Reds Are Best Defensive Club

Cincys Boast .981 Average

Lombardi, McCormick and Werber, Craft Hold Top Positions

BY JUDSON BAILEY

NEW YORK, Dec. 21-(AP)-The Cincinnati Reds had the best defensive club in baseball last season and the National league's fielding figures which were announced today show the individuals responsible.

Catcher Ernie Lombardi, first baseman Frank "Bucky" McCormick, third baseman Billy Werber and outfielder Harry Craft of the world champions all were tops in fielding their respective positions.

Fielding averages aren't always reliable indications of a player's defensive worth, because they penalize the ball hawk who tries for almost impossible plays and cover up the fellow who "stands on a dime" and gets only the balls that come straight at him.

But no foe finds fault with the size-up figures given on the Reds. The club as a unit fielded .981, four points better than the New York Giants, and this defensive excellence earned not only the National league pennant, but the world championship.

Set New Record

Cincinnati's fielding mark was a new record, displacing the .978 standard set by Boston in 1933 and tied by the Chicago Cubs in 1938. Likewise the Reds' 117 errors were a new national league low, 18 less than the Cubs made in 1938.

Craft set an individual record for outfielders by making only one error in 292 chances for a mark of .997. The previous record was .994 held by three players.

This was the second straight year that McCormick led the first sackers in fielding. He had a mark of .995.

Herman Schulte of the Phillies headed the second basemen with .980. Eddie Miller, the Boston Bees' brilliant youngster, led the shortstops with .970 and Werber turned in a .962 percentage in pacing the third basemen.

Lambardi had .989 in leading the catchers, but for the sixth successive year was at the top of the list in passed balls with seven, tying Harry Danning of the New York Giants, and Ben Warren of the Phillies.

No less than 29 pitchers turned in perfect fielding figures, with Harry Gilbert of the Giants showing the way by handling 76 chances faultlessly. Three pitchers—Bucky Walters of the Reds, Nick Strincevich of Boston and Tex Carleton of Brooklyn—turned in unassisted double plays to tie the old record.

Martin Marion, of the St. Louis Cards had a hand in five double plays in one game to equal a record held by many shortstops. He also had three errors in one inning of one game to tie another mark.

MAC Hoopers Set Portland U Game

MT. ANGEL—Angel basketeers return to basketball practice January 2 to prepare for the first January tilt, the all-important game with their traditional rivals, the Portland university hoopmen. The boys departed from the school Friday, December 20, for a week's vacation.

The Macmen meet the Pilots in Portland on January 7. The Pilots boast one of the best teams in years. They will come to Mt. Angel for a return game on January 12.

Oddities ...in the News

RICHMOND, Ind., Dec. 21-(AP)-A letter addressed "God, Heaven, USA," and signed "A little girl who says her prayers every night" was found in a mail box here.

"Dear God," the childish scrawl beseeched, "Forgive me for all the bad things I've done during the past and please make Mother well because I am not happy when Mother is sick.

"I wish Mother and Daddy lived together. But I guess if Mother does not love Daddy she can not live with him. I sorta think Daddy still loves Mother though.

"Well, I have to get to my school work. A merry Christmas to you and all angels."

LAKELAND, Fla., Dec. 21-(AP)-A Frightened cow wrecked an army airplane and lost her life here.

E. H. Boyle, instructor, and Cadet K. G. Ross of Lincoln training field were forced to make an emergency landing in a pasture due to engine trouble.

The landing was all right, but the cow, roused from her slumber, dashed in front of the plane. The ship overturned in a ditch, leaving the two passengers hanging head down from safety belts but uninjured.

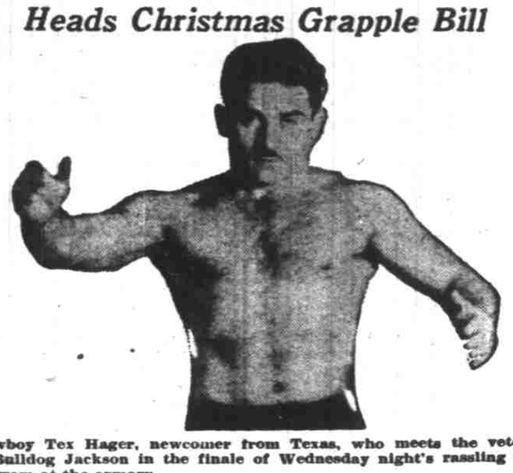
The cow suffered a broken neck.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 21.-(AP)-A weary homing pigeon—probably hurrying home for Christmas—snarled traffic on one of Baltimore's main streets today.

