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SPORT NEWS

Football Gives Way To Basketball; Teams Out

(By Scoop)

How quickly one major sport supercedes another. Thanksgiving Day the La Grande Tigers celebrated the end of their gridiron season by thrashing the Enterprise team 75 to 0—and then laid away the underskirts, padded headgear, shoulder pads, sweaters, etc., for another year.

Today they are thinking of the winter basketball season and preparing for the winter's games and the championship District No. 1 tournament to be held at Union in February.

Yesterday football was king—today the throne is vacant and Basketball, the winter demi-god, is serenely approaching to occupy the chair.

Coach Lester MacTavish did well during the football season with a team partly inexperienced and with only a few veterans around which he could build an eleven, he turned out a product that scored 244 points to high school opponent's 20—winning six games out of seven.

MacTavish went well in the football season but the basketball will prove his real criterion. If he turns out a team that becomes district champions ready for Oregon honors, he will have passed an acid test successfully.

Bernard Hummelt, Rob Gartly, Ray Lynch, Jimmy Coker are all in school this year and are ready to go. All four were regulars on the 1922-23 squad that came so near taking district honors — and they are all out for the 1923-24 quintette. With these four men and several others who have had second team experience out on the court, MacTavish will have plenty of material, material of good quality, if you please.

* * *

The basketball call has been sounded within the high school portals and the first actual practice is scheduled to be this afternoon. Shortly afterwards class games will likely be played and then the team will swing into the regular playing season, in preparation for the Union championship tournament.

* * *

G. L. "Scooty" Dutton is the logical man to select an all-Eastern Oregon eleven. Scooty has refereed nearly a dozen games this fall and has seen every Eastern Oregon team in action, from a position where he could judge the player's true ability rightfully. Scooty knows football both from the official's standpoint and from the player's angle. Those interested in his selection can be prepared to find a carefully selected, rightfully picked aggregation of gridiron stars when he makes the team public through the columns of the Evening Observer.

* * *

Speaking of Scooty, he is one of those rare individuals who can go through a season of refereeing without being the butt of much criticism and fault-finding. Eastern Oregon needs more officials of his standard.

* * *

The scheduled first annual Eastern Oregon basketball championship tournament, to be played at Union in February, it's a step in the right direction that shou'd have been taken years ago. By that time every participating quintette will have passed through the weak places in it's season and should present to their opponents a seasoned, finished product—and the winner will be judged true champions.

Another phase of the tournament that deserves especial praise is the fact that the teams from Grant, Harney and Malheur counties, who in the past have not had their rightful place in the District basketball honors, will be participants for the titular rag. These three counties turn out plenty of good fives and it is not out of the question if it is believed that teams in Malheur, teams in Harney or team in Harney or teams in Grant county have stayed at home while some Union county, Baker county or Wallowa county team went to Salem to represent this district—when the teams in the other three counties might have been just as good or better.

This year District No. 1 will send a real champion to Salem.

Broader merchandise assortments, less crowded stores, and leisurely selections are all good reasons for shopping early—reasons most often set forth for doing so.

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THEATERS

Hoot Gibson Forsakes Broncho for Deck; "Out of Luck" at Arcade Wednesday.

Hoot Gibson forsakes the bucking broncho for a bucking battleship, rides the waves to seasickness and ultimate romance through a series of comedy mishaps mingled with thrilling adventures, and wins a sweetheart and a naval commission in "Out of Luck," his new Universal attraction, to be shown at the Arcade theatre Wednesday.

The versatile photo rider as a cowboy who joins the navy, has a part that gives him a chance to do all his said tricks and add a few more of the new and unusually hilarious nature. His adventures as a "green sub" on shipboard are hilarious. His unprecedented attempts to "ride" a bucking battleship on a bucking broncho and keep his balance simultaneously in a ship's hammock form the principal components of mysteries from too much laughter. His walk on the boat-bottom of the battleship California is another side-splitter.

For thrills, Hoot Gibson and Howard Truesdell stage a battle that for vividness surpasses any fray staged in Universal City in years. The thrilling climax of an captain trying sandbags from another sensational act.

In the cast with Gibson are Laura La Plante, Dewitt C. Jennings, Howard Truesdell, Esther Hancock, Freeman Wood, Kansas McGreary, Jay Morley and John Judd. Edward Sedgwick, author of the play, directed it and Lieut. John Berrien, U. S. N., acted as naval technical advisor.

"St. Elmo" Enjoyed Immensely by Patrons Of the Arcade—Last Showing Today.

"St. Elmo," the William Fox screen production of Augusta J. Evan's novel of the same name, featuring John Gilbert, closes its run at the Arcade tonight. Barbara La Marr and Bessie Love are included in the cast. This film, adapted from the book and the well known stage play of the same name, has proved as popular with the people of this city as the novel and the stage production.

Gilbert in the title role presents an impressive dramatic characterization that will be long remembered. Miss La Marr, noted for her interpretation of women who love and forget, gives a praiseworthy performance. Bessie Love, many times a star in her own right, acquits herself admirably in this picture.

Sherrys Showing Charles Ray Today In Romantic Movie—"The Girl I Loved."

If all the world loves a lover, a treat is in store for the patrons of the Sherry Theatre when Charles Ray's second United Artists production, "The Girl I Loved," will present that favorite star as one of the most ardent and dramatic swains that ever sought a woman's hand. Mr. Ray is said to reach acting heights in this picture never surpassed and seldom equalled on the screen.

The star began his stellar career in a very dramatic role seven years ago. In the years since his versatility in comedy has almost obscured his great ability as an actor of finer parts. In "The Girl I Loved" this ability comes out, it is said, with tremendous force before a picturesque background that is lively and gay.

The events occur among the happy rural people of Indiana from 1816 to 1860, and compose a panorama of typical American life that is now seen rarely. Through this panorama runs the personal love story of the poet James Whitcomb Riley as he related it in the verses from which this the picture takes its name.

Under his United Artists contract Charles Ray is now making only big calibre production, two a year, and this he regards as the greatest of his career. It is the tale of two men who sought a maiden's hand, one of them with tragic ardor. It is clean, like all Ray stories, but carries a tremendous punch. The girl is Patsy Ruth Miller, and it is predicted that the beauty and talents she displays in "The Girl I Loved" will make her a star forthwith.

Joseph De Grasse, who is responsible for Ray's previous United Artists picture, "A Tailor-Made Man," one of last year's big hits, has directed his latest. The cast also includes Huntley Wallace, one of the stage's actors of international celebrity.

An evangelist declares that no really new sin has been discovered in 2,000 years, but they do work in variations that make the old ones continuously attractive.

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