

Nationally Observed 'Let's Play Ball' Week Opens Today; Senators Plan Events

By AL LIGHTNER
Statesman Sports Editor

It's "Let's Play Ball" across the nation today as the country observes the start of a special week designed to bring baseball—professional and amateur alike—into the sports spotlight.

Baseball clubs from one end of the country to the other have special booster programs and ticket-selling drives ready to roll during the big week, and numerous radio and TV programs will be devoting their air space to the promotion of the great American game.

Governor Paul Patterson recently issued a proclamation that Oregon will observe "Let's Play Ball" week, and is one of almost 40 governors in the USA who have released such proclamations.

For their part in the big week, Salem Senators directors and boosters have mapped out a sizeable program of events, all aimed at pushing the current season ticket selling drive to a successful climax.

Over 500 of the Senators' extremely low priced season tickets have thus far been sold, and directors and boosters intend selling another 1,500 during the forthcoming seven days.

The "Booster Band Wagon" will make its first appearance today, in the downtown area. Members of the Senators "Rootin' Tooters" Band will be in action on the big wagon, and it will also serve as a mobile ticket booth.

The Bandwagon will appear at the Capitol Shopping Center Monday, in the Keizer district Tuesday, in the Hollywood district Wednesday, in West Salem Thursday morning, in the Candalaria district Thursday afternoon, at Four Corners Friday and again in downtown Salem on Saturday. Visits to other valley cities will be made later on.

Booster club speakers will be appearing at all major civic clubs during the week also. On Monday, the "Rootin' Tooters", Hugh Luby and Dave Hoss will appear before the Salem Breakfast club at the Senator hotel. The "Tooters", Luby by the Senators President George Paulus will be at the Salem Chamber of Commerce meeting Monday noon at the Marion hotel.

Other speakers will appear before the Exchange club, Hollywood Lions club, West Salem Lions and Keizer Lions on Wednesday, and at the North Salem Kiwanis, Optimists club, 20-30 club and Salem Lions on Thursday.

The Senators Boosters have issued the following 3-point objective in their effort to stimulate local interest in the sport:

- (1) Professional baseball is the foundation that supports all of the various baseball programs.
- (2) Baseball games afford all parents the opportunity of visiting with family in traditional American way, without tension, etc.
- (3) Baseball is definitely wanted by Salem area folks, as was demonstrated last year. Everyone showed a degree of enthusiasm, and it is everyone's own responsibility to give a boost. It helps every time you have the chance.
- (4) Stress "Do It Now." Signify that you are going to buy a season ticket this big week. It will be a (Continued on next page)

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South Salem Ousted; Eugene, Medford Gain Finals

La Salle, San Francisco NCAA Semi-Final Victors

Dons Capture 62-50 Triumph

Pioneers Nip Iowa By 76-73 Margin

KANSAS CITY (AP)—The nation's No. 1 team, San Francisco, exploited 6-10 All-American Bill Russell relentlessly for a 62-50 triumph over outclassed Colorado Friday night. That put the Dons into the finals against defending champion LaSalle in the National Collegiate Assn. basketball tournament.

LaSalle, utilizing the clutch play of All-American Tom Gola,

bounced out Big Ten champion Iowa 76-73, in the opening game of the semi-final round before a capacity 10,500 at the Municipal Auditorium.

Russell, rebounding demon, scored 24 points before he left the floor with a tremendous salvo of applause with 3:02 left to play.

Iowa, Colorado in Prelim

In Saturday night's program, Iowa and Colorado will play for third place in the national collegiate tourney.

Colorado's last chance went with little more than 14 minutes to play as Colorado's biggest player, 6-7 center Burdette Halderson, went out of the game on five personals.

At that point Russell pumped in a free throw which moved San Francisco ahead 30-21.

Shortly after that the game turned into a walk-away as the Dons sped to a 16-point margin, 40-24, with little more than eight minutes to play.

Control Game Played

The first half produced a terrific control game and for a time it appeared the game might surpass the tourney's tightest game, the 1941 first round game in which Pittsburgh defeated North Carolina 26-20.

The lead exchanged hands six times in the cautiously played first half and San Francisco never really got control until the closing minutes of the first half.

