

Sports

Fish Duck Called Pest In Washington; Bird Under Federal Protection As Game

By JACK HEWINS
Associated Press Sports Writer

Bird watchers like fish ducks. This comes to you after considerable research. When we discovered the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service didn't like fish ducks but was afraid to take a firm stand we thought the American merganser must have lost its last friend.

But it still has the bird watcher. In our book, not yet published, fortunately you'll find the fish duck listed under U-for-Useless, right alongside the coot and the squawfish. Like his two pals, the merganser is not good to eat and sportsmen leave him strictly alone except for target practice.

Thus he thrives and his tribe increases. So also the coot and the squawfish and some day there may be nothing left in the rivers but squawfish and nothing on top but mergansers and coots. Only a bird watcher could love a fish duck or a coot (which you may prefer to call a mudhen; be our guest). Only a fish duck could appreciate a squawfish, and then not much.

Game Fish Diet
The American merganser doesn't stop at being U-for-Useless. If he restricted his diet to squawfish he'd be less obnoxious, but he has a yen for trout and salmon. There's no guessing how many thousands of steelhead and salmon he gulps as the young fish head downriver toward the sea.

"He seems to have advance information when we get ready to stock a lake with trout," says Burton Lauckhart of the Washington Game Dept. Flocks of mergansers swoop in and gobble up the freshly planted fish.

"He's a real pest on our steelhead streams," chimes in Clarence Pautzke, the department's fish biologist.

In Eastern Canadian rivers, where the Atlantic salmon were dwindling at an alarming rate, a drive on mergansers was initiated. When the fish ducks were blasted the salmon made a comeback. It can't happen here because the merganser is given the same protection as an honest duck.

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Some of the shotgun fraternity will go after mergansers—but only to give their dogs a little retrieving practice.

Merganser Protected
Although the Washington Game Dept. is anti-merganser unofficially, it has to go along with the U.S.F. & W.S., which has control over migratory birds. Not only does this include mergansers, but "avocets, curlews, dowitchers, godwits, knots, oyster-catchers, phalaropes, plovers, sandpipers, snipe, stilts, surf birds, turn-

Wrestling Belt On Block Again

The Pacific Northwest heavyweight championship of the mat is on the block again Saturday night as the result of a donkeybrook last weekend which took its toll of both Ricky Waldo and a referee.

John Horn, chairman of the Roseburg Boxing Commission, has ordered Pedro Godoy's money and Heavyweight title held up because the tough Chilean took unfair advantage of the ropes.

Waldo, the 220-pound strongman from Ohio got made as a result of Godoy's "rope" tricks and clamped a full nelson on Godoy after knocking out the referee with a head butt. A rematch was called for.

So, with the chairman's ruling, Waldo will try again to lift the crown from the popular colored star. The match will be a two-out-of-three-fall affair with no time limit.

The semifinal pits Rito Romero against Irish Jack O'Reilly in a best-two-of-three match over a 30-minute route. Romero, the Mexican star, was winner of four straight matches in the Roseburg armory before being held to a draw by Bill Fletcher last week.

In the prelim at the armory, Danny O'Rourke will meet Haru Sasaki, the judo star from Honolulu.

stones, willet, woodcock and yellowlegs," to quote just part of the official list.

We're willing to accept the U.S.F. & W.S. claim that every one is a bird, but we'll bet some of those words would be banned on television.

Exhibition Baseball

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
Tuesday's Results
St. Louis (N) 2, Milwaukee (N) 1
Pittsburgh (N) 5, Cincinnati (N) 4
Brooklyn (N) 6, Philadelphia (N) 2
Boston (A) 7, Chicago (A) 2
Kansas City (A) 7, Detroit (A) 2
Cleveland (A) 8, Baltimore (A) 7
Chicago (N) 13, New York (N) 10
Kansas City (A) "B" 9, Memphis (SA) 3

Suds Ship Softballer To Lower-Class League

SEATTLE — Bob Fesler, softball's contribution to professional baseball pitching, is going to try to make the grade in a league of lower classification.

The management of Seattle's Pacific Coast League club announced Monday that the underhand hurler is being optioned to Valsalia in the California League.

The switch is to give Fesler a chance to get more mound work in an attempt to master his control. His speed and deception has continued to impress the Seattle management but his trouble in keeping his underhand tosses over the plate at the longer pitching distance of regular baseball has been his bugaboo.

Fesler was signed by Seattle last season after impressive strike out performances against Coast League batters in exhibitions.

4 Enter AAU Ring Meet; Puscas To Remain Home

PORTLAND — Four Portlanders will represent Oregon in the National AAU boxing tournament at Boston April 9-11.

They are Tommy Thomas, Louie Johnson and the Moyer brothers, Denny and Phil. All have won Northwest Golden Gloves championships.

Jack Puscas of Medford, defending national lightweight champion, turned down an invitation because, he said, it conflicted with job commitments.

ABC Singles Ace Loses Chance For Title Repeat

ROCHESTER, N.Y. — A new singles champion will be crowned in the 53rd annual American Bowling Congress tournament.

Eddie Gerzine of Milwaukee, Wis., who took the title in Fort Wayne last year with a 738, lost his chance to repeat Tuesday by shooting a low 589.

Tony Sparando of Rego Park, N.Y., still leads the division with 719.

None of Tuesday's entries succeeded in breaking into the top five of the four divisions.

Promoter In Portland Plans Pro Basketball

PORTLAND — Harry Glickman, promoter of professional football and basketball here, said Tuesday that he and Los Angeles interests plan to apply for franchise in the National Basketball Assn. for the 1957-58 season.

A new arena will be ready in Los Angeles by that time, he said, and a temporary site can be used here if the sports center-meeting delays—is not completed by then.

Junior College Gridders Enrolled At University

EUGENE — Six prospective football players, transfers from junior colleges, enrolled at the University of Oregon Tuesday.

They are: Dick Long, 205, guard on the 1955 Little Rose Bowl champion Compton Junior College team; Roger Daniels, 170, halfback on the same Compton team; Marlan Holland, 190, fullback for Mt. San Antonio at Pomona; Tony Inferrera, 200, center for Harbor Junior College at Los Angeles; Jim Lindon, 220, tackle for Everett Junior College; and Ernie Dire, 165, halfback for Everett.

HOCKEY PLAYOFFS

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
Tuesday's Results
WESTERN LEAGUE
Victoria 3, Vancouver 2 (Victoria wins double round-robin semifinal)
Vancouver plays New Westminster Wednesday night for second place



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