

Hero Barney Ross Arrives Home, Plants Kiss on Soil

Star of Guadalcanal Fireworks Show Comes Back, Relates Harrowing Experiences With Japs, Native

SAN DIEGO, Calif., Feb. 25.—(AP)—Aided by a native-made cane with a head adorned with real Jap teeth, boxing's "man of the year," Corp. Barney Ross knelt humbly on American soil and kissed the ground Thursday as he came home from heroic fighting on Guadalcanal.

Ross, commended for standing guard over three wounded marine comrades at a Guadalcanal outpost last November 19, was the first to leave the big hospital ship which brought him to his homeland. As he walked down the gangplank, he gave the smile and wave of hands which endeared him to ringersiders for years. As Ross knelt to kiss the ground, he said:

"This I vowed to do if ever I saw American soil again—sometimes out there we're not so sure we shall."
The 32-year-old Chicago corporal watched his buddies walking or being carried from the ship, and remarked:

"The night I spent in that shell hole with five wounded leathernecks and two soldiers was by all odds the toughest round I've ever slugged through. I thought the bell would never sound."

It was this "round" that brought Ross commendation from



CPL BARNEY ROSS

his company commander, Capt. O. K. Le Blanc of Abbotsville, La., and recommendation for the navy cross or the army distinguished service cross.

"Four of us were carrying the fifth marine out when we were cut off from our outfit by on-rushing Japs," Ross related. "We'd been expecting army units momentarily. Three of the four stretcher bearers were wounded slightly also, and I was the only one unhurt. We dived for a pair of shell holes about 10 feet apart. It was about 4 p. m. and in the shell hole with them was an Indian named Private Monak. My best buddy, Pvt. R. C. Atkins of Rome, Ga., who was former golf professional at the Santa Fe course in Hollywood, was in the other hole with two other marines. That night two soldiers wriggled into my shell hole."

Ross said the shooting went on until 7 a. m. The three marines in the other shell hole were hit again during the night. Ross said he crawled around collecting ammunition and grenades inasmuch as the other men were unable to fire.

"In all I threw 21 hand grenades, fired 100 rounds of M-1 rifle ammunition and at least 80 rounds from my Springfield," Barney continued. "Against us the Japs were pouring in machine gun and mortar fire. But we kept them at bay, in their corner, and they didn't get a telling punch in on our little group. 'Sometime during the night I got a leg and arm full of shrapnel but by golly I can't tell you when it was—I was just too busy to notice. I had malaria at the time, too.'"

As daylight approached another marine, Freeman Atkins, suggested to Barney that they crawl from the hole.

"I crawled to him, lifted him on my shoulder when, looking up, I beheld what looked like angels from Heaven coming toward us," said Ross. "It was Captain Le Blanc, Lt. John Murdoch of Boston and enough others to make us realize that round was over."

Ross was busy on the phone soon after leaving the ship. He first telephoned his wife, Kaye, at Hollywood, then his older brother, who operates Barney's cocktail lounge in Chicago, so the news could be broken gently to his aged mother.

Barney also told of the boxing exhibition he was forced into with a huge South Sea island champion. The battle occurred in Samoa.

"Well, it was sort of forced on me," Ross explained. "This bruiser weighs 215 pounds and is one tough, hard, mean cookie. He's whipped every mother's son on Apia and the other islands thereabouts."

"Scuttlebutt (marine rumor) had it I might fight him and the marines betting on me found ready takers among the natives. I understood some \$2000 was wagered."

"But this Jo wants to fight barefisted, which is alright with me, but Lt. Murdoch wouldn't hold still for it, so we put on 16-ounce gloves and had a three-round tussle."

"It was murderous, make no mistake about that. We fought under Marquis of Queensbury rules, but this baby didn't mess around, and I was sort of out of practice. Nevertheless, science did the trick and he went to sleep on the deck. (Marine language for the floor.) Once I got back to my sack (bed) I didn't get up myself for two hours—I just couldn't. The old legs were too wobbly."

Ross said the funny part of the deal was that the native who held all the stakes refereed the bout, but turned the money over to a platoon sergeant who divided it among marines.

"I think every one of them came to me later and offered me a share—what guys."

Yea, Pepperdine—And You'll Hear More of Pete Fogo, Too

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 25.—(AP)—So you never heard of Pete Fogo, eh?

Well, you're likely to, just as you heard a lot last week about little Pepperdine college, not even very well known locally, when its basketball team defeated USC's mighty Trojans, 56-51, in the season's most amazing upset.

To say Fogo sparked the Pepperdine offensive is to put it too mildly. He practically set it afire as he tossed in 25 points in that Pepperdine victory which snapped Troy's 15-game winning streak. Only the night before Pete had tallied 28 markers when Pepperdine downed San Jose State college.

