

# Observer Sports

OBSERVER

Neil Anderson

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## Tigers Open Grid Drills With 44 Players On Call

Grid practice opened for the La Grande Tigers yesterday with forty-four candidates on hand to greet Head Coach Franz Haun. The Tigers open their nine game schedule against Union Sept. 11 and coaches pushed the candidates through tough drills in preparation for the opener.

La Grande swings into its first season of Intermountain league play against Baker the following week.

Fourteen lettermen were on hand as practice got underway at the high school field yesterday morning. Heading the list of returnees were second string all-conference backs Don Smith and Dave Carman.

Other senior lettermen were Ray Westenskow, Jimmy Hilliard and John De Boie returning in the backfield. Dale Peterson, Buck Corey, Ken Hildebrandt, Gary Miller, Ron Coleman and George

Parsons are the returning linemen. Lonnie Myers and Don Graham, who lettered last year as sophomores were the only junior lettermen on the squad. Myers, who suffered a broken jaw last week, is expected to rejoin the squad in about three weeks.

Up from the JV's and expected to add strength to the squad were Gregg Blackman, Gary Voruz, Phil Gray, Dennis Spray, Gooch Whittemore and Eric Osterholm.

Non-letterman senior Ted Wagner, one of the two biggest men on the squad also was available.

Only about 27 men turned up at yesterday morning's drill so Haun has cut the drills to one-a-day. Practice will begin every night this week at 6:30 and run to 9:30.

Coaches pushed their charges through a night of heavy drills to get the boys in shape for the coming season.

Most of last night's work was spent on fundamental drills. Harry Mondale, Jack Rainey and Haun spent most of their time setting assignments for the players as they ran through drills under the lights at the high school field.

Haun plans to work most of the first week on defense.

"We felt our defense was our weakest point last year so we are going to concentrate on that during this pre-school period," he said. Tonight the team will get its first taste of contact work. Near the end of the session, Haun plans to work the gridders on team defense.

The scrimmage scheduled for Friday night has been postponed until Saturday according to Haun. The conflict with the county fair will cost the team some key personnel and coaches decided to wait until either Saturday morning or afternoon to give the Tigers their first real test under fire.

Haun singled out Westenskow, Whittemore and Hilliard for praise after last night's drill.

There have been several changes in positions already this season. Haun hopes to find the 11 best footballers and fill in the positions for the coming year.

Hildebrandt has made the switch from end to guard, Gram from guard to tackle, Parsons from center to guard and Peterson from halfback to end.

Peterson came up with a pinched nerve or muscle in the shoulder in last night's practice, but should be ready for heavy duty action in a couple of days.

Haun picked Pendleton and Prineville as the top teams in the league this year. He was reluctant to assign a finishing spot to the Tigers in their first year of competition in the new league.

Along with La Grande, Pendleton and Prineville, Baker, Hermiston, The Dalles and Bend will be members of the new league.

Haun, Mondale, and Rainey will be joined by Curtis Cox on the La Grande coaching staff. Cox will help Monday with the line and also handle the JV squad.

Cox comes to La Grande from Emmett, Idaho, where he coached last year.

## Gil Hodges Leads LA's Comeback

United Press International

Gil Hodges is bashing that ball again, and this is one "nice guy" who could make the Los Angeles finish first.

With husky Hodges out of the regular lineup from July 23 to Aug. 23 with a severe ankle sprain, the Dodgers dropped from 1 1/2 games back of league-leading San Francisco to 4 1/2 games behind. But the one-time hero of Brooklyn is back now, and the Dodgers are starting to move upward.

Hodges stole the show even from strikeout pitcher Sandy Koufax Monday night when he drove in five runs to lead the Dodgers to an 8-2 win over the Philadelphia Phils.

It was a mighty big win for the Bums, because it snapped a three-game losing streak that had imperiled their pennant hopes, it boosted them into second place ahead of the Milwaukee Braves, and it moved them within 3 1/2 games of the Giants.

Friend Blanks Giants

The stage was set for Los Angeles to move up when Bob Friend of the Pittsburgh Pirates blanked the Giants, 6-0, on 12 hits and young Bob Anderson of the Chicago Cubs blanked the Braves, 2-0, on six hits in the only other games played in the National League Monday.

