Baseball Bigs Move Toward Naming New Commissioner

From the BLEACHERS

By Al Lightner

Shorty sorties: Even brand new shiny suits haven't changed the war-wobbly City hoop loop much—it's still mostly a case of the old folks trying to keep up with the kids. You'd have to see gents like Les Sparks, Don Hendrie and a few others we could name, but won't, playing on the Maple's quint to know what we mean. 'Tis a good thing these oldtimers have two full teams—one couldn't hack it. . . .

EDDIE SALSTROM

And speaking of hacking, when the year's final tabulations on biggest this, best that, etc., turn up, don't forget Hendrie. "Dangerous Donald" wasn't into his hoop debut three seconds the other night when he was tooted down for a foul. A new record . . . Maple's may not be the best ball club in the loop even with all those has-beens, but it's the biggest by far. Of the 11 players, five can be jointed to average 6-feet 2½-inches. Bill Magness at 6-6, Dick Peters at 6-2, Herm Schwartzkopf at 6-1, Dick Barklow at 6-3 and Bob Keuscher at 6-1. See what we mean? Sparks and Hendrie are in the shock-trooper class—wee but withering. . . Nomination for most attractive Christmas cards: Those put out by the boys on Warden George Alexander's team. Cut, printed and colored by hand, the one we received is a fine piece of work . . . Ten Christmas seals on the envelope, too, lest you forget the drive to lick tuberculosis . . . Which reminds: There's no rule against your helping the county sports polio fund drive now under way by this department. Those sports factions we've contacted thus far have promised 100 per cent cooperation. You're eligible to help tie at least the $1674.24 realized for the fund last year . . . Perfection alleyists had best snap it up after reading this: The new 1944-45 American Bowling Congress Official Guide says 3003 bowlers have rolled the perfect '300' in regular sanctioned league or tournament play over the country. Of course a few of those were kegged as far back as 1924, but the 3003 is rather impressive at that, wot? . . .

Possible State Champions in the Making

Those who take their basketballing seriously in the village have visions of a Salem high quint battling again for the state championship come March, 1947. The vision presents itself every time Coach Frank Beer's Viking Sophomores hit the hoop court these days.

For those who haven't yet realized it, unsung Frank rides herd on the all-sophomore manned "third" Villa team this season, same consisting of the mixture of last year's sharp Leslie and Parrish junior high teams. He has about 15 players in all, and the 15 are of such caliber Frank fights through sleepless nights trying to uncover the best-working five. In two tries to date the lads have looked good—especially good for sophs. Height, speed, ball-handling and scoring ability are already assured, and the Sophs have two more years to sail under the SHS banner. Wisely enough, the lads have been kept together as a unit this season and are to play a full schedule as a member of the County "B" league. Next year and the year after such experience should pay off richly.

These same railbirds easily remember how other championship teams at SHS were weaned through the junior highs and junior varsity. Some of the Villa's best All-Staters actually gained their start when gangling seventh graders. They gained the fundamentals and experience in the eighth and ninth grades, added more when they became sophs and juniors and wound up champions as seniors. As an example take one Eddie Salstrom. He hooped for Leslie in '37-38, moved to the Villa in '39. Eddie hit the rainbow's end for high schoolers in 1941 by being selected to the All-State team.

The process is in effect again with this season's Soph team, and quite possibly there is one or two future All-Staters under Coach Beer's wing right now. Perhaps they'll lead the 1947 Villa team to the state championship.

Roger Dasch, Dick Hendrie, Wayne Halseth, Bill Hill, Dick Allison, Rod Province, Mel Boggs, Bud Craig, Don Phillips, Warren Bacon, Tom Bartlett, Stan Bacon, Bob Goffrier, Dan Headrick, Dick Mase, Bain, Graham, Patrick, Ertsgaard, Thompson—remember some of those names. You'll be hearing from them in a couple years.

And those who saw this year's Leslie-Parrish football revival insist you'll be hearing plenty of its stars at the Villa in a couple years, too.