Since he was 10 years old, Pete's been playing basketball. And you really should have heard something about him: on his Gary, Ind., high school team, he was twice selected all-state forward—in 1938 and 1939. He spent a year at Indiana, then came to Los Angeles and Pepperdine.

He's headed for Kansas City March 4, when Pepperdine's

Keene Curbs 'Cat-Linfield Playoff Game

Claims Methodists Much Too Banged Up

There'll be no playoff game between Willamette and Linfield for the Northwest conference basketball title this week, or at any time it appears. At least not if 'Cat Coach Spec Keene doesn't change his mind.

"In the first place," said Keene Thursday, "I wasn't approached by Linfield in the matter of a playoff game. And in the second place, since two of my players are now on crutches with a broken foot, spruce and another three are expecting military calls in the next mail, I can't see where we'd be able to fully defend ourselves in such a game."

"As far as Willamette is concerned, her basketball season is over," Keene added.

The Beavers, beaten by Linfield 50-23 Wednesday night, throwing the Northwest conference into a deadlock between the two schools, were forced to play that game minus the services of key men Jack Vaughn and Don Barnick, both of whom are now on the crutches.

In regard to the Eastern Oregon college challenge to the Northwest conference champion for a game to determine which team should go to Kansas City Keene said he didn't see how any western Oregon team could accept that challenge now.

"We broke even in our series with Portland university as well as Finfield, and some kind of playoff should be held to determine which one of us should play Eastern Oregon," stated Keene. "And as we are in no position to enter such a playoff, I don't know how they're going to determine a champion."

Mack and Cox Get Together

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 25.—(AP) Big league baseball's oldest and youngest magnates, 80-year-old Connie Mack of the Athletics, and 33-year-old Bill Cox, new owner of the Phils, met Thursday for the first time.

Cox described the visit with baseball's "Grand Old Gentleman" as "One of the big moments of my life."

They met in Connie's tower office at Ebbets park. Connie complimented Cox on his selection of Bucky Harris as manager for the Phils, then conducted Cox on a tour of the park. The Phils lease Shibe park for their home games. It was the first time Cox had seen the diamond.

Ducks, Eagles Tied In Parrish 8th Play

The eighth grade Ducks evened their series with the seventh grade Eagles Thursday night in Parrish intramural hoop play, winning 15-13. The Eagles won 12-10 Wednesday. The two teams play again today to determine the eighth grade champion at Parrish and the winner will also play Leslie's eighth graders.

Ducks (15)
Allison (5) F (3) Chamberlain
Craig (2) F (2) Girod
Petit (5) C (3) Houck
Bacon (5) G (4) Day
Brown (0) G (0) Shafter

Eagles (13)
Reeves (5) F (3) Chamberlain
Craig (2) F (2) Girod
Petit (5) C (3) Houck
Bacon (5) G (4) Day
Brown (0) G (0) Shafter

Woodburn Vies With Silverton

MT. ANGEL—Silverton and Woodburn high school units wind up their district 11 argument here tonight. The Woodburn five, champs of the Duration league, nosed out Chemawa here last Monday night and Silverton crushed Mt. Angel which assured both winning quints berths in the new district four tournament at Oregon City next week. Tonight's tussle is merely for the purpose of determining which quint wins the old district 11 title.

Chemawa and Mt. Angel already eliminated Monday, will also play tonight in a consolation game. The Chemawa-Mt. Angel fray will start off at 7 o'clock with the Woodburn-Silverton clash following immediately.

Sports

AL LIGHTNER
Statesman Sports Editor

Salem, Oregon, Friday Morning, February 26, 1943

Vikings in Title Go With Maroon Five

But SHS Hoopsters Have Little Chance to Cop Northern Honors

Salem high's up and down courtsters, at present and for the past three games farther down than Mussolini's navy, find out tonight whether they or Milwaukie's Maroons are to represent the northern division of the No-Name league in that circuit's final playoffs March 2, 3 and 6.

The Viks are knotted at the top of the northern chase with Milwaukie, both having two wins and one loss. Tonight they meet in Milwaukie to decide the division's representative.

Coach Frank Brown's Red, and Blacks had one of their better nights when the Maroons tried 'em here recently, Salem snaring a 31-26 win. Since then, however, fate has dealt the Viks a few very low punches and left 'em about as full of punch as a glass of water.

Three Vik first-stringers are nursing wounds serious enough to perhaps keep 'em on the sidelines tonight. Guards Gordy McMorris and Don Chapman and Center Courtney Jones are the unlucky lads—McMorris hospitalized with pneumonia it has been revealed, and Chapman and Jones hobbling about with bad ankles. Just how much those players are missed was probably shown in the Viks' last two games. They were routed in both with the worst defeats they've taken all season.

All in all, Vik chances for a victory tonight are about as remote as the Phillies' chances of winning the National league pennant next summer. But Brown says his reserves will be in there pitching anyway.

