

Weather Hits Holy Cross 11

Cold Country Boys Find Miami Hot Spot

MIAMI, Fla., Dec. 25—(AP)—If Holy Cross loses to Miami in the Orange Bowl here on New Year's day, Coach John (Ox) Gross could blame it on the weather, but he won't. Forced to practice indoors on their home grounds because of deep snow and low temperatures, the Holy Cross Crusaders worked out in near 80-degree weather today.

"I'm not going to use the weather as an alibi if we lose," Gross said. "We're going in to win this game, and hot or cold my team is going to do its damndest to win."

The Holy Cross coach spoke a few minutes after he had finished a secret drill.

Hughie Miller Dies

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 25—(AP)—Hugh Stanley "Hughie" Miller, 58, former first baseman of the Philadelphia Phillies died last night. He was a native of St. Louis.



ALL-AMERICANS MEET: When Alabama's Crimson Tide and St. Mary's Gaels met in New Orleans en route to respective New Year's Day bowl games, this trio of All-Americans got together. Harry Gilmer, brilliant "Bama" back, is at left; Herman Wedemeyer of the Gaels is in the center and Vaughn Mancha, Alabama center, is at right. (AP Wirephoto)

Perkins of Fee's Standout Center

Sportie sortie: From the looks of what the UBC Thunderbirds have been doing to such as basketballing Huskies and Cougars of late, such as basketballing Bearcats had best put a lid on the enemy goal the nights of January 4-5 at WU. Those are the evenings the British Columbian come to town to do Northwest conference a gittin' with Les Sparks' lads. . . . And we still don't see how the UBC's get by with using their sharpshooting "Sandus" Robertson at forward. A very good friend of his told us only the other day that Robertson has definitely signed a pro ball contract with the Boston Red Sox. NW conference eligibility rules may be noted for their elasticity, but they certainly don't stretch so far as to let a professional compete. Or do they? . . . Speaking of hotshot basketballers, about as nice a center as we've seen is this Warren Perkins of the Fee's Rollermongers. Definitely no storkie, (he's only about six-feet-two), this former Tulane Fresh player (so we're told) made one six-foot six-inch Ted Henningsen and another six-foot eight-inch Red Rocha look like a couple of grade schoolers in both the Oregon State-Fee's tilt at Corvallis. He scored 24 points the second game and at least two-thirds of 'em were made right from under the Henningsen and Rocha noses. Slats Gill was seen to drool when he learned Perkins has played but

SPORTSLIGHTNER



FREDDIE LANIFERO

one year of intercollegiate basketball. . . . Par-shooter with Perkins is Claude (Red) O'Connell, the carrot-topped Fee's forward who will be remembered as both a hoop whiz at Monmouth Normal a few years back and as an outgardener with the town Senators in '42. Red carries the tag as good-a-basketballer-as-there-is-in-the-Northwest, and that tag doesn't fib. . . .

Byron Nelson 1945's athlete of the year? Much second-guessing being done about it since the announcement, but we think so and voted for him in the national poll. Many sports bugs, including L. H. Gregory of the Oregonian, we read, can't see Nelson for either "Doc" Blanchard, the booming Army fullback, or Hal Newhouse, the great Detroit lefthander. We still picked Nelson over both, and here's why:

Blanchard, good as he must be, had 10 other guys helping him to be good every Saturday. Newhouse had eight on his side. Nelson, winner of 19 golf tournaments, including the biggie of the pack, the PGA, was alone in every one. Nobody to block open the holes for his putts and nobody to catch his hooked or sliced drives for him. Too, there is no sport in our book which applies more pressure to an individual than professional golf. One bad shot—even a mis-blasted blade of grass or a sudden gust of wind—can cost the topnotch pro a couple thousand bucks! Yet the guy was good enough in the face of such pressure to win 19 tournaments, all by himself.