10-Man Group Now Appointed To Start Work

National, American Moguls Draw Posts

By Jack Hand

NEW YORK, Dec. 12—(AP)—Baseball took a second important step toward naming a successor to the late Commissioner Kenesaw Mountain Landis today when the two major leagues appointed a 10-man commission to draw up a blueprint of the powers, salary and term a new boss may expect. The organization, to be known as the major league agreement committee, includes many of the most progressive minds in the game. There are indications the members will hold a first session within the next three weeks. A preliminary report must be ready at the February league gatherings.

Presidents Sam Breadon of St. Louis, Philip K. Wrigley of Chicago, Branch Rickey of Brooklyn and Horace C. Stoneham of New York and General Manager Warren Giles of Cincinnati formed the national delegation. The Americans named Presidents Donald L. Barnes of St. Louis, Alva Bradley of Cleveland, Thomas A. Yawkey of Boston and Secretaries John A. Zeller of Detroit and Joseph Hostetler of Cleveland, who also is league attorney.

On these 10 men rests the future of the national game, as all of the present-day government of baseball was embodied in the original agreement which was automatically terminated yesterday. It is not inconceivable that a new commissioner might come from the same committee. Temporary rule by the three-man committee of two league presidents and Leslie M. O'Connor appears short-lived.

While each league huddled privately and formed unannounced opinions on night baseball, conflict of pro football with September games and amendments passed by the minors last week, there is a general atmosphere of cooperation and no serious differences are expected at tomorrow's joint session.

Off the record, league executives and club presidents say the clubs will be given permission to meet the owl ball problem according to their own situation. That would mean continued unlimited after-dark action in St. Louis and Washington although the Senators may drop the Saturday nights.

Athletes to Face Difficult Time in Securing Discharges

By Bus Ham

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—(AP)—Athletes and other prominent persons now in the army have a hard time securing a discharge in the future. Criticism over the release from service of athletic stars, stage, screen, and radio figures has been so great that the war department has decided to tighten controls on their release, it was disclosed today.

A policy has been put into effect which requires that all such cases hereafter shall be given special examination by the war department. Heretofore, a commanding officer has had authority to approve the discharge of anyone under his command. The war department policy, which went into effect November 29, says:

"The discharge of able-bodied prominent figures to permit them to participate in activities not considered to be essential to the national health, safety or interest cannot be justified to the general public.

"While it is not intended to discriminate against any group in the matter of opportunity for discharge, cases involving discharge of nationally prominent athletes, stage, screen radio stars and so forth, which might occasion criticism of the war department discharge politics, will be referred to the war department final determinations."

A war department source said that criticism which led to the new policy had been aimed chiefly at sports figures who received discharges, principally medical, but who proved in good enough physical condition to return to estenuous athletic competition.

Benny Leonard Boxing's Best, Choose Writers

Lt. Cmdr. Awarded Ed. J. Neil Plaque

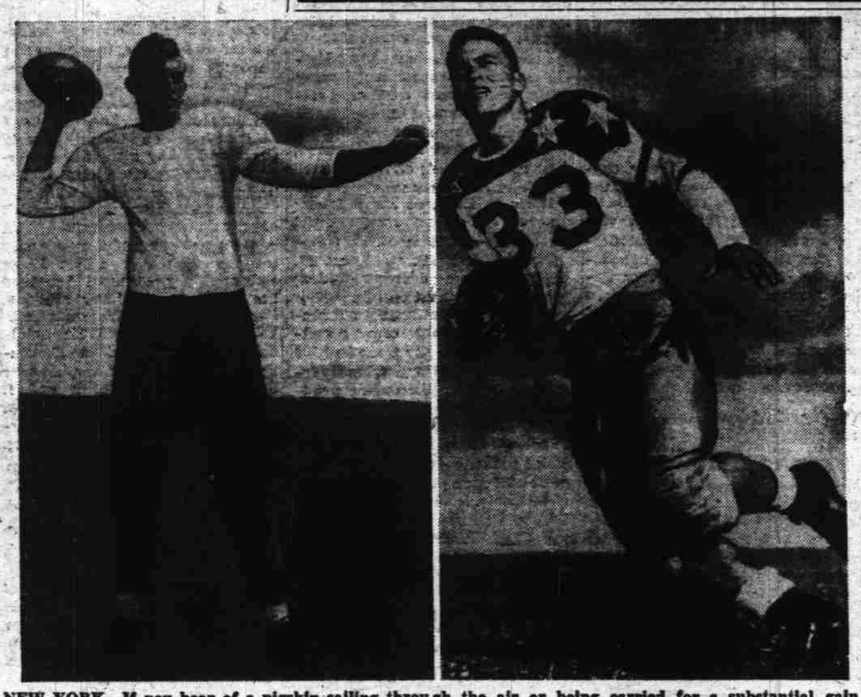
NEW YORK, Dec. 12 - (AP) - Lt. Comdr. Benny Leonard of the maritime service today was awarded the Edward J. Neil plaque by the New York Boxing Writers' association as the man who did the most for the sport during 1944.

