BASKETBALL ON THE PACIFIC COAST

California's gigantic Golden Bears are still riding at the head of the parade in the Southern Division of the Pacific Conference, at this writing. Headed by Bill Ogilvie, 6-6 center, Captain Bob Chalmers, 6-4 forward, and Bill Biggerstaff, 6-5 guard, the Blue and Gold basketers are heavy favorites to win the Southern Division title. Their most severe test, in all probability, will come in their second two game series against Southern California. In the first series, the two teams split even but California is expected to have the edge on her home floor. Ogilvie, incidentally, is second high scorer in the Southern Division.

Oregon's stalwart quintet leads the Northern Division and is considered practically a cinch to repeat its victory of last year, in that section. The Webfeet lost the coast title to Stanford's powerful outfit in 1938, and have practically the same team which have Hank Luisetti and his mates plenty of trouble. Laddie Gale seems bound for a new individual scoring record in the north.

Ralph Vaughn, Southern California's sharp-shooting forward, is setting a fast pace for scorers in the Southern Division. At this writing, the Trojan star has run up eighty-one points in five games. His outstanding feat was performed against U.C.L.A. two weeks ago when he tanked sixteen field goals and four free throws for thirty-six points.

Three Pacific Coast teams had successful barnstorming trips through the East and Middle West during the holidays - Southern California, Oregon, and Santa Clara. The last named team is probably king-pin among the "independents" although it did drop a game to St. Mary's recently. The Broncos are expected to turn the tables at the next meeting of these two teams.

Everyone connected with basketball on the coast learned with regret that Caddy Works, head coach at U.C.L.A. since 1922, will retire at the end of this season. Caddy has resigned to devote his entire time to law. Works has been a prominent figure in basketball during his entire stay at U.C.L.A. and has developed some of the finest players in coast history.

Southern California, pre-season favorites for the Southern Division championship, is not out of the race yet. The trojans can climb back into the lead by beating California twice on the latter's home court - no small job.

Stanford might still play an important part in the race by tripping either the Bears or the Trojans, although this is not to be expected. The Indians turned in one surprise by beating heavily favored Southern California in the first game. U.C.L.A. is out of the race, with five straight defeats but might possibly trip any one of the other three teams.