Our vote is still for Nelson—even if the guy does blow his cork and aims his putter at the

Lanifero No War Loss After All

closest tree when he needs more than two taps on a green.

Pleasant surprise: The PCL baseball bulletin, a monthly stack of facts and figures on the Coast leaguers compiled by Secretary Harry A. Williams, informs: "San Diego is plenty pleased to get Fred Lanifero back from the armed service. He is rated as the best pivot man on double plays at second base seen in many a year." Which means the ultra-popular Little Senator keystone of 1941 wasn't a war casualty after all, as reported almost two years ago. And incidentally, should the Padres need convincing on just how smooth Lannie's pivoting is, they need only to inquire locally. What a sweet combination Freddie and Shortstopper Bunny Griffiths made.

Other did-you-know-thats gleaned from the bulletin: Marvin Owen, combined manager and third sacker for pennant-winning Portland, fielded .986, an all-time high for hot corner guardians in the PCL. . . . with 944 chances accepted, Johnny O'Neill of Portland topped the shortstops for the second consecutive season in that respect. . . . Billy Holm, who goes to Portland in 1946, holds the top fielding mark for catchers when with the Angels in 1943 he handled 343 putouts and 87 assists in the 93 games he caught that year without making an error. . . .

Lipscomb Wins Main Mat Go

Lantern-jawed Jack Lipscomb, popularly unliked from mustache to matelodging, last night sneaked over a main event mat win at the armory to qualify for the top go next week against Tough Tony Ross. A slender Christmas night crowd of about 800 watched Lipscomb outmaneuver Jack (Pin-up Boy) Kiser for the victory.

Lipscomb will meet freshly returned Ross next Tuesday night in the top go on Matchmaker Elton Owen's special New Year's night card.

The Indiana meenie gained the first fall last night after 16 minutes of grueling grappling, using a cross arm bar and a pin hold. Kiser, out-roughing the rough-toughie, gained the second fall in nine minutes with a rap to the whiskers and a diving body press. The popular adonis was en route to the winning fall with a siege of spectacular stuff when he slipped into a crab-hold at the 8:35 mark.

Win or lose, the Kiser classy exhibited plenty of his remembered repertoire—crowd pleasing holds from start to finish.

The semiwrap-up, a much-better-than-expected brawl between Gust Johnson and Babe Small, went to a fall-apiece draw in 30 minutes. Both put out plentifully. So did the curtain raiser gets, Angelo Martinelli and Ernie Piluso. Martinelli grabbed this one, two falls to one after taking up 24 minutes of the 30 allotted for the scuffle.

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Foxes Battle Sweet Homers

SILVERTON, Dec. 25—(Special)—Silverton high Silver Foxes enliven a dull holiday basketball program here Thursday night by tackling the Sweet Home Huskies in a non-Willamette Valley league game on the high school court. The eight o'clock contest will be preliminarily by a Bee squad clash at seven.

Silverton has gone undefeated in two league games and in the hoop jamboree to date this season. Coach Ray Bee has a tall team augmented by Dale Bennett, one of the top scorers in the valley the past two seasons.

City Scoring Race In Tie

Idling through a two-week breathing spell, the City basketball league scoring parade is currently tied up between two cagers, one in each division of the circuit. Frankie Page of the Page Woodens is out in front of the American division derby by an eyelash over Lou Kotnik of the Minters. Page has 40 markers in three games, Kotnik 39. Joe Herberger of the Curios matches Page's 40 for the National division and is followed closely by Otto Skoppl of Maple's with 36.

The league swings back into

National Aces Cop 11-5 Win

HONOLULU, Dec. 25—(AP)—The National league baseball all-stars concluded a mid-Pacific tour today by walloping the Army Olympics team 11 to 5. Forty-two hundred spectators saw the game, the professionals' fourth win in seven tries.

They took an early lead, scoring eight runs on nine hits off the army's Bill Carruth in the first two innings. Al Gerheuser, former Philly, gave nine scattered hits, but three all-star misplays aided the soldiers, who racked up five runs.