The pigeon glided in for a landing in the midst of the rush hour, narrowly missing a passing automobile and shot under a streetcar.

An observant cop halted the motorman, then crawled under the streetcar with a small boy right behind. A moment later policeman, boy and pigeon came out and went to the station house where efforts were made to identify the owner from a National Pigeon association tag on the bird.

Heads Christmas Grapple Bill



Cowboy Tex Hager, newcomer from Texas, who meets the veteran Bulldog Jackson in the finale of Wednesday night's rassling program at the armory.

Matmen Schedule Christmas Card

Slate Three 1-Hour Bouts; Cowboy Tex Hager Is to Make Debut

Christmas night at Salem's armory means a three-hour rasslin bill, announces Herb Owen.

Three one-hour matches, headed by a newcomer who is said to have a rizg repertoire second to none in the business, are on the program to which each woman accompanied by a paid admission will be admitted free.

Cowboy Tex Hager, fast-stepping, clean-rasslin waddie from Amarillo, Texas, is the newcomer who'll step in against none other than Bulldog Jackson in the night's finals.

The semifinal brings together Jack Kiser, the nimble Vancouver, Washington, grappler and Ace Freeman, popular Jewish matster.

Elton Owen, son of the promoter, and George Kitzmiller, Portland biggie, are slated to open the Santa Claus special at 8:30.

Waiving Lockout Right Advocated

(Continued from page 1)

long since earned the gratitude of Americans."

Hoover declared that it was the "trascendent right of Americans, and their duty" to express their position on war and peace and added that he wanted "no single step taken relating to war that is not given time for public debate."

"As congress has the final responsibility to declare war," he said, "it should also debate and pass upon every step which may lead to war."

Discussing defense, Hoover asserted that "It is so large an effort that it demands complete national unity. And a pertinent place for unity is in labor relations.

"In the last war employers and employes in essential war industries tactically waived the right of lockout and strike in favor of arbitration. It should be done again."

Influenza Cases Double, Portland

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 21-(AP)-Portland health officials said today that influenza cases more than doubled during the week, with 585 reported compared with 215 cases for the week before.

Two deaths occurred from the disease in the week, against one the preceding week. All were persons more than 70 years of age.

47-Game Winning Streak of Aggies Is Ruined by Troy

STILLWATER, Okla., Dec. 21-(AP)-Southern California's lanky Trojans ended the Oklahoma Aggies' home winning streak of 47 games, compiled over four and a half seasons, here tonight with a 28 to 25 victory before 5000 fans.

The cowboys, who just the night before arrived home from a successful eastern trip with three straight victories, were colder than an Eskimo hut, and the Trojans built up an 11 to 1 lead at 10 minutes before Forward Gene Smelzer sunk two gratis shots for a start. The Trojans lead 15 to 11 at the half.

It was early in the 1935-36 season that the Aggies were last beaten at home. Grinnell college, then of the Missouri valley loop, was the victor.

Phelan Advocates Faster Offensive

SEATTLE, Dec. 21-(AP)-Coach Jimmy Phelan of the University of Washington said today that he would campaign for a speeding up of offense at the National Football Coaches' association meeting in New York. Phelan leaves here next Wednesday.

"If the present rule allowing 25 seconds for the ball to be put in play was technically interpreted by coaches and officials the speed-up idea could be carried out," he said today.

"But I fear the 25-second rule was not enforced literally last season and that football can be improved if some additional penalty be placed in the code to hurry up the offense."

Otherwise, Phelan said he foresaw few if any changes in prospect in the 1941 rules.

Job Hunt Futile; Purse Is Lost in Hit-Run Accident

PORTLAND, Dec. 21-(AP)-Katherine Talbot, 20, had hoped her luck would change by Christmas but today she was in a hospital bed with orders to remain there at least a week.

The jobless and parentless girl, clutching tightly a purse containing her last $6, was struck yesterday by a hit-run driver as she returned to her room from another day of fruitless search for work.