With less than two minutes to the intermission San Francisco led only 19-18.

Then Stan Buchanan dropped in a pair of free throws and Hal Perry and sub Warren Baxter each plunked a basket just before the buzzer sounded for San Francisco's six-point halftime lead, 25-19.

It was San Francisco's 25th straight victory and gave the Dons a 27-1 record. Their only setback was by UCLA in their third game of the season.

Russell, who scored 24 points Friday night, had a 21.3 average for the 27 previous games.

The game found both teams starting without two star players because of injuries.

However, both got into the game but neither star, 6-5 Jerry Mullen of San Francisco or Tom Harrold of Colorado, scored a point.

Mullen who, wrenched an ankle in San Francisco's 57-56 edging of Oregon State last Saturday, played longer than Harrold.

San Francisco hit a tremendous 51.2 shooting percentage in the tightly played game, against 28.6 average for Colorado.

La Salle (76) (73) Iowa

G	F	P	T
O'Mally	1	4	1
Maples	1	2	0
Singley	3	2	1
Blancher	2	1	5
Gola	8	7	23
Lewis	5	4	3
Greenberg	4	0	1
Totals	28	24	19
Free throws	10	11	17
Free throws missed	La Salle 5	Iowa 3	
Half-time score	La Salle 45	Iowa 36	

San Francisco (62) (50) Colorado

G	F	P	T
Wiebush	1	0	2
Mullen	0	0	0
Kings	1	2	0
Buchan	0	2	6
Lewis	0	2	0
Russell	10	4	24
Kirby	0	0	1
Jones	3	2	3
Baxter	2	3	7
Bush	0	1	1
Perry	5	0	13
Zannani	0	0	1
Totals	22	18	62
Free throws	10	11	17
Free throws missed	Colorado 8	San Francisco 25	
Half-time score	San Francisco 25	Colorado 19	

Royals Tie Series With Lakers, 94-92

ROCHESTER, N. Y. (AP)—The Rochester Royals squared their National Basketball Assn. Western Division playoff series with the Minneapolis Lakers Friday night, winning a nip-and-tuck affair 94-92. The deciding game of the three-game set will be played in St. Paul Saturday.



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Stokes Gets Raves . . .

Duquesne, Dayton Mix In Tonight's NIT Finals

By HUGH FULLERTON Jr.

NEW YORK (AP)—Duquesne's basketball team, which hasn't had to display its best abilities so far, and Dayton, which has been pushed to the limit in both its games, meet Saturday night in the final of the 18th National Invitation Tournament.

But most of the fans who are expected to fill Madison Square Garden almost to capacity likely will come early to see one of the also-rans.

Dayton Holds Edge

Duquesne and Dayton, seeded first and second in the tournament, and ranked sixth and ninth, respectively, in the Associated Press national poll, have met three times this season with Dayton holding a 2-1 edge. Off the records, it should be the best possible final in the 12-team tournament.

Yet all the rave notices so far have gone to Maurice Stokes of little St. Francis College, an unseeded team that came down from the Pennsylvania mountains to battle its way into the semi-finals and to carry Dayton into an overtime period before losing, 79-73, St. Francis and Cincinnati, 65-51, to Duquesne in the other semifinal, clash in the third place game before Saturday's final.

Stokes Scores 43

Stokes' performance Thursday, when he scored 43 points, grabbed 19 rebounds, played 45 minutes against two much taller men, directed the Frankies' attack and made a half dozen passes that might have won the game if his teammates had been able to get the shots, was hailed Friday as the finest one-man show ever seen in a Garden tournament.

"He was better as an all-around player than George Mikan was when he scored 53 points (an NIT record) against Rhode Island State," said Coach Joe Lapchick of the pro Knickerbockers. Others compared Stokes to Hank Luisetti, Frank Baumholtz, Ed Macauley, Don Lofgran and Tom Gola, who have turned in some standout performances in the NIT.

Beavers Blast USC 15 to 5

GLENDALE, Calif. (AP)—The Portland Beavers of the Pacific Coast League got revenge for an earlier 1-5 loss by defeating the Southern Cal baseball team 15-5 Friday.