Alabama Team Hits California

PASADENA, Calif., Dec. 25—(AP)—Alabama's crimson tide crossed the golden state boundary tonight, headed for its sixth Rose Bowl appearance on New Year's day. Coach Frank Thomas and his southern charges, victorious in nine gridiron games this year, are due at nearby Alhambra tomorrow.

After pitching camp at a hotel here, they plan a light workout tomorrow afternoon on Occidental college's Patterson field in suburban Eagle Rock.

Meantime their opponents in the New Year's game, the University of Southern California Trojans, took a Christmas holiday from the gridiron today and rested. They will resume training tomorrow.

Omaha Tips Tulsa

TULSA, Okla., Dec. 25—(AP)—Scoring two clinching goals in the last five minutes, Omaha's speedy Knights tonight won a thriller-packed United States-Hockey league skirmish before a capacity crowd of 4380 spectators, 7 to 4, snapping a three-game winning streak of Tulsa's Ice Oilers.

Westerners Handed Favorite's Role in Shrine Battle

By Russ Newland
SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 25—(AP)—For 20 years now rival coaches of the East-West charity football game have tried to outmaneuver each other in the psychological field of lining up as "underdog" in the big New Year's day encounter. It is a swell selling point, certain to fire up the players.

Come January 1, the Western All-Stars will take the field as the favorites, no matter how coaches Homer Norton of Texas A & M and Orin Hollingsbery, ex-Washington State, feel about the matter. The Westerners will line up with more weight, more power and will have the assurance of greater experience than their Eastern rivals. Andy Kerr of Colgate will chortle and make capital of the fact the East, for which he has coached so long, will be the short-ender.

His colleagues, Bernie Bierman of Minnesota and Beattie Feathers of North Carolina State will help fling the verbal barbs, even if the West is favorite but by a single digit in the odds.

Before celebrating Christmas, the two squads went through workouts today, the East at Santa Clara and the West at Menlo Junior college. Wet fields greeted the players again. The Western-

ers pounded through two hours in full uniform, nevertheless. The West's coaches came up with two experimental backfields, operating both in the T-formation and single wing, as follows:

Team A—Quarterback, Jack Price, Baylor university; left half, Jake Leicht, U. of Oregon; right half, Ted F. field, U. of California; fullback, Lloyd Rude, Nevada. Team B—Quarterback, Bob Stevens, Oregon State; left half, Donk Walker, Southern Methodist; right half, Bob Goode, Texas A & M; fullback, Walt Schlinkman, Texas Tech. Gay Adelt, U. of Utah, alternated at left half, with Walker.

The East's ball handling pattern already is pretty well established. With the T-formation as the main attacking thrust, the quarterbacking duties will be handled by Allan Dekdebrun, Cornell, and Merrill Frost, Dartmouth. Roger Robinson, Syracuse, and Bob Evans, Pennsylvania, are alternate left half-backs with Dick Fisher, Ohio State and Paul Copoulos, Marquette, slated for right halfback service. Jack Breslin, Michigan State, has earned a combination right half-back job, while straight fullbacking has been assigned to Walt Trojanowski, Connecticut, and Charles Draznevich, Penn State.

St. Mary's '11' In East Drill

Phelan Pleased With Condition of Gaels
EDGEWATER PARK, Miss., Dec. 25—(AP)—The St. Mary's Gaels took it easy here today, confining themselves to kicking practice, setting up exercises and pass catching as they prepared for a New Year's day meeting in New Orleans' Sugar Bowl with Oklahoma A and M.

Coach Jim Phelan said the practice pace would get tougher by the day, until full-scale scrimmage would occupy the Gaels. As a starter, however, today's practice, was confined to condition work and running of signals.

Two of the Gaels were not in uniform—starting Quarterback Dennis O'Connor and Ed Houston, a reserve tackle. Both are influenza victims. O'Connor is recovering, and watched the practice from the sidelines.

Phelan tonight seemed pleased with his boys, and said they appeared to be rounding into shape after the long trip from the west coast and the Christmas festivities of last night and this morning.

Oregon State Handed 43-27 Drubbing by CCNY Quintet

1945 Defense Records Prove Amerks 'Good Field, No Hit'

By Jerry Liska
CHICAGO, Dec. 25—(AP)—The American league, to quote Mike Gonzales, was "good field, not hit" in 1945. Defensive records officially unveiled today showed the Cleveland Indians, fifth in the pennant race, whipped up a neat .977 fielding average, three points better than the 1944 winning mark of .974 shared by the Tribe and New York.

The league fielding average also was improved over last year at .973, compared with .971 in 1944. Contrasted with this defensive upgrade are the junior circuit's recently-released batting statistics which revealed an eight-point slump by the top-hitting club—Chicago's .262 average compared with Boston's 1944 best of .270—and a five-point skid, .260 to .255, in league clotting.

Although the world champion Detroit Tigers placed third in team fielding with .975, a point behind second-place St. Louis, four

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Beavers Flop In Garden Go
NEW YORK, Dec. 25—(AP)—City College held Oregon State to only 11 field goals—a new square garden mark for Madison Square Garden this season—to defeat the tall Beavers from the far west 43-27 in the opening game of tonight's Christmas day doubleheader.

Missing with equal consistency from the floor as well as from the foul line, Oregon State could connect only three times from the floor and twice in nine tries from the foul line in the first half to trail 12-8 at intermission.

City was almost as bad as the favored Oregonians in the sloppy played first half, making only four buckets and adding the same number of free throws.

Ephraim (Red) Rocha, the heralded six-foot-eight-inch Honolulu center of the visitors, who was close to a total loss in the first 20 minutes, finally began to make use of his height advantage and tapped in a couple of off-the-backboard shots to pull the visitors even with City early in the second half. But the little Beavers, paced by Ralph Schmones and Sonny Jameson, registered 13 straight points in the next five minutes to make a rout out of the contest.

Schmones took high scoring honors with 12 points, three more than Rocha tallied.

350 Coaches Pick 'All' 11

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 25—(AP)—The American Football Coaches association announced today its first all-star team.

Ray Morrison, coach at Temple university and president of the organization, said the selection was made by some 350 members of the association who delayed their choice in order to see as many games and as many players as possible before making their final choice. The team:

Player	Pos.	College
Richard Duden	Q	Navy
DeWitt Coulter	T	Army
Warren Amling	E	Ohio State
Richard Scott	C	Navy
John Green	G	Army
George Savitsky	T	Pennsylvania
Max Morris	T	Northwestern
Bob Fenimore	E	Okla. A & M
Glenn Davis	E	Army
Hern's Wedemeyer	E	Army
Felix Blanchard	B	St. Mary's

Lineup Eludes Aggie Mentor
BILOXI, Miss., Dec. 25—(AP)—A week before the Sugar bowl football clash with St. Mar's, Coach Jim Lookabaugh of the Oklahoma A. and M. eleven still can't name his starting lineup. Six players are in the running for the opening assignments at three positions, and their showings this week will decide who gets the calls.

J. D. Cheek and Terry Monroe are the contenders for the left tackle post, while Jim Reynolds and Jim Palmer are the rival candidates for fullback. Cecil Hankins is having competition from Bill Grimes for the right halfback spot.

Toronto Licked

DETROIT, Dec. 25—(AP)—The Detroit Red Wings ended Toronto's National Hockey league winning ways here tonight, scoring early and maintaining the lead throughout to down the Maple Leafs, 6-3.

CHECKS IN EARLY
PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 23—(AP)—This city's first Christmas day game, the 7-pound 6-ounce son of Mr. and Mrs. Claude Dunavan, arrived exactly one minute after midnight.

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