An ambulance whisked her away to a hospital where she found that her purse and the $6 had been lost in the accident.

Ambulance crew members returned to the scene but the purse was gone. The girl suffered severe knee injuries and shock.

Standings Among the Bowlers

City Major League

	W	L	Pct
Karr's	32	16	.667
Copeland Yards	29	19	.604
Acme Auto Wreckers	27	21	.563
Pade's	26	22	.542
Red Cross Pharmacy	24	24	.500
Bud's Place	24	24	.500
Nash Furniture Co.	22	26	.458
Cline's offee Shop	22	26	.458
Keeno Lunch	17	31	.354
Parker's	17	31	.354

Hi Haman 193, S. Kitchen 189, J. Coe, 188, Ercel Kay 185, Don Young 184, W. Cline, sr., 184, H. Page 184, John Friesen 183, Pete Swan 183, Don Murdock 181, Ed Pratt 181.

Commercial League

	W	L	Pct
Straw & Straw	28	14	.667
Shrock's Used Cars	23	19	.548
Paulus Tagger	23	19	.548
Senator Barber Shop	22	20	.524
State Street Market	22	20	.524
Shaw's, Woodburn	21	21	.500
Nicholson Insurance	20	22	.476
Friesen Furniture	19	23	.452
Bosler Electric	19	23	.452
Pittsburgh Paints	18	24	.429
Cooke's Office Boys	18	24	.429
V-8, Dallas	18	24	.429

Masser 183, Les Peterson 180, G. Cherrington 178, W. Gage 177, B. Grant 177, C. Richetts 177, P. Averill 173, G. Scales 172, Dr. Higgins 172.

Industrial League

	W	L	Pct
Hartman Bros.	25	14	.641
Sim's Men's Shoes	24	15	.615
Goldie's, Silverton	21	18	.538
State Printers	21	18	.538
Bill Davis	20	19	.513
Standard Oil Co.	19	20	.487
Coca Cola	19	20	.487
Mary-Dee-Nobles	18	21	.462
Woodburn	16	23	.410
La Roches	12	27	.308

Masser 184, Cline, jr., 178, B. Coon 177, J. Bose 176, H. Barr 174, M. Palmateer 171, Steele 170, H. Dahlberg 169, F. Edwards 168, Koenig 168.

Electric League

	W	L	Pct
Groundmen	27	15	.643
Master Bread	25	14	.641
Linemen	23	19	.548
Nelson Bros., Inc.	22	20	.524
Meadows	20	22	.476
Salesmen	17	25	.405
Servicemen	18	21	.462
Dr. Semler	15	27	.357

Beauchamp 170, Barnholt 165, J. Bulkley 164, Hauser 171, M. L. Anderson 162, B. Carkins 161, P. Wilson 161, W. Green 160, H. Clark 159, A. Anderson 158.

Ladies' League

	W	L	Pct
Capital Bedding Co.	31	11	.738
Keglettes	30	12	.714
Coca Cola	29	13	.690
McKay Chevrolet	28	14	.667
Royal Desserts	19	20	.487
Mickey's Sandwich Shop	18	24	.429
Hubbard Motor Co.	15	27	.357
Bill Davis	13	27	.308

M. Woodfield 150, J. Lloyd 149, B. Averill 148, V. Barnica 148, M. Brennan 148, L. Putnam 147, A. Nufer 146, K. McCarroll 146, V. Garbarino 142, J. Lockridge 141.

Mercantile League

	W	L	Pct
Sundin Tailor	28	14	.667
Statesman	22	14	.611
Glenn's Red & White	22	14	.611
US Nat'l. Bank	24	18	.571
Valley Motor	23	19	.548
Salem Brewery	20	22	.476
Scio	19	23	.452
Hamilton Furniture Co.	17	25	.462
Dr. Pepper	17	25	.462
Marion Hotel	14	28	.333

Allison 159, Sundin 155, Misson 154, Evans 153, Dunsmore 153, Tallman 153, Schrunk 154, Etsel 151, Donnelly 150, Clark 150.

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Hauk Optimistic About Vik Quint

Tough Club Is Predicted; Four Lads All but Cinch Berths

Despite the loss of four members of the starting quint which last year gathered up a second successive state high school championship for Salem high, Coach Harold Hauk is enthusiastic concerning the prospects for his 1941 aggregation.