The game was called because of darkness at the end of the eighth inning. Portland's Frank Austin hit a double and a single and batted in a run. Artie Wilson with two singles batted in three for the winners.

The Beavers play the Fort Ord team Saturday.

Seals Top Seattle When Rally Fails

EL CENTRO, Calif. (AP)—A 4-run, ninth-inning rally fell short for the Seattle Rainiers Friday as the San Francisco Seals took a 7-5 decision in a Pacific Coast League practice baseball game.

The Seals held a 3-1 lead going into the eighth and picked up four more tallies off Lonnie Myers. They needed them because the Rainiers bounced back with their fourth off a former teammate, Bill Evans.

Moe Savransky went the first six innings for Seattle, giving up eight hits, before being relieved by Myers, the eighth-inning Santa Claus.

Sal Taormina rapped out four hits in five trips to the plate for the Seals and drove in two of their runs.

TED COULD USE SOME GLUE

MIAMI (AP)—If folks see veteran jockey Ted Atkinson buying some glue, they will know immediately the reason for such a purchase. At Hialeah he was tossed from his mount twice in one day.

The first time it happened he was pulling up a winner after a race. The horse suddenly wheeled and Ted hit the turf. Then the pony, sent to carry Ted back to the winner's circle, reared—and off went rider Atkinson.

Saxon Star Tries for Field Goal



EUGENE—Neal Scheidel, hard-driving South Salem Saxons guard, booms in at full speed in this attempt for a field goal in State Tournament action here. Trying to check Scheidel's effort are Bob Bernhardt (7) and Jim Altenhofen of Central Catholic. The Saxons were eliminated from the tourney when Central won, 47-35. Medford and Eugene, both victors Friday, meet Saturday night in the championship game.

Officials Seek Peace In Riot-Torn Montreal

MONTREAL (AP)—Riot-torn Montreal cooled off Friday as merchants counted damage running into thousands of dollars and National Hockey League officials hoped calm would prevail when the New York Rangers come to town Saturday night.

After seven hours of turmoil described as the worst in Montreal since the anti-conscription riots of World War II, some semblance of order was restored early Friday morning by police.

But the main issue still steamed as hot as ever—the suspension of Maurice (The Rocket) Richard, the idol of the fans and one of Montreal's greatest hockey stars.

Richard himself went on television and radio Friday night and asked "everyone to get behind" the Canadians "so that no further harm will be done."

The rocket said he will take his punishment and be back next year. Richard made his appeal in both French and English.

Fans Show Wrath

Fans, as well as many persons unable to gain admittance to the forum for Thursday night's game between Montreal and the Detroit Red Wings, were fired to fury at Richard's suspension.

Clarence Campbell, Canadian-born president of the league, on Wednesday had banned The Rocket from the ice for the rest of the scheduled season and the Stanley Cup playoffs. This would be comparable in the United States to the suspension of a Babe Ruth or Ted Williams just before the World Series.

Police estimated more than 100 persons were arrested—many with their pockets jammed with loot from store windows after the riot spilled out from the hockey game into jammed St. Catherine St. A trail of damage covered 15 blocks and one jewelry store owner quickly estimated his loss at \$7,000.

Campbell Blamed

Statements flew left and right Friday, many bitter and others cautious. Campbell denied a report that he planned to resign. Mayor Jean Drapeau blamed Campbell for the riotous demonstration, and said the league president's decision to attend the game was "a manifest error of judgment."

Campbell arrived at the game midway in the first period, and many in the jammed forum throng of 14,000 began to demonstrate. Detroit, battling Montreal for first place, led at the end of the first period 4-1, and the demonstration was fanned as spectators threw programs, overshoes, peanuts, pennies, eggs, tomatoes and other debris. Most of it was aimed at Campbell.

(Continued on next page)

Coaches Frown On Bonus Shot

KANSAS CITY (AP)—The National Assn. of Basketball Coaches recommended Friday that the controversial bonus shot be eliminated from the three-throw rules.

The coaches would alter the rules to allow one free throw on the first eight common fouls each half for each team. Two free throws would be allowed on subsequent common fouls. This change was voted 64-31.

The coaches voted down a proposal that would put a time limit on ball possession for the offensive team.

