

# Sport Sparks

By RON CEMMELL

Coming at you flashin' fashion before taking a fortnight's leave of absence, it's the most in Christmas cheer and the best in the new year that I'd like to wish you . . . Your holiday sports slate locally is the slimmest in years, with the one main attraction the Willamette-Oregon hoop game here next Friday night . . . It's a grand chance to see both clubs before they go into action in their respective conferences.



Joe Louis

similar to that California used; orthodox ground offensive; not too sharp on pass defense . . . To somewhat belie the "not a great passing team" report, the records show the Huskers have completed 48 per cent of passes attempted.

California's quick hitting offense, which lacked any passing at all, came close to shading the Stanford's . . . The Bears did crack the Indians wide open on one long power march and almost scored on another . . . If Nebraska's passing attack is good enough to aid a similar sharp hitting ground offensive just a little bit, the Huskers may have the answer.

## Louis' Par: Slightly Over Six Rounds

Question—Who fought Joe Louis last summer and didn't so much as touch him with a glove? . . . Ans.—It wasn't last summer, but last spring—March 29, to be exact—that Louis kayoed Johnny Paychek, erstwhile Des Moines heavyweight, in 44 seconds of the second round . . . Paychek, back pedaling from the start, tried just one punch.

Louis' entire professional record now stands: 25 wins in 26 fights, 23 of them by knockouts . . . He has engaged in a total of 48 fights, amateur and professional, and has scored 40 knockouts . . . Coincidentally, Louis made his worst fight against McCoy the other night in Boston, scene of his lone amateur loss.

The champ's record since winning the title from James J. Braddock is: Decided Tommy Farr in 15 rounds, knocked out Nathan Mann in three rounds, knocked out Harry Thomas in five rounds, knocked out Tony Galento in four rounds, knocked out John Henry Lewis in one round, knocked out Jack Roper in one round, knocked out Max Schmeling in one round, knocked out Bob Pastor in 11 rounds, decided Godoy in 15 rounds, knocked out Godoy in eight, knocked out Paychek in two and knocked out McCoy in six . . . Total: 12 fights, with only Farr and Godoy staying the route.

Par for the Louis course, on an average basis, would be slightly over six rounds—something you might keep in mind for future wagers . . . Since becoming champ he has seen action in a total of 74 rounds, although "action" is probably a gross exaggeration . . . Divided by the 12 fights, the average is six and one-sixth.

## Zags Almost Certain to Be on WU Sked

Gonzaga is likely to be on Willamette's schedule again next year, especially in view of the excellent showing the 'Cats made in their 7-6 game with the Zags this year, but the site and date are yet to be decided . . . Spec Keene is having schedule troubles, brought on by the fact four major games are this year slated for Portland, while a number of other dates show conflicts with Corvallis and Eugene.

The 19-year age limit rule cost the Salem high Vics but one footballer this season—Fullback Freddie Andrews . . . Average age of the boys, despite the fact all but three of the starters were seniors, was between 16 and 17 . . . Two of the seniors, Guards Lyle White and "Curly" Hofstetter, would be eligible another year if they were not graduating.

Clark Cinderella Shaughnessy, the Stanford coach, wizard or whatever, was a scrub at Minnesota in 1910, varsity end in 1911, tackle and guard in 1912 and fullback in 1913 . . . They didn't have a roving short in those days . . . The guy is also credited with completing 35 of 39 passes in the Illinois-Minnesota game of 1913.

Many were the attempts during the past season to play down the ability of UCLA's Jackie Robinson, but the final records show the dusky stepper averaged no less than 12.24 yards per scrimmage play . . . He's also a fine basketball player, he averaged 20.1 yards on punt returns, bats .400 in college baseball, broad jumps better than 25 feet, shoots in the low 70's in golf and reached the quarterfinals of the 1939 national negro tennis tournament . . . His ping-pong? Well, I wouldn't know.

## What? WU Tries to Get Shaughnessy?

An attempt was made by Willamette U to bring Shaughnessy here to head a coaching school this winter . . . It was no soap, but think of the attendance and the nationwide publicity such would have brought! . . . It was Spec Keene's brainchild, and Prof. Les Sparks dropped off at Palo Alto on the way back from Whittier to see if the Stanford medicos would deliver it . . . No soap.

"As I see the trend," said Pop Warner recently, "football 20 years from now will make even greater use of the forward pass than we do now and some of us think the pass is being overworked as it is. In 1960 you'll see many spread formations and men in motion. The spread and the pass are the coming things" . . . Huh, guess Willamette is going into action 20 years too soon.

