



# SPORTSLIGHTNER

by Al Lightner

Both in Top Shape . . .

## Christmas Rest Given Rose Bowl Grid Teams

PASADENA, Calif. (AP)—Michigan State and UCLA, rivals in the 42nd edition of the Rose Bowl Jan. 2, wound up one phase of their preparations Saturday and headed into the final week of drills with both squads in excellent physical shape.

## Beavers Wait Dixie Tourney

OREGON STATE COLLEGE, Corvallis—Special)—Out of action briefly due to the holidays, the Oregon State Beavers are awaiting their cross-country jaunt to Raleigh, N. C., and the annual Dixie Basketball Classic.

The Beavers will leave here in mid-week for the three-day tournament, which gets under way Thursday and exists Friday and Saturday.

After losing their first three games this season, to Oregon, Colorado and Baylor, Coach Slat's young Beavers have won three of the last four. They toppled Wyoming, Michigan and Northwestern, and in the two games with the Big Ten foes the Staters have provided their supporters with good reason to believe Gill has come up with a promising team for conference play.

The performances of Dave Gambee, Ken Nanson, Wayne Moss, Jerry Crimins, Dick Wilson and Larry Paulus against Michigan and Northwestern were sharp. Sophomores Gambee and Nanson were particularly impressive.

Following their games at Raleigh the Beavers swing into conference play, opening at Washington State on January 6-7 and then playing at Southern California January 13-14. First home games for OSC will be with Stanford on January 20-21. Washington plays here January 27-28.

OSC plays North Carolina State in their first game at Raleigh.

## Bearcats Eye Thursday Mix

Idled by the holidays, the Willamette Bearcats swing back into basketball action on Thursday of this week, playing the Portland University Pilots in Howard Hall on the PU campus in Portland.

It will be the return match for Coach Johnny Lewis' Bearcats, and they'll be out to score a clean sweep over the Pilots of Mentor Al Negretti.

In the first game, played here, the Bearcats defeated Portland in a thrill-packed overtime 61-60 as Bill Turley fired in the winning basket in the final seconds of the extra period. Willamette had built up a good lead over the Pilots, but then saw Portland tie the score just at the finish of the regular game.

Lewis will again test his zone defense at the Portland club, as it gave the Pilots considerable trouble in the opener.

Willamette's record is now five wins, four losses. Portland has a 6-2 mark, having lost only to the Bearcats and St. Mary's thus far this campaign.

## PARAKEET LEADS CHEERS

MUSKOGON, Mich. (AP)—The Muskogon Heights High School teams have a first all of their own. It's a parakeet which gives out with a yell about the school's nickname.

With a little prompting, Pretty Boy, which has never seen a game, will come forth with: "Yes, Tigers, Tigers, Tigers."

## REAL SNAPPER

TRENTON, Ont. (AP)—Lorne Smith knows that guns aren't the only hazards in hunting. He stepped on a snapping turtle in the Bay of Quinte Marshes and the turtle promptly bit him, piercing his boots.

## Santa Anita Opens Monday

ARCADIA, Cal. (AP)—Santa Anita Park, California's winter showplace race track, opens its 19th season Monday on a holiday note, with 50,000 or more fans expected to attend the post-Christmas festivities.

Launching its 55-day meeting, the management features the \$30,000 added Palos Verdes handicap. Top sprinters, including the Rex Ellsworth's El Drag and Llangollen's Porterhouse, were nominated for the six-furlong dash.

During the course of the meeting 32 stakes worth an aggregate of \$1,055,000 in added money will be presented.

Included are the track's four \$100,000 specials — the Maturity, January 28, the Santa Anita handicap, February 25, the Santa Anita Derby, March 3, and the San Juan Capistrano on closing day, March 11.

## Roen Champs In Volleyball

CITY VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE (Final Standings)

Roan Typewriter	W	L	Pct.
Y Gays	7	1	.875
Calvary Baptist	6	2	.750
First Baptist	5	3	.625
Blue Lake Packers	3	3	.500
Merritt Davis	2	6	.250
Loder Brothers	2	6	.250
EBB	2	6	.250
State Attorneys	1	7	.125

YMCA city volleyball league played this week with the Roan Typewriter team emerging as champions after their victory over the Y Gays, 11-6, 15-13. Calvary Baptist beat the State Attorneys, 15-7, 15-12, to move into a second place tie with the Y Gays.

Scheduled as a finale for the 1955 league will be a jamboree for both the top ranking teams and the low ranking teams in league standings after the first of the year.

Following the jamboree the Salem YMCA will begin tryouts for the A and B varsity teams and also begin organization of the city recreation-YMCA church volleyball leagues.

# Browns Favored to Nip Los Angeles

## Cal Subdues Dartmouth

## Bears Snare 78-59 Victory

## Coast Club Takes Easy Win in Tilt

BERKELEY, Calif. (AP)—The University of California's basketball team took an early 14-3 lead Saturday and went on to a 78-59 victory over Dartmouth. Larry Friend flipped in 20 points for the winners.

Larry Blades connected on a long field goal as the game started but that was the last time Dartmouth was ahead. Friend hit on three quick floor shots then the Bears never were headed.

At the half, Cal held a 44-22 lead. Star Hoopers Stopped

Ron Judson and Jim Francis, key men in the Dartmouth offense, were stopped without a field goal in the first half.

It was the third straight loss for the Indians who now have a 5-3 record. Before losing three games in four days to Stanford, Southern California and Cal, the Indians had boasted the best defense in the nation.

The 78 points Cal collected Saturday were the most Dartmouth has allowed this year.

Cal Average Good

Cal, particularly accurate from the floor before halftime, finished the game with a 38 per cent average for field goals. Dartmouth hit on only five of its first 20 floor shots but ended the game with a 37 per cent average.

Most of Cal's field goals were scored on long shots made necessary by an effective Dartmouth zone defense that stopped the lay-ups.

California now has a 5-1 record. It lost the season's opener to St. Mary's.

Dartmouth (33) (18) California Judson (15) F (20) Friend Donahoe (17) F (10) Blake Francis (10) C (9) Asplund Ross (10) G (10) Robinson Blades (11) G (5) Arrillaga

Subs: Dartmouth—Carruthers, Douglas, E. Julian, A. California—McIntosh, 2, Mastrov, 7, Hazler, 5, Diaz, 6, Hess, 4.

## Injury Mars Jump Tryouts

SPOUT SPRINGS, Ore. (AP)—The first jumping tryouts of the U.S. Olympic ski training camp were marred Saturday when Bill Purcell, Lebanon, N.H., broke an arm during a landing.

Purcell, taken to a Walla Walla, Wash., hospital for treatment, apparently was tipped over on the landing by a strong gust of wind. The blustery weather had handicapped the tryouts all afternