

Sport Talk

by Roy Lee Jernigan
Sports Editor

Wrestling Builds Character

The Peninsula Pittman is a team of 105 young men from all over the state of Oregon. They're wrestlers extraordinaire and can be found at the Peninsula Park gym, sharpening and practicing their skills.

"Can't means won't," "Never say never." Slogans that jump off the gym walls at you. The soothing sounds of Aretha singing 'Baby, Baby, Baby' pulsating in your ears from a small box on the sidelines. The groans of 15 young men doing their stretching and warmup exercises to prepare their bodies for the work ahead. Today's class is for the veteran wrestlers. Have you ever seen a 10-year-old veteran? Visit Peninsula Park and Coach Roy Pittman's wrestling team and you will. There's something good going on in our community and I intend to whet your appetite for more.

Coach Pittman believes that some old-fashioned values are lacking in some of today's youth and he's doing something about it. "The tool is wrestling; I don't expect them all to be good wrestlers but they all must be good men." In observing the exchanges between the coaching staff and the wrestlers, it's obvious that the program stresses character building, caring and respect. "My assistants are all positive and visible role models for the kids. I believe in the old foundation of discipline, follow through and dedication."

Romelio Salas epitomizes Coach Pittman's requirements in his staff. Romelio is a world-class wrestler from Colombia, South America, who holds the distinction of being the first Colombian to represent his country as a



Hakeem McCallister, 9 years old at 70 pounds with Gary Cobbin, 11 years old at 85 pounds, in a referee position.

wrestler in the Olympic Games. Knee surgery forced Romelio from Olympic competition, but he can be found at Peninsula conducting the warm-up exercises on his crutches. A father of one of the team members sat near me and offered, "I've coached wrestling in Aloha for 20 years, and I bring my son here three times a week because of this program. The kids not only respond to Roy, they respond to his assistants as well." The mother of a Tigard youth commutes three times a week because of the positive changes in her 13-year-old son, Jack. "When Jack started," offered Mrs. Sue Marsh, "his school work was two levels below grade level; now he's doing pre-algebra in the eighth grade. Coach Pittman told Jack that he must achieve and maintain grade level work to participate in the program. That did it."

This team is comprised of youngsters from all socio-economic backgrounds and they all respond to Coach Pittman's old-fashioned philosophy. The program not only merits

our support, it warrants it. The traveling team consists of 20 members and sponsors are needed to help defray the cost of entry fees and traveling expenses. Travel team members put in an average of 10 hours per week practice plus tournaments on Saturdays. The cost to sponsor one youngster for the 10-month season is approximately \$450 for high school aged students and \$200 for elementary aged students. Coach Pittman prefers individual sponsorships as opposed to one large company underwriting the program. That personal touch is ever present.

National Scene

If records are truly made to be broken, "Sweetness" has given someone something to do. Sunday against the New Orleans Saints, Chicago Bear running back Walter "Sweetness" Payton surpassed Jim Brown's NFL career mark of 12,312 yards with a 154-yard, 32-carry performance. "I'm glad it's over," said Payton, who has 12,400 yards and 59 career 100-yard plus games, also breaking a Brown mark.

Payton accomplished the feat in his 136th NFL game, spanning nine seasons plus six games. He has averaged 90.4 yards rushing per game and 4.4 yards per carry.

Jim Brown, who retired at age 29 in 1965, played nine years in the NFL. He averaged 104.3 yards per game and 5.2 yards per carry with the Cleveland Browns. I personally won't be surprised if Payton's new mark tops 15,000 by the time he's through. Congratulations, Walter. . . Sweetness for the Sweet.

Thirty-nine years is NOT enough! San Diego wins N.L.C.S. 3-2 over Cubs after trailing 2-0. I won't pour salt, Cub fans, I sympathize. Better luck next year, Darryl Motley. Detroit is tough. My pick? Detroit in six.

Calvin Peete, the most successful black player in golf's history, used a bogey free, 4-under-par 66 to score a 3-shot victory in the Texas Open Golf Tournament.

"Calvin's back, and that's not good for the rest of us," lamented Bruce Lietzke, who came on to take second in the rain-delayed event.

Peete also took a commanding lead in the race for the coveted Vardon Trophy, which goes to the man with the low stroke average on the tour. Calvin has suffered this season with a chronic back ailment but he's in the groove again. The Brother hits shots so straight at the stick, he has to lean left after the shot so he can see the ball.

Bowie signs. . . Bowie injured. After four days of practice with his new Blazer mates, 7-foot-1 No. 1 draft choice of the Portland Trailblazers Sam Bowie suffered a cracked rib during a scrimmage. Bowie is expected to be out for 10 days to two weeks.

Mychal Thompson has decided to shed some pounds for the upcoming season to play more aggressive defense. Just play any defense, Mychal. During the off-season Mychal gave Power of Attorney to a friend who was taking care of his finances so when the season begins, Mychal will be lighter by about 20 pounds and \$600,000.

Blazers 124-118 over Jazz Clyde "The Glide" Drexler is putting something on Jim Paxson's mind. Clyde swept the boards for 17 rebounds and netted 25 points in the Blazers' first exhibition game of the season in Boise, Idaho.

Prep Football

PIL

	League
Benson	50
Cleveland	4-1
Medison	4-1
Wilson	3-2
Grant	3-2
Franklin	2-3
Roosevelt	2-3
Jefferson	1-4
Lincoln	1-4
Marshall	0-5
Grant	6 6 0 7-19
Lincoln	0 0 0 0-9

G-Willis 22 pass from Carroll (kick failed)
G-Shaw 12 run (pass failed)
G-Willis 25 pass from Carroll (Brandsberry kick)

Roosevelt.....0 14 14 12-40
Marshall.....0 0 0 0-0
R-George 8 run (weak kick)
R-McClure 1 run (weak kick)
R-McClure 2 run (weak kick)
R-George 34 interception return (weak kick)
R-George 38 interception return (kick failed)
R-Williams 4 run (kick failed)

Benson.....0 14 0 7-21
Jefferson.....0 0 0 0-0
B-Scott 32 pass from Price (Scalbeck kick)
B-Wooten 5 run (Scalbeck kick)
B-Wooten 11 pass from Price (Scalbeck kick)

Wilson.....6 6 7 0-19
Cleveland.....14 7 0 0-21
W-Lind 24 pass from Johnson (kick failed)
C-Coleman 25 run (Coleman kick)
C-Simms 2 run (Coleman kick)
W-Live 2 run (run failed)
C-Payne 23 blocked punt return (Coleman kick)
W-Love 2 run (Lind kick)

Franklin.....6 0 0 6-12
Medison.....0 7 6 6-19
F-Sunderland 4 pass from Dodge (run failed)
M-Love 29 run (Wittke kick)
M-Power 1 run (kick blocked)
M-Love 11 run (run failed)
F-Jensen 7 run (run failed)

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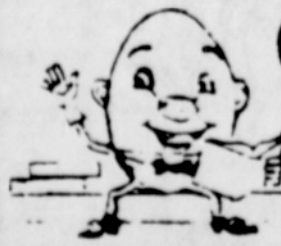


4-year old kids at Grace Collins Memorial Center learn how to make cookies.



5-year old kids at Grace Collins study hard on school work before going outside to play.

Grace Collins Memorial Center Day Care



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