Salem's Butch Nelson will get competition for the fullback spot on Tex Oliver's 1941 Oregon outfit from an unexpected (to most of us) source, reveals Dick Strite of Eugene . . . Bill Dunlap, a fullback from Menlo junior college, who was ineligible last season, is rated the best cruncher prospect since Mike Mikulak, according to Strite.

Now that the San Francisco Seals have such ancient as Tony Lazzari and Jake Powell, why not Dizzy Dean, too? . . . Incidentally, the Seals are calling in young Al Steele from Salt Lake City of the Pioneer hub to understudy Lazzari . . . Thought: Could Oscar Vitt be interested in Eddie Wilson? That's all for two weeks, folks . . . See ya January 7.

# Harmon & Co. Begin Drills

## Eastern Squad Arrives in San Francisco; Tommy Has No Plans

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 21.—(AP)—All-America Tommy Harmon and 21 team mates who comprise the eastern squad arrived here today to begin practice for the 16th annual East-West Shrine's charity football classic, New Year's day.

The easterners, headed by coaches Andy Kerr of Colgate and Bernie Bierman of Minnesota, detrained in a steady drizzle of rain. The weather caused a switch in initial practice plans and the stars from the east took their workout indoors in Kesar basketball pavilion.

Despite wet weather, the eastern delegation received rousing receptions from the time their train arrived in Oakland. Players of both the East and West squads joined forces for a visit to the crippled children's hospital. Harmon was the big attraction for the youngsters. The ace halfback, who ranks by three other players of all-America status, Francis Reagan of the University of Pennsylvania, a backfield running mate of Harmon; and two western luminaries, Paul Christman, University of Missouri pass thrower and Rudy Mucha, husky center from the University of Washington.

Harmon reiterated he had made no definite plans as to a career. He has received offers to play professional football but is more attracted by a proposition to enter the radio field.

Players of both squads were guests at a luncheon and were slated to run the banquet circuit tonight and tomorrow.

The western team, coached by Matty Bell of Southern Methodist and Orin Hollingbery of Washington State, will move to practice headquarters at Stanford university tomorrow. The easterners will shift over to Berkeley and begin training at the University of California field Monday.

Final arrangements for the annual banquet of the Salem Hunters and Anglers club to be held January 9 at the Marion hotel will be made when the club officers and directors meet Monday night at the chamber of commerce.

This is the meeting when the members' wives are invited, and also among the honored guests expected to be present are Governor Charles A. Sprague, Secretary of State Earl Smeel, State Treasurer Leslie Scott and members of the state game commission.

President-elect E. J. Church will preside for the first time and will announce his new commitments. Last year's banquet was a sell-out, so with the present membership at 450 it is again expected that attendance will tax accommodations. It is suggested to those planning to attend that tickets be purchased early, either from club members or at Cliff Parkers or the Doughton hardware.

## Spokane Players Eye Spring Drill

SPOKANE, Dec. 21.—(AP)—Skip Evert, utility infielder with the Spokane Indians baseball team last year, said today he would not return to professional baseball this spring.

Bob Kinnaman, rookie pitcher who tossed the league's only no-hit, no-run game last year, has signed up a job with the Spokane dairy to return to Olympia for a visit at home before heading south in February for spring training with the Seattle Rainiers of the Pacific Coast league.

Infielder Ned Stickle and Pitcher Pete Jonas, now employed in Spokane stores, also will go to the Rainier camp, as will Pitcher Duke Windsor, who topped the Spokane mound staff during the championship season of 1940.

"Tommy won't tell you, but you know what Kimbrough says about Thomson?" asked Tommie Vaughn, center, who has been playing football with Thomson since the junior high school days.

# Orange Wins Tourney at Denver

Salem, Oregon, Sunday Morning, December 22, 1940

## Sord's Review of the Year



## Here's Blocking Back's Story of Aggies' Rise

By FELIX R. MCKNIGHT  
COLLEGE STATION, Tex., Dec. 21.—(AP)—"Old Percheron," the warped-legged lad who operated the traffic lights on the Texas Aggies' crunching drive to football glory, wouldn't have it any other way.

No, sir, Jim Thomason wouldn't trade one ripping body block "that you can just feel," for a 50-yard touchdown.

Retiring and content off the field, Jim Thomason is the impregnable shield for an offense that has carried the Aggies into the Cotton Bowl against Fordham on New Year's day. The three blond boys have been blocking out front of Jarrin' John Kimbrough and other Aggie backs for three years.

Twice last conference back, Jim finally got his highest recognition the other day. He was placed on the third Associated Press all-America team—about as high as blocking backs climb in a game too crowded with stunning ball carriers who hog headlines.

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# Nebraskans Are All 'Business'

## Biff Jones Locks Gates to Practice Field; 1000 See Drill

PHOENIX, Ariz., Dec. 21.—(AP)—Coach Lawrence "Biff" Jones, sticking to his original assertion "we're here strictly on business," locked the gates on his practice gridiron today as the Nebraska cornhuskers went through their first "real" drill in preparation for the Rose Bowl engagement with Stanford.