Should the Viks fail tonight, their season will be completed until state tournament play unless Athletic Director Gurnee Flesher schedules another game or two between now and March 11 as a measure of keeping the Salems in playing fettle.

Nationwide Boxing Programs To Raise Funds for Soldiers

NEW YORK, Feb. 25.—(AP)—Plans for a nationwide program of boxing bouts to raise money to provide ring equipment for military camps were made Thursday at an organizational meeting of Boxing Service's Athletic Fund.

Mike Jacobs, president of the 26th Century Sporting club and fight promoter for Madison Square Garden, was elected president of the fund. He said the officers of the fund hoped every boxing club would be able to stage a program for the benefit of the fund before the end of April.

All states participating will operate through the fund, with actual control vested in the various commissioners of boxing.

McMorris' Condition Said to Be 'Better'

Gordy McMorris, Salem high basketball guard, was said to be in "better" condition last night in Deaconess hospital, where he is confined with pneumonia. It was learned only Thursday that McMorris has been in the hospital since Monday. It was believed he was ill at home with an ear infection. His condition earlier this week was regarded as serious.

Monmouth Hi Cagers Feted

MONMOUTH — The local high school hoop team was feted Monday when Mrs. Barbara Egelston and her domestic science classes served a steak dinner in the team's honor at the school. Later the team was guest of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Jensen at a chicken noodle dinner. Norman Jensen, their son, is a guard on the quint.

Padre Manager Named Saturday

SAN DIEGO, Calif., Feb. 25.—(AP)—Selection of a 1943 manager for the San Diego Padres probably will be announced Saturday, Major Charles Lotz, club president, said Thursday.

Lotz reported there were six candidates for the job and that Cedric Durgst, manager the last four years, was one of them. Other leading aspirants for the job were Bill Salkeld, veteran Padre catcher, and Goldie Holt, former Los Angeles player.

Taunt Traipes In

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 25.—(AP)—Taunt, a four-year-old filly flying the colors of W-L ranch or H. M. Warner and Mervin Leroy, surprised a crowd of some 3,500 fans Thursday by winning the featured City park purse.

Jeff Plays Gates

JEFFERSON—Coach Pat Beal's Jefferson cagers travel to Gates tonight to wind up their South Marion county B league basketball schedule. Jeff tripped Gates earlier in the season.

City Mural Hoop Scores

Thursday results at Parrish:
A' division:
Rienhart (17) F (25) Reeves
Wills (13) F (10) Reeves
Thompson (8) F (10) Palmateer
Rienhart (7) C (5) Seaforth
White (6) G (6) Ricker
Busick (2) G (7) Lawson
B' division:
Carrow (12) F (5) Brazie
Armstrong (6) F (6) Miller
Brant (10) C (6) Baker
Dake (2) G (6) Coons
Lucas (6) G (2) Masy
C' division:
Shawver (11) F (21) Yeater
Valdez (3) F (15) Yeater
Dickey (0) F (0) Baross
Russell (2) C (10) Hiebert
Chamberlain (4) G (6) Wade
Shawver (2) G (2) Jones
Yeater sub: Hendrie 2, Herman 2.

Redskin Chief



ARTHUR J. "DUTCH" BERGMAN, former Catholic U football coach. He'll now boss the Washington Redskin pros.

Cougars Slash Spring Grid

WASHINGTON STATE COLLEGE, Pullman, Feb. 23.—(Special)—"There will be no spring football at Washington State this year," Dr. J. Fred Bohler, head of the men's physical education department announced Thursday. "Out of 50 some freshmen and 32 varsity men turning out for the gridiron sport last fall, not one will be back in school next year," he added.

Coach Babe Hollingbery has already taken over the mentorship of the Cougar track team, opening practices last Monday. Hoop Coach Jack Fried will handle the WSC baseball team in the absence of "Buck" Bailey, now in the navy.

Hollingbery is taking over the duties of Bill Ellington, former Stanford mentor who coached the WSC cindermen last year.

"We will go ahead as usual in our athletic program and will wait until the time comes before we cut down," Bohler stated.

Basketball Scores

(Mountain Five conference championship playoffs)
Wyoming 53, Brigham Young U 41.
Yale 36, Uni. of Maryland 25.
Wittenberg 62, Denison 38.
Detroit 28, Michigan Normal 25.
Villanova 41, Scranton Uni. 40.
Penn State 46, Temple 23.
Milikin 50, Illinois College 32.
John Carroll 72, Penn St.
Baylor 40, Southern Methodist 34.
Westminster 62, Allegheny 59.
St. Ambrose 50, Penn 151 49.
Augustana 62, Morrisville 51.
Wheaton 42, Lake Forest 31.
Muskingum 59, Wooster 45.
Kentucky 46, Tulane 31.
LSU 67, Auburn 39.