Leonard, who retired as undefeated lightweight champion in 1925 after holding the title some eight years, was selected over such luminaries as Joe Louis, heavyweight champion who was awarded the plaque in 1941; lightweight champion Bob Montgomery and Beau Jack, who drew $36,000,000 in war bonds at a Madison Square Garden show in August, and Willie Pep, the featherweight king.

The plaque is awarded annually in memory of Eddie Neil, Associated Press boxing writer and war correspondent who lost his life in 1938 while covering the Spanish revolution.

'BOND' BOWLERS

STATESMAN SPORTS By Al Lightner, Sports Editor



NEW YORK—If you hear of a pigskin sailing through the air or being carried for a substantial gain in the Polo Grounds' War Bond Bowl game Saturday, you can expect either 2nd Lt. Glenn Dobbs (left) or 2nd Lt. Bill Dudley (right) to be responsible. Dobbs is the hope of the Second Air Force Superbombers of Colorado Springs to hand the Randolph Field Flyers their first defeat. Dobbs was All-America at Tulsa in 1942 and last year made the All-Service team. Dudley, All-America for Virginia in '41, made the All-Pro team with Pittsburgh and this year was All-Service back.

'East' Eleven Set for Battle

Kerr Announces 24 Members Selected

HAMILTON, NY, Dec. 12—(AP)—Coach Andy Kerr of Colgate university announced today the 24 players of the east squad for the east-west football game at San Francisco Jan. 1. Kerr's associate coaches for the eastern team will be George Hauser of Minnesota and Bernie Bierman, former Minnesota coach recently discharged from the marines.

Kerr said the squad would assemble Dec. 17 at Northwestern university, leaving that night for the west coast for pre-game workouts. Members of the squad:

Ends — Harrison, South Carolina; Marcotte, Minnesota; Mead, Wisconsin; Brogger, Michigan State. Tackles—Sikich, Minnesota; Hughes, Purdue; Savitsky, Penn.; Podgorski, Lafayette. Guards — Serpico, Illinois; Hackett, Ohio State; Ciolli, Indiana; Ramni, Pittsburgh. Centers — Bujan, Illinois; Syzmanski, Notre Dame. Backs—Dancewicz, Notre Dame; Cannady, Indiana; Walthall, West Virginia; Kelly, Notre Dame; Brugge, Ohio State; Gfrard, Wisconsin; Flagan, Ohio State; Kulbitski, Minnesota; Breslin, Michigan State; Horvath, Ohio State.

No 'T' Party For Pro Teams

NEW YORK, Dec. 12—(AP)—Two conservative coaches who will have nothing to do with the popular "T" formation (except to stop it cold, now and then) will match time-tested offensives in the national football league playoff here Sunday.

Coach Steve Owen of the New York Giants, continues to use what he calls his "NY" formation, mixing in a few single wing plays. Curly Lambeau's Green Bay Packers line up in the Notre Dame box and then usually shift to a single wing.

The success of these tactics is shown not only on the scoreboard, which shows the Packers won eight and lost two regular season games and the Giants turned in eight victories to one defeat and one tie, but in the offensive statistics as well.

Salem Sophs Grab Another

GATES — Salem high school's classy all-sophomore basketball quint rolled to an easy win over Gates high school here Tuesday night, winning 33 to 12. Roger Dasch of the Sophs led the scorers with nine points. Score:

Salem Sophs (33)		(12) GATES
Hill (4)	F	(8) Rush
Halseth (2)	F	(2) B. Oliver
Coe (0)	C	(0) Wrigglesworth
Hendrie (6)	G	(1) W. Oliver
Dasch (9)	G	(0) Garrison

Subs for Salem Phillips, Brown, Carrow 6, Allison 6; for Gates Hennis 1. Referee Don Hendrie.