It didn't take long for the Husky squad to shake out the kinks under the warm desert sun. Beyond saying, however, that plans were progressing on schedule, Jones was mum.

On only one thing Jones was definite—Everybody, including newspapermen, will be barred from actual drills. To assure privacy, the North Phoenix high school stadium has been screened.

Taking No Chances  
The Nebraska coach is taking no chances, either, on any members of his squad deciding to "do the town." They will remain in the semi-seclusion of Camelback Inn, nine miles from the downtown section.

Jones wouldn't commit himself when asked what he thought of the 2½ to 1 odds being offered on Stanford on the west coast. "I don't believe in odds," he asserted. "A college football team is a college football team."

More than 1000 townspeople turned out this morning to welcome the cornhuskers for their practice sessions.

Jones said that when the squad left Lincoln the snow was about a foot deep, and it was necessary to clear the field to run signals. "This sunshine sure looks good," he said.

The party of 63 Nebraskans included 42 players. Jones said the squad was in "tip top shape."

## California Sets Heavyweight Meet

### Commission Ponders Bout Between Louis, Godoy; Conn Is Eyed

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 21.—(AP)—The California athletic commission announced today that a heavyweight boxing tournament will be held here within the next two months and a challenge from the winner will be issued to Billy Conn of Pittsburgh, light heavyweight champion, who signed today to meet Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis.

Chairman Jerry Giesler said he saw Conn fight last October and expressed the belief he would be no match for Al "Turkey" Thompson, 190-pound Los Angeles negro.

Thompson, who stopped Junior Munsell of Oklahoma City in two rounds here last night, said he was willing to meet Conn or Louis, and would fight "anybody" in the elimination tournament here.

The commission met today to consider a proposal for a match between Louis and Arturo Godoy of Chile. Giesler and John Rustigan, a member of the commission, previously expressed disapproval of promoter Mike Jacobs' suggestion to stage the fight here, on the ground that California has several heavyweights who deserve consideration as a possible opponent for Louis.

## Semi-Pros Adopt Age 17, Minimum

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 21.—(AP)—An age minimum of 17 years for youths competing under the sanction of the National Semi-Pro Baseball congress was announced today by George Sisler, semi-pro commissioner.

Sisler, former star first baseman for the St. Louis Browns, said the age limit will be enforced to avoid conflict with the American Legion program.

"The American Legion sponsored game has a definite place in baseball. It gives the youth that competitive spirit and early training so necessary if he plans to continue in the game. Ours is another step in the ladder of baseball that should be taken in its due turn."

Sisler explained that in recent years many youngsters had been attracted to semi-pro ranks because of the chance to perform and learn from older players, many of them former major league players.

# Bearcats Lose to Southern Idaho in Last Few Seconds

## DENVER, Dec. 21.—(AP)—Paul Valenti, sharp-shooting guard, led Oregon State to its third straight victory and the championship of an intercollegiate basketball tournament here as the Beavers defeated Denver university 27-20 tonight.

Each of the other five teams in the tournament was beaten at least once. Denver had won two games and was ahead for most of the game to night until Valenti's accurate shooting put the Pacific coast team in front.

Valenti who had been scoring only lightly during Oregon State's current tour, collected 16 points, mostly on long shots.

With the score 15-15 after six minutes of play in the second half, Valenti bagged a side shot and followed with a long arching goal that gave Oregon State the lead for the first time.

This was the Oregonians' fifth victory over Big Seven conference teams compared with two losses to Colorado, Big Seven champion, earlier this week.

POCATELLO, Idaho, Dec. 21.—(AP)—Substitute Center Ed Bradley tipped in a field goal with 20 seconds left to break a deadlock and give University of Idaho Southern Branch a 22-20 basketball victory over Willamette university of Salem, Ore., tonight.

Bradley's feat climaxed a Southern Branch comeback that started with the second half. At the turn Willamette led 17 to 14. The two starting left forwards set the scoring pace, Woolson scoring 10 points for Willamette, and Quinn 12 for the Pocatello team.

The Bearcats move to Baker Monday night for their final game of the current holiday road trip. They play the Oregon State Beavers there and return here Christmas eve—just in time for one practice night before meeting the University of Oregon Ducks here Friday night.

## Seahawks Manage To Score Victory

SEATTLE, Dec. 21.—(AP)—Seattle moved into a tie with Portland for third place in the Pacific Coast Hockey league tonight by defeating Vancouver, 3 to 1. The victory was Seattle's first over the Canadians this year and the first over anybody on the home ice in nearly a month.

## UO Ducks Billed For Cats Friday

Willamette U's Bearcat basketball brigade, which winds up its current barnstorming itinerary in a battle with the Oregon State Beavers at Baker Monday, next Friday night in their own hoop haven here will attempt to knock over the high-geared University of Oregon Ducks.

The 'Cat courtiers return here Christmas eve and are expected to take but a short limbering drill Thursday before meeting the Webfoots Friday night.

Oregon will have just returned from its third annual cross-country trek, high point of which was its appearance in the opening of the Madison Square Garden season in New York.

Word received by The Statesman from the touring Bearcats yesterday indicated that Russ Satter, who contracted the flu and was left in Caldwell while the rest of the squad continued into Montana, rejoined the club and will be set to play against the Staters at Baker.

Coach Howard Maple's local colleagues will be giving away a decided height advantage to the Webfoots, but most of the teams who have triumphed over the Ducks on their current trip were also much shorter of stature.

Four members of last year's club, Guards Vic Townsend and Paul Jackson and Forwards Archie Marchik and Hank Anderson, have been carrying the brunt of the attack for the Webfoots. Sophomores Warren Taylor and Wallace Borrovik have been alternating at the center and forward posts, along with Evert McNeely, two-year letterman reserve.

Ship Arrives Safely  
LONDON, Dec. 21.—(AP)—The 10,746-ton Dutch tanker Penderrecht, reported by Mackay radio in New York Wednesday as having radiated that she was torpedoed by a submarine in the Atlantic, has arrived safely at a British port, official Dutch circles in London said tonight.

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**Simmons Wins Y Tourney Opener**  
The Simmons Independent Hoop team of Salem, paced by Frankie Page and Red O'Connell, defeated the Engineers of Port Vancouver 44 to 29 in the opening round of the Portland YMCA holiday hoop tournament Friday night.  
Page and O'Connell each collected nine points, while Tommy Medley hooped eight and Burrell tanked seven.  
Simmons (44) (29) Engineers  
Page 9 14 Russell  
Burrell 7 4 Britton  
O'Connell 9 8 Hickox  
McRae 4 5 Schrivener  
Hobbs 3 0 Bell  
Subs for Simmons: Medley 8, Parker 4.

**It's Seventh Trek Into Rose Bowl for Stanford Grid Club**  
By ROBERT MYERS  
PASADENA, Calif., Dec. 21.—(AP)—Stanford university sends its colors into the Tournament of Roses gridiron attraction New Year's day for the seventh time since the present series began in 1916, and it may take all the luck the number seven can give to bring victory for the far western team.  
Stanford's record in this post season's battle is three losses, two wins and one tie, and it will be up to the present aggregation from Palo Alto to turn in one more triumph to give the university an even standing in the percentage column.  
The game is rugged Nebraska's first in the Pasadena bowl, and judging by the rousing enthusiasm for the team back in its home state, Stanford's no. seven may be just another count from one to ten.  
A Stanford eleven first played in the Tournament of Roses back in 1903 and took a 48-0 walloping from Michigan, but the game is seldom included in the records because football was abandoned after one exhibition in the affair and not resumed until 1916.  
Stanford's next appearance was in 1925. It was an unhappy return. Notre Dame, in its only bowl appearance, handed the Stanford boys a 27-10 lashing. In 1927 Alabama came west and held Stanford to a 7-7 deadlock, and it was not until the next year that Stanford gained its first Rose Bowl victory—a 7-4 decision over Pittsburgh.  
Came the era of the "Vow boys" in 1924-25. An underrated Columbia team slipped over a 7-0 win. Dixie Howell and Don Hutson of Alabama sank the Indians the next year, 29-13, and finally the Cardinal red triumphed, 7-0, over Southern Methodist. That was the year the Bobby Grayson, two time ends, Monk Moscrip and Keith Topping, and large line backer named Wes Miller, the bottled SMU's famed Bobby Wilson.  
Arguments continue as to whether the present Stanford eleven is as good or better than the last Stanford Rose Bowl team, whether it is or not, the fact remains that the 1940 Indian is the one that will play Nebraska, and that is the one that counts.  
Nebraska may discover, just as Notre Dame, Alabama in 1925 and Columbia that the first excursion into the Rose Bowl is lucky; or it might carry the ill luck that hit Duke, Pitt, Tennessee and others. Oddly enough, while mulling over odds of fortune, it might be noted that Stanford's hope for a great exploit on the performance of its all-American quarterback, Frankie Abernethy—whose jersey is a large, easy to read "10."

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Ace Freeman  
Elton Owen vs. George Kitzmiller  
Each Woman Accompanied by a Paid Admission Free  
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Students 50c  
Herb Owens, Matchmaker