Rules Group Slated

Their recommendations will go to the national basketball rules committee. That group will be in session here Sunday through Tuesday noon.

The coaches' recommendations include one that would give defensive players the two inside positions on free throws.

Under the present setup for the free throw positions defensive and offensive players alternate along the lanes.

Pro Rules Dropped

The coaches disapproved a motion to adopt the professional rules as a package deal. Another proposal, which would widen the free throw lanes from six to 12 feet also lost.

The coaches will meet again Saturday to consider other possible recommendations for rules changes.

Solons Boss Sings Blues on Hitting

YUMA, Ariz. (AP)—Loss of four straight games in the Desert Coast League—mostly because of light hitting—Friday had Sacramento Solon Manager Tony Freitas singing the blues.

"When are they going to start getting the bat on the ball?" he asked after the Solons dropped a 6-2 Thursday night game to Oakland.

The Sacramentans collected only four hits off two Oakland pitchers but Freitas expressed confidence that "Those fellows are better hitters than they're shown thus far."

Albany Tops Saxons, 47-35; St. Helens, Baker, Ponies Advance in Tourney Rounds

By AL LIGHTNER
Statesman Sports Editor

McARTHUR COURT, Eugene.—(Special)—The Eugene Axemen and Medford's Black Tornado steamed into the finals of the 37th Oregon Class A High School Basketball Tournament here Friday night. The Axemen, rated among the state's elite during the regular campaign, and runners-up to Milwaukie for the 1954 championship, swept by Central Catholic by a 73-46 score, and the Southern Oregon Tornado, voted Oregon's No. 1 prep team during most of the season, clipped Cleveland High, the Portland champion, by a close 42-37 count.

The Axemen and Medford will collide Saturday night at 8:45 o'clock for the championship and if Eugene plays like it did Friday night, it looks like the state's No. 1 ranked team will go home only second-best. The Tornado

Doubt Clouds Move by Ted

Wife Trouble Nixes Return of Williams

MIAMI (AP)—Ted Williams, retired Boston Red Sox outfielder, told The Associated Press through an intermediary Friday "that my mind is so filled with other things I can't think of returning to baseball right now."

Williams, who retired at the end of last season but is being asked to return by the club, would not answer the telephone himself but relayed his replies through a friend.

Doubt Expressed

"Honestly, I don't know what I will do," the friend-quoted Williams as saying when asked if he intended to join the Red Sox this spring.

Williams had come to Miami from his fishing camp to confer with attorneys. His wife is seeking separate maintenance and the two have been unable to agree on a financial settlement. It is believed Williams was referring to the money hassle when he said "other things."

Wife Holds Up Deal

Previously Williams had indicated that he would not return to baseball without reaching an agreement with his wife. The Red Sox have sent him a contract, reportedly for \$100,000, for the coming season. The season opens April 12.

Johnny Orlando, veteran Red Sox clubhouse attendant at the club camp in Sarasota, said that if "Ted's personal affairs were settled, he'd be here in 20 minutes." The two are the closest of friends.

PCC Will Cast Negative Vote

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The Pacific Coast Conference will vote against the 1955 football television plan proposed by the NCAA.

"The conference has decided to cast a negative vote, but intends to see if the plan is adopted by the NCAA membership before deciding to what extent, if any, Pacific Coast Conference members may participate in it," said Victor O. Schmidt, commissioner of the PCC.

The PCC had submitted to the NCAA television committee a plan for extensive regional televising, but under national control. Schmidt said that the NCAA plan now being voted on contained some regional provisions, but did not measure up to what the PCC desired.

Schmidt pointed out that while Friday's announcement discloses the PCC vote as an NCAA member, it does not reveal how the conference schools would cast their individual ballots as NCAA members.

Hebert Grabs Lead in Open

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP)—Handsome Jay Hebert made a second par busting swing around the Lakewood golf course Friday to grab a three stroke lead at the halfway mark in the \$12,500 St. Petersburg Open Tournament.

The 32-year-old New Orleans Frenchman playing out of Woodmere, N. Y., posted a seven under par 65 for 36-hole total of 131 and a margin of three blows over Cary Middlecoff, the Memphis professional.