Ex-Rainier Kearse Wounded in Action

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 12—(AP) Eddie Kearse, former catcher for the Seattle baseball club, was wounded in France, Nov. 22, his mother, Mrs. Eva Kearse of this city, has been informed by the war department. There were no details. Kearse, property of the New York Yankees, went into the army Dec. 7, 1942.

Salem Keglers Roll Victories

The Paulus Bros. quint of the Commercial league beat Albany, 2562 to 2488, Funland of the same league whitewashed Newberg, 2498 to 2283 and the Salem Girls blanked the Albany Girls 2405 to 2308 in match bowling at Perfection alleys this week.

George Scales and his 247 single game and 588 series paced the Paulus victory, Marv Strode came through with a 239 game and a 586 series to spark the Funlanders and June Lloyd and Virginia Garbarino teamed to lead the Salem Girls with a 186 single game high and 518 series, respectively.

Vikings Drop Third Straight, Lose to Springfield, 33 to 23

SPRINGFIELD—(Special)—Popping to with a rush in the second half after leading 18-14 at halftime, Springfield's Millers won their first basketball game of the season here tonight by walloping Salem high's visiting Vikings, 33-23. The Millers built up a 27-16 advantage in the third quarter, held Salem to a single field goal by Al Bellinger during the period and then used substitutes throughout the fourth frame.

The tussle was nip-and-tuck the first two quarters, the Millers pulling to their short lead just before halftime. It was Salem's third loss in as many tries this season.

Jim Lake, only veteran left off last year's Springfield state tournament team, paced the victors with his floor work and 10 points. Jack Fitzmaurice, who teamed with Bellinger to give Salem their only scoring punch, also hooped 10. Bellinger swished nine.

SALEM (23		(33) SPRINGFIELD
Fitzmaurice (10)	F	(10) Lake
Hehnhout (0)	F	(3) Albright
Chamberlain (2)	C	(4) Roberts
Deacon (0)	G	(8) Radmore
Bellinger (9)	G	(8) Burnum

Salem sub: Mason 2. Officials: J. Faubion and B. Robbins.

'Garden' Tussles Set

NEW YORK, Dec. 12—(AP)—Four unbeaten basketball teams play in Madison Square Garden tomorrow night in what is easily the feature twin bill of the young cage season. In one, Utah's national collegiate champions tangle with St. John's quintet and in the other Oklahoma A & M bump into New York's towering five.

Portland Prep Tilts Lopsided

PORTLAND, Dec. 12—(AP)—Portland high school opened their 16-game basketball championship race today, with four quints registering initial victories. Defending champion Washington drew a bye. Benson Tech trimmed Lincoln, 25 to 23; Jefferson whipped Commerce, 40 to 18; Grant downed Roosevelt; 33 to 19, and Franklin defeated Sabin, 49 to 39.

Robinson KO's Foe in Second

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 12—(AP)—Ray (Sugar) Robinson, 136½, blasted Richard (Sheik) Rangel, 147, into a TKO defeat tonight in the feature 10-round windup of the Convention Hall boxing card. Robinson, Harlem's "uncrowned king" of the welterweights, won his victory at 2:50 of the second round before 7,631 paying customers who contributed a gross gate of $20,948.

Navycats Sked Portland Cops

Willamette U's varsity basketballers, losers of eight straight after as many tries at Oregon and Oregon State's northern divisioners but not that bad a hoop-suit clan, engage the Portland Police here Friday night at 7:30 o'clock. The 'Cats played and defeated the Cops, including 305-pound Bob McKeown, here in the season's opener. Coach Tony Fraiola's Frosh are slated to meet Pacific U at Forest Grove Friday night also. Saturday night the varsity goes to Astoria naval base.

Commodores Will Play

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Dec. 12—(AP)—Vanderbilt university will return to the bigtime football wars next year after two seasons of informal play, officials announced today.

