Associated Press in New York, listed Hobson as the basketball mentor. Others listed were Cecil Isbell, Purdue, football; William J. Cavanaugh, West Point, boxing; H. William Hargis, Kansas, track and field; and the following men not assigned to any one particular sport: Seward Charles Staley, Illinois; Dean Nasmith, Kansas; George White, New Haven, Conn., official. The eighth member of the party will be Maj. Fran G. Welch, peacetime football coach at Emporia (Kansas) State Teachers, who will be the military officer in charge.

The tour, which may have already started, will require approximately 60 days. Hobson was believed to have received the approval of Columbia university to accept the invitation from the army and the tour will be part of his graduate work.

Orlando John Hollis, acting president of the University of Oregon, said Tuesday that he was aware of Hobson's plans, but was not familiar with the details of the short-term assignment. He said that Hobson was on leave from the university to study for his doctor's degree and as long as Columbia university approved the tour, the University of Oregon likewise approved.

The announcement came following several months of rumors that Hobson would become affiliated with the army in some connection, but the duty was believed to have been in connection with the proposed V-Day "Olympic" games planned in Paris following the defeat of Germany.

The group is the second sent out by the athletic branch of the army's service forces of which Col. Henry W. "Eddie" Clark of Lafayette is chief.

Red Rolfe of Yale; Charles Berry, American league umpire; and Leo Hauck of Penn State are among the members of that unit, which was sent to Greenland and Iceland.

Clark, who recently returned from a visit to the war fronts, said that at numerous stops he saw troops returning from a long stay at the front, turn immediately to a sports contest for relaxation.

O'Neil, Gill Sign With '45 Beavers

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 13.—(AP)—Signed contracts for the 1945 season have been returned by two stars of the Portland Beavers who were mainstays of the second-place team last year—shortstop Johnny O'Neil and outfielder Johnny Gill—William H. Klepper, general manager, announced today.

Both players informed Klepper that they were in fine physical condition and ready to report for spring training at San Jose, Calif.

U-Bowl Bowling

Kilbourns defeated Andrus Bros. 3-0 in the Social league Monday night at the U Bowl alleys. Harvey, of the winners, had the high total score of 550.

D & E Storage beat Danniell's Cafe 2-1, with both individual and total scores going to Art Purser of the losers with 220 and 48