In the only American League games, the Chicago White Sox boosted their league lead over idle Cleveland to two games by beating the New York Yankees, 4-2, and the Baltimore Orioles crushed Detroit, 11-0.

Hodges started the Dodgers on the road to victory when his bases-loaded single highlighted a four-run rally in the first inning against rookie Ed Keegan. He clinched the game in the second when he clouted a three-run homer, his 20th, also off Keegan.

Lefty Koufax fanned 13 Phils in gaining the win. Eleven Dodgers also whiffed and that tied another record — the major league mark of 24 strikeouts by two teams in a nine-inning game.

Ouddeuls Burdette

Friend fanned eight batters in beating the Giants—nailing "phenom" Willie McCovey three times, once with the bases loaded in the ninth. Rocky Nelson slammed two homers and a single to lead the Pirates' 13-hit attack, with starter Sam Jones of the Giants suffering the loss.

Anderson outduelled Lew Burdette to beat the Braves. George Altman scored the Cubs' first run in the first on Johnny Logan's error. Tony Taylor homered in the third, and Altman drove in the final run in the eighth with a single.

Jim Landis led the White Sox to victory with three singles, driving in two runs and scoring a third. The win, credited to starter Ray Moore, gave the Sox a season edge over the Yankees for the first time in 34 years. Turk Lown pitched shutout relief for 3 1/3 innings to save the win.

Big Gus Triandos of the Orioles staged the day's biggest hitting spree, though. He drove in seven runs against Detroit with a grand-slam homer, a two-run homer, and two singles. Knuckleballer Hoyt Wilhelm, with four-hit work for eight innings, got ninth-inning relief from Jack Fiseher and his 13th win of the year. Don Mossi was the loser.



**GETTING READY FOR THE FAIR**  
Suzy Michel, left, and her sister, Sammy, held three of the colts that the girls are taking care of on their ranch northeast of La Grande. The girls will have horses entered in the Union county fair that begins tomorrow as part of their 4-H project. The colts are named Fabian, Muqta and Hourii. (Observer Photo)

## Rodeo Association's First Event Termed Satisfactory By Officials

The Union County Rodeo Association picked two cowboys as their unofficial top rodeo men after Sunday's one-day promotion at Elgin.

Jim Beck, Imbler, and Bob Comforet of John Day were named unofficially as the all-around cowboys of the UCRA's first promotion.

Comforet finished third in bareback riding and second in saddle bronc. He won the bull riding event and also the wild cow riding event.

Thirty-six entries from Oregon, Washington, and Idaho competed for top spot in six events with only one cowboy from outside the Grande Ronde valley getting first place.

Jud Baker of Caldwell, Idaho rode Little Silver to first place in the bareback event against the challenge of 13 other entries.

Joe Bechtel of Elgin was the winner in the saddle bronc riding.

Only two riders qualified in the middle bronc event and Bechtel on Red Gold eased past Comforet on a horse named Raunchy.

In the bull riding event top spot went to Jim Beck with Bill Tsiatsos of La Grande's grabbing second spot. Jim Clemens of Baker finished third and Joe Salle of Elgin finished fourth in the event.

Beck also got the wild cow win with Abe Wilson of Caldwell and Tom Murrey of Long Creek splitting second and third honors in the fourth and fifth spot.

Tsiatsos grabbed a first place

## Stock Car Destroyed At JC Oval

One race car was destroyed but the driver escaped injury during Sunday's stock car races at the JC Speedway.

Jerry Williams in car No. 2 rolled over on the first turn in the fourth heat and a car driven by Jim Ever's climbed right on top flattening Williams' car. Williams was taken to the hospital for treatment. Evers remained in the race and finished third.

Dale Cole grabbed the trophy dash and the fourth head dash to pace Sunday's drivers. Jim Zanelli grabbed the A main and Eldon Dunn drove his way to first place in the B main. Five cars were wrecked during the B event in another afternoon of thrills and chills at the local race course.

The results:

Trophy Dash—1, No. 61, Dale Cole; 2, No. 78, Lloyd Davis; 3, No. 01, Ken Hall.

First Heat Race—1, No. 38, Don Myers.