Basketball Scores

HIGH SCHOOL
Salem 33, Springfield 33
Chemawa 35, Amity 33
Salem Sophs 33, Gates 12
COLLEGE
EWCE 57, Washington State 37
Whitman 39, Pasco Flyers 49
Idaho 39, Walla Walla AAF 28
Eplesta Air 49, Gonzaga 48

Special Walton Meet Tonight

Commencing with the Sportsmen's show at 7 p. m., to which the public is invited free of charge, Salem's chapter of the Izaak Walton league of America will convene tonight at the chamber of commerce for its regular meeting. Motion pictures and sports gear of all sorts will be shown by practically all the local organizations which participate in outdoors activities during the earlier part of the evening.

Election of officers for the coming year is on the regular business meeting docket. Up for office at present, with other nominations possible tonight, are: Verne Robb, president; Harmon Garrett and O. K. DeWitt, vice-president; Garrett, Fred Snyder and Fred Krepela, secretary; Emery Lebold, Fred McKinney and Denver Young, treasurer; Don Madison, Young, Doug Yeater and Ben Wittner, board of directors. The regular meeting will start at 8 o'clock.

Huskies Make Player Switch

SEATTLE, Dec. 12—(AP)—Don McMillan, top scorer of the University of Washington service basketball team and holder of the Coast conference individual game scoring record, has been moved to center from forward by Coach Hec Edmundson.

The switch, in an attempt to build up the scoring punch of the Huskies for their game against the strong Ft. Lewis Warriors this weekend, put B111 Vandenburg, former center, in as guard.

Criscola to Padres

NEW YORK, Dec. 12—(AP)—President Bill Starr of San Diego of the Pacific Coast league today announced the purchase of Outfielder Tony Criscola from the Cincinnati Reds.

Bruins Win Puck Fray

BOSTON, Dec. 12—(AP)—The Boston Bruins set off a three-goal scoring blast in the final period to top the New York Rangers, 7-5, here tonight before 9500.

Eastern Washington Raps Cougars, 57-37

CHENEY, Dec. 12—(AP)—The Eastern Washington college Savages kept their record as giant-killers intact tonight by defeating previously unbeaten Washington State college 57 to 37 in a basketball game. Jack Perrault sluiced in 17 points for the Savages while Mort Joslin led Washington State with 11.

So-So Season Due at Canby

CANBY — (Special) — All isn't too rosy at Canby high these days as Coach Don Deming hustles the Cougars toward the opening of their 1944-45 basketball season. First, the Cougars can boast only two lettermen, Garber and Markee, and neither were regulars last year when the team finished fourth in Duration league play and lost to Milwaukie in district playoffs. And out of the 30 aspirants working out under Deming, only two, Markee and Etzel top the 6-foot mark. Both are 6-1. Deming admits material in general is in plenty, but height and experience are lacking.

The Cougars have lined up a 16-game schedule for the season and will also participate in the Duration jamboree at Mt. Angel December 22. The schedule to date, starting with the opener next Tuesday at West Linn:

Dec. 19—West Linn there; Jan 2—Woodburn there; Jan. 5—Molalla here; Jan. 9—Silverton here; Jan. 12—Chemawa there; Jan. 16—Sherwood there; Jan. 19—Mt. Angel there; Jan. 23—Oregon City here; Jan. 26—Woodburn here; Jan. 30—open; Feb. 3—Molalla there; Feb. 6—Oregon City there; Feb. 9—Silverton there; Feb. 13—Milwaukie here; Feb. 16—Chemawa here; Feb. 20—Milwaukie there; Feb. 23—Mt. Angel here; Feb. 27—West Linn here.

'Zags Nipped by Flyers

SPOKANE, Dec. 12—(AP)—The Ephrata air base basketball team slipped by Gonzaga university to gain a 49 to 48 victory tonight after the two teams had ended the first half in a 24-all deadlock.

Missionaries Winners

WALLA WALLA, Dec. 12—(AP)—Ben Dobb's Whitman Missionaries handed the Pasco Flyers their first defeat of the current season by trouncing them 59 to 49 tonight.

Rainiers Buy Ted Norbert

SEATTLE, Dec. 12—(AP)—One of the Seattle Rainiers' great needs—an outfielder with a home-run punch for the clutches—was filled today when the Seattle baseball club purchased slugging Ted Norbert from the Milwaukee club of the American association in a straight cash deal.