From the BLEACHERS

BY AL LIGHTNER

Lt. Bob Duffy, athletic officer for Camp Adair's 104th division as well as manager, coach and player of the Timber Wolves basketball outfit which, incidentally, copped the camp championship, is now in the midst of preliminary arrangements for fielding an A-1, double A plus baseball team to represent the howling wolf men. Duffy, now a first lieutenant since being hiked from a second, says he's got the material in the division to make one helluva good ball club. "Important announcement forthcoming soon on same," says the ex-California Bear ace hoopster. . . . The Timber Wolves will at least have one ball club which won't have to worry about whether its players are 1-A or 4-F anyway. . . . Spokane's athletic round table, whose promotional and sponsor activities are known throughout the land—particularly in congress since the lawmakers got the "buds"—have now completed a strenuous poll to find out just what the American people think about having war-time baseball. Results poured in from all over the country and amounted to an 8 to 1 margin for the "ayes."



LT. BOB DUFFY

Ball Bat or Bayonet for 3-A Players?

Baseball's "bible"—The Sporting News—is also conducting a similar poll and leaves it directly up to John Public by asking answers to the point-blank questions, "Should 3-A ballplayers be given draft deferment," and, "Is baseball sufficiently important to morale to justify continuing 3-A draft deferments for baseball players with dependents?"

In case you're interested enough to want to answer that question, send your ballot to The Sporting News, 10th and Olive, St. Louis. Manpower Commissioner Paul McNutt will undoubtedly be the recipient of the final and official count. Not that it will bring about a definite pro or con decision from McNutt, since he would place himself directly on the spot, so to speak, were he to answer one way or the other, but the poll will at least tend to show just whether or not the stay-at-home public wants the 3-A ballplayer to wield baseball bat or bayonet.

We wouldn't believe it if we hadn't actually seen it, but the winners of the Parrish intramural basketball leagues are supposed to play the winners of the Leslie leagues. Maybe the weather has tended to soften up the hard hearts of the city's school system fathers. Spring can be blamed for a lot of lovely things, you know. The Statesman's offer of a trophy of some sort to the "A" division champion in a Leslie vs. Parrish title game or series still stands.

Statistics on Bearcat Hoopsters

Now that Willamette has wound up her hoop schedule, here's how the hoop-Cats made out statistically this season:
In the first place the Methodists were a lousy road club. They won 11 and lost nine altogether—nine wins and two losses at home and only two wins against seven setbacks on the road. In the matter of total points for the 20 games the 'Cats meshed 805 in all to top the 776 scored against 'em. Most one-sided Bearcat win was the 50-30 waxing handed Pacific here. Worst walloping taken was dished out by Linfield Wednesday night, 50-28, when the Methodists were forced to play without the services of forward Jack Vaughn and Guard Don Barnick, both now hobbling about on crutches due to broken feet.

Best scorer on the squad for the season was freshman center Gene Schmidt. He had a total of 135 points. Second was spark-plugger Irv Miller with 116, third was Vaughn with 103, fourth wound up a tie between Wes Saxton and Bob Perry with 87, apiece and sixth, seventh, eighth and ninth went to Duane Ragsdale, Don Barnick, Bob Weaver and Dave Kelly with 51, 43, 38 and 33 points respectively. Kelly played only about half the season since he was called into military service.

The fact that Schmidt, Vaughn, Saxton and Ragsdale are all freshmen would ordinarily make Headman Keene smile from now till 1946, but the war—well—period.

Dudley Still Gains Ground

PITTSBURGH, Feb. 25.—(AP) Bill Dudley, football's favorite son, is gaining as much ground with the army as he did on the pro football gridiron—he's still leading the league. His drill instructor, Sgt. George Carney, predicts the 20-year-old ex-American and currently all-pro halfback, will be just as "hot" as an army fier as he was as an athlete.

Ducks Paddle at WSC

EUGENE, Feb. 25.—(AP)—University of Oregon's swimming team left Thursday for Pullman to paddle against Washington State college in a northern division Coast conference meet Friday and Saturday. Oregon is conceded little chance to take the Staters.

Sacred Heart Meets Dayton

DAYTON — The undefeated Dayton Pirates basketball team, B league champions of Polk and Yamhill counties since waxing Monmouth here, 52-10, take on the Sacred Heart Academy five of Salem, champs of Marion and Clackamas counties, here tonight. The winner of tonight's game will represent the four county district in the regional B tournament at Linfield college on March 5. Tonight's crucial game is listed as a tossup since the Sacred Heart five boasts a record almost as spotless as Dayton's.

Giant Pair Ink Pacts

NEW YORK, Feb. 25.—(AP)—The New York Giants announced Thursday night the receipt of signed contracts from Catcher Gus Mancuso and Infielder Connie Ryan.

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