Second Heat Race—1, No. 79, Art Reel.

Third Heat Race—1, No. 96, Ray Mohl.

Fourth Heat Race—1, No. 61, Dale Cole.

'A' Main Race—1, No. 0, Jim Zanelli; 2, No. 61, Dale Cole; 3, No. 13, Ross Phillips.

'B' Main Race—1, No. 66, Eldon Dunn; 2, No. 70, Art Reel; 3, No. XV, Leonard Doyle.

## Sports Shorts

Barnard Loses

ST. JOSEPH, Mo. (UPI)—Barnard Motors of Portland dropped out of the Connie Mack World Series after losing its second game, 4-2 to Rock Island, Ill.

Race Won

PORTLAND (UPI)—Dan Caruthers, 9, Anaheim, Calif., won the 35-lap class AA main event of the International Quarter-Midget Racing Championships here Sunday. Entries came from 28 states and Canada.

Cundaris Win

PORTLAND (UPI)—For the third time in the four-year history of the local Father-Son golf tournament, Frank and Jerry Cundaris won top honors Sunday. Jerry had a 72 and his father a 74.

## Bevos Drop Fifth Game Straight

United Press International

The Phoenix Giants of the Pacific Coast League came up with a pair of firsts Monday night—recording their smallest crowd of the season and first shutout at home since June, 1958.

Salt Lake City's Jim Baumer and Ernie Francis were responsible for the latter development. Baumer belted a pair of home runs—one a bases-loaded shot—and Francis twirled a five-hitter while leading the Bees to a 12-0 victory.

The recent announcement of the transfer of the Giants' franchise to Tacoma—and the continued apathy of Phoenix baseball fans—must take the blame for the meager turnout of 305. It was the smallest attendance at Phoenix since the club entered the PCL in the spring of 1950.

The victory kept the Bees a half game in front of second-place Vancouver in what has developed into a two-team battle for first place. Vancouver defeated Portland, 7-1, in the only other game played, the rest of the league taking the night off.

Phoenix now has been shut out seven times in its last 23 games, and has dropped 17 of its last 18 starts.

Francis had little trouble with the Giant batters Monday night, striking out 10. Baumer drove in six runs with his pair of homers, and R. C. Stevens sent home two more with a round-tripper in the sixth. The loss went to starter Bud Watkins, the first of three Phoenix pitchers.

In the Portland-Vancouver contest, Erv Palica scattered six hits while picking up his 11th win of the season. The Mounties collected nine hits off a trio of Portland hurlers, icing the game with a three-run burst in the first.

Jim Greengrass belted his 23rd home run of the season to score the only Portland tally. The loss was the slumping Beavers' fifth in a row, dropping them four games off the pace.

**WINS CANADIAN TITLE**  
VANCOUVER, B.C. (UPI)—Johnny Johnston of Vancouver won the Canadian Amateur golf championship Saturday by defeating Gary Cowan of Kitchener, Ont., 1 up, in the 36-hole final.

**HAUSSLER TO JUDGE**  
PEORIA, Ill. (UPI)—Dr. A. G. Haussler, vice president of Bradley University, has been named a finish judge for the track and field events at the Pan-American Games in Chicago. Dr. Haussler is chairman of the NCAA's fifth district.

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## Seven Persons Complete Swim Safety School

Seven persons recently completed a course in water safety instruction, under the auspices of the Red Cross, at the Veterans Memorial pool.

Larry Saeris, Dot Ann Anson, Robert A. Smith, James Holmes, Mrs. Claude Anson, Marilee Meppen and Mary Grant completed the course of instruction under Ed Stocking.

Stocking is Pacific Area representative of the Red Cross in San Francisco.

During the instruction courses offered in swimming at the pool certificates have been issued to 30 beginning swimmers, 22 intermediate swimmers, eight junior life savers and six senior lifesavers.

**GRANADA**  
COMING WED.  
JAMES STEWART  
in  
"BEND OF THE RIVER"  
plus  
GREGORY PECK  
"THE WORLD IN HIS ARMS"

Ends Tonight  
"HELEN OF TROY"  
Brigitte Bardot

Plus  
"Land Of The Pharaohs"

**La Grande DRIVE-IN THEATRE**  
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