The veteran, who played for Los Angeles last season, has been with Coast league teams, San Francisco and Portland, for nine years. During that time, his batting average was over .300 for five years and has never been below .278. His over-all average for the nine years is .301.

The use of pigeons as messengers goes back to 3500 B.C.

Indians Edge Amity, 35-33

AMITY —(Special)—Paced by guard Cal Picard, who gathered an even dozen markers, all on field goals, Chemawa's Indians edged the Amity high cagers 35 to 33 on the local floor Tuesday night. The Indian Papooses trimmed the Amity Bees 22 to 10 in the prelim. Score:

CHEMAWA (35)		(33) AMITY
B. Yallup (6)	F	(12) Lee
Minthorn (4)	F	(1) Johnson
Ashman (3)	C	(7) Loiselle
Picard (12)	G	(7) Worden
Satiacum (10)	G	(4) Tresham

Subs for Amity, Watts 2. Referee, Hogan.

BOWLING SCORES

Capital City Laundry moved into second place in the Industrial bowling circuit last night by sweeping three games from the Trades Council on the Perfection alleys. All other matches resulted in 2-1 decisions, with the Papermakers edging M&F Grocery, Scio trimming Interstate Tractor, Bosler Electric beating Brite Spot, Salem Police downing Mayflower Milk, and Armour's Star spilling Keith Brown's. Jack Hoogerson, Armour's, rang up high series for the round, 577, while John Bone, Brite Spot, rolled high game, 217.

CAPITAL CITY LAUNDRY (3)				
Kirchner	169	145	165	479
Woelke	169	150	156	475
Bucko	158	136	144	438
D. Duncan	136	171	182	491
Mathis	203	184	186	573
Totals	837	786	839	2462
TRADE COUNCIL A. F. of L. (0)				
Handicap	94	94	94	282
Meyers	139	119	155	413
Lamb	103	103	110	316
Breneman	113	120	144	377
Brant	147	112	114	374
Oakes	138	182	133	453
Totals	734	730	750	2214
PAPER MAKERS (2)		2	3	4
Handicap				
Cady	146	151	123	420
Duncan	180	158	154	492
Bolton	176	189	179	544
Colman	135	152	199	486
Wiltsey	167	136	155	459
Totals	804	788	812	2405
M & F GROCERY (1)				
Handicap	3			3
Forgard	162	164	142	468
B. Griffith	161	128	130	419
Zellen	168	176	167	501
D. Griffith	137	150	119	406
Morgan	190	157	166	513
Totals	821	775	724	2310
INTERSTATE TRACTOR (1)				
Handicap	5	9	14	28
W. Valdez	157	183	166	506
Stetter	173	148	195	516
Kaneski	141	124	126	391
Byers	170	128	148	446
Farthing	166	176	169	511
Totals	812	768	818	2398
SCIO (2)				
Shrunk	144	177	162	483
Caswell	128	142	140	410
Hendrickson	156	171		327
Knajci		175	154	329
Kenyon	143		189	332
Densmore	161	130	179	470
Totals	732	795	824	2351
BOSLER ELECTRIC (2)				
Handicap	25	25	25	75
Riches	190	157	197	544
Bishop	158	146	141	445
Riffey	163	166	202	531
Kelly	170	123	163	456
Silke	187	168	153	508
Totals	893	785	881	2559
BRITE SPOT (1)				
Patterson	133	179	161	473
Bone	162	217	155	534
T. Brown	135	157	125	437
Olney	32	140	135	407
Ertsgoard	196	153	150	501
Totals	780	846	726	2352
MAYFLOWER MILK (1)				
Handicap	9	9	9	27
Dewey	106	116	162	384
Johnson	155	182	158	495
Carr	148	120	172	440
G. Noffsinger	100	131	130	361
Kendrick	113	122	145	380
Totals	631	680	776	2087
SALEM POLICE (2)				
Main	138	163	175	496
Mathers	152	181	135	468
Bowman	164	151	143	458
Friese	125	122	160	407
Seipp	152	136	130	438
Totals	731	793	743	2267
KEITH BROWN CO. (1)				
Handicap	79	79	79	237
Barker	169	147	189	505
Hardy	116	143	130	389
D. Brown	128	156	100	384
Powell	169	162	146	477
Hawkins	171	156	117	444
Totals	832	843	761	2436
ARMOURS STAR (2)				
Pederson	155	159	156	470
McNall	157	137	160	454
J. Hoagenson	212	155	210	577
Bigler	157	207	158	522
Aleshine	201	160	168	529
Totals	882	818	852	2552

Duckpin Scores

Ladies League — B. & B. Bowling courts.