"Providing illness or injuries do not hamper us," said Hauk yesterday, "we're going to be hard to get along with before the season is over."

The Vik coach, in fact, is much more optimistic concerning the outlook for this year's team than he was at the same time last season concerning prospects for the titular 1940 team.

Four Cinch Jobs

Four boys have all but cinched places on the first line five, despite the fact that nearly 20 talented tossers are available. These four includes Bud Coons, husky-legged guard who returns from the championship quint; Eddie Salstrom, easily the sharpest shooting squad member, who saw considerable service as a replacement last season; Don Bower, slender guard up from the 1940 Jayvees; and Dutch Simmons, the football halfback who entered school in mid-year of 1940 and who also played with the Jayvees.

The pivot position, vacated by All-State Russ Satter, at present looms as a dog fight between Bob Irish, husky, 6-foot-4 lad up from the Jayvees, Don Cutler, slender sharpshooter who played a forward spot for the juniors last season, and Les Pearmine, the grid wingman who is making his first bid as a basketeer.

Not until January 3 and 4 do the Viks see Service—in two games at Marshfield. First home game is with McMinnville January 7.

Sam Snead Plays In Wager Match

HAVANA, Dec. 21.-(AP)-The largest gallery in the history of golf in Cuba is expected to watch the 36-hole medal play encounter between Sam Snead, the West Virginia clouter, and Rufino Gonzales, Cuban professional champion, at the Havanna Country club tomorrow.

The match was arranged to decide a $5000 wager between Thorwald Sanchez, a member of one of Cuba's wealthiest families and holder of the world tuna fishing championship, and Thomas Shevlin, young New York sportsman. Hundreds of other fans also are betting on the match, either at even money terms or with odds slightly favoring Snead.

While the terms of the Sanchez-Shevlin bet have not been revealed, it is understood that Gonzales or Snead will receive half the winnings of their respective sponsors.

Charity, Prayer Asked at Holiday

Pope Pius Has Concern for Children; Thanks American Bishops

VATICAN CITY, Dec. 21.-(AP)-Pope Pius XII asked the world's Catholics today to pray at Christmas time for the sufferers of war and to remember in charity these "little brothers who are without bread, without clothing and without family."

In a letter to Cardinal Magilone, the papal secretary of state, the pontiff expressed special concern for the children and urged that "everyone do what he can, where he can, how he can."

He expressed once again the hope that the warring countries would "do honor to the good traditions of civilized life by not permitting the children of belligerent countries or those in any way involved in the war to suffer unmerited pain . . ."

He had done all he could, he said, to avert the ills of war, but he had met "difficulties at all times more serious still than those in the past World war—some of them inherent to the very nature of the scourge which is raging; others, we must also say, interposed by the will of men."

Thus, he went on, "armed only with the arms of truth, justice and Christian charity, that which we can do still once more is to invite all propitiating prayer and significant beneficent action."

The pope expressed "especial gratitude to the American bishops who, although far from the horrors of war, have shown once more their full comprehenston of the needs of the suffering church.

"To it (the American episcopacy) goes out our full and entire gratitude and also goes our benediction . . ."

Appealing for prayer and for charity—charity "without relaxation and without discouragement"—he observed:

"Prayer is a force which acts softly and irresistibly on the human will."

Island Proffered For Use of City

PORTLAND, Dec. 21-(AP)-The city recieved an offer of a Willamette river island today for use as a park.

The Peter Kerr family offered 15-acre Rock Island, south of Milwaukie, as a recreational area. The commission will consider the offer next week.

Prize Turkey Is Given English Gobs

PORTLAND, Dec. 21-(AP)-A 40-pound champion Oregon turkey to help "ease the lives of the men who are fighting for Britain" was presented to sailors of the motorship Silveryew today.

The bird, dressed and direct from the northwest turkey show at Oakland, Ore., was given the British seamen for a Christmas feast by the Allied Merchants Navy club of Portland. The turkey was raised near Yoncalla.

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MICKEY MOUSE — The Making of a Dream — By WALT DISNEY

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TOOTS AND CASPER — Ignorance Is Bliss — By JIMMY MURPHY

THIMBLE THEATRE—Starring Popeye — Snork Never Disappoints a Lady!