"It was one of those days when everything was easy," Hebert said.

Pheister Signed As Tigard Coach

EUGENE (AP)—Ron Pheister, University of Oregon football center the past four seasons, has signed to coach the Tigard High School team.

Pheister said he had decided on a coaching career instead of playing professionally with the San Francisco 49ers, who picked him in the recent college draft.

Favorites Top Golf Tourney

PINEHURST, N. C. (AP)—Co-medalists Mary Patton Janssen and Mrs. Mae Murray Jones, accompanied by national champion Barbara Romack and Pat Lesser, led the way Friday as favorites proceeded uncashed through the second round of the North and South Golf Tourney.

Last year's U. S. junior champion, Wiffi Smith, collegian Virginia Denney and the Baltimore pair of Mary Ann Downey and Mrs. Maurice Glick also came through handsomely to gain places in Saturday's quarter finals.

Miss Lesser, Seattle University student, was one over par as she whipped Mrs. H. S. Semple, Sewickley, Pa., 7 and 6. A few weeks ago Pat beat the Pennsylvania, 6 and 5, in the South Atlantic meet in Florida. Friday Pat didn't lose a hole, turning five up with a steady 38.

VFW State Pin Tourney Draws Marion Teams

Two teams representing Marion Post No. 661, Veterans of Foreign Wars, will go to Beaverton today to bowl in the annual VFW State Tourney.

Team No. 1 includes Maury Wodgewoda, Keith Crane, Jim Fortner, Al Russell, Bob Bailey and Karl Valleau. Team No. 2 includes Don Lutz, Cliff Maison, Tony Vittone, Bob Haugen, Chuck Drees and Al Bakke.

Ransom Jackson of the Chicago Cubs was a teammate of Bobby Layne on the Texas Christian football team and played in the 1946 Cotton Bowl game.

FRIDAY'S RESULTS

(Championship)
Eugene 73, Central Catholic 46.
Medford 42, Cleveland 37.
(Fourth place)
Albany 47, South Salem 35.
St. Helens 68, Mac-Hi 47.
(Consolation)
Milwaukie 70, Redmond 37.
Baker 68, North Bend 59.

SATURDAY'S GAMES

(Championship)
8:45 p.m. Medford vs. Eugene.
Third Place
7:30 p.m. Central Catholic vs. Cleveland.
(Fourth Place)
2:45 p.m. Albany vs. St. Helens.
(Consolation)
1:30 p.m. Baker vs. Milwaukie.

showed little of the dash that won them their tourney spot and high ranking on the weekly polls as they barely got by Cleveland in the final contest Friday night.

Attendance records also took a beating Friday when 9,141 screaming fans set a new mark for a night tourney series. So far 62,114 have piled into McArthur Court in the first three days of the high school classic. Last year's all time high of 69,573 for all games is assured of being topped Saturday night in the championship finals.

In Friday's other battles, Milwaukie rolled over Redmond by a 70-37 score and Baker eliminated North Bend 69-59 in the consolation flight. Thus Milwaukie and Baker meet Saturday at 1:30 p.m. for the tourney's fifth-place trophy.

South Salem's Saxons, hoping for a fourth place finish after their loss to Central Catholic Thursday, played another poor game Friday, losing to Albany 47-35. This one knocks the Saxons from the tourney and puts Albany up against St. Helens Saturday, at 2:45 o'clock, for the fourth place trophy. St. Helens rapped Mac-Hi 63-47 Friday for the right to meet Albany.

Cleveland and Central Catholic are to play Saturday night at 7:30 o'clock for third place.

The Saxons, who seemed to fall to pieces following their opening-round victory over Hillsboro, losing to Central Catholic Thursday by a 45-31 score, had another sad outing against Albany Friday.

Dick Ballantyne's South Salerns tried for 58 field goals in the fray, but connected only 11, for a miserable shooting average of .190. Tommy Holman's Bulldogs meanwhile took but 31 shots, hit 12 and "batted" 387.

Stamps Leads Scorers

Don Stamps and Pete Wilfert were the lads who did the most damage, the former tallying 23 points, the latter 15. No Salem player got into double scoring figures.

South Salem led 10-8 at the end (Continued on next page)

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