KLEINSMITHS (3)				
Handicap	145	145	145	435
Lindsay	138	95	149	382
Frye	93	184	145	422
Kleinsmith	182	162	122	466
E. Williams	160	146	131	437
I. Williams	132	101	122	355
Totals	850	833	814	2497
BONNERS (1)				
Handicap	236	238	238	714
Bonner	78	120	134	332
Cobbison	118	112	120	350
Thompson	95	73	105	273
LeBlanc	81	102	118	301
Bye	93	95	122	310
Totals	703	740	837	2280
COX'S (4)				
Handicap	215	215	215	645
Cox	184	162	158	484
Borrego	90	120	131	341
Dulaney	83	128	75	286
Weaver	98	128	104	331
Gauthier	155	97	127	379
Totals	805	851	810	2466
PENNY'S (0)				
Handicap	210	210	210	330
Wood	90	124	133	347
Meech	112	105	122	339
Penny	146	166	159	471
Bye	90	120	75	285
Bye	83	97	104	284
Totals	731	822	803	2356

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BONDS OVER AMERICA ★ ★ ★

Bardstown, Kentucky

St. Joseph's Pro-to-Cathedral, at Bardstown, Ky., filled with original paintings by great artists, was the first cathedral built west of the Alleghenies in 1816.

In contrast consider the Flemish City of Ghent where for 500 years art lovers visited the Cathedral of St. Baron to see Jan van Eyck's "The Adoration of the Lamb." Nazi looters have sent it to Germany.

Be American
Buy War Bonds

Georgie Fouled Out to Spoil Debut; $1500 in Bonds Sold

Gorgeous Georgie Wagner made his winter debut at the Ferry Street Garden last night, but its wasn't an auspicious one for the bathrobe bicepper. The 6th War Loan drive did okeh, however, as $1500 in bonds were sold before the shindig started; and the customers went home happy—Georgie finished second best to Burly Buck Davidson, the bowlegged basher. The crunch character, definitely not unlike the culprit Wagner remembered by the clients, became too rambunctious for his own good in the main event on Matchmaker Elton Owen's bond bicep bee and dropped the final duke via foul.

Swathed in probably a couple hundred bucks worth of the $5000 he's said to have sunk in gaudy bathrobes—this one was a snow-white fluffed creation dabbed with purple in the right spots and which any debutante would gladly cuddle up in while attending the opera (it made Davidson's unglorified striped job look like something picked up in the dime store by comparison)—Wagner was immediately welcomed back by the 800-odd fans with a roaring chorus of razzberries. He got even more when Bowlegged Buck bashed him for the first fall of their rip-snortin' stomp-fest, Davidson applying a full crab hold after a right lively 12 minutes.

Georgie got even in the second canto with a body press, however, and then after more hilarious milling which had the customers rubber-necking to see the gladiators and Referee Milt Olson scuffling in the aisles, the Gorgeous One, who refused to rassle clean, was fouled out. Hence his debut, white fluffed bathrobe or not, was a floperoo.

The brawl provided most of the fireworks on the card, as Villager Tony Ross, Olson and popular Bulldog Jackson were eliminated in the so-so opening battle royal. A "stretching" combination of Jackson and Ivan Jones took care of Olson first—one on each side pulling hard. Jackson was next to go as all three remaining grapplers—Ross, Jones and Gust Johnson—hent him into a pretzel-like mass for the fall. Then Jones and Johnson took turns body-slamming Tough Tony half a dozen times before flattening him. Back came Jones and Johnson to grapple off the all-clean and scientific semi, each grabbing a fall and winding up in a draw after 30 minutes. It was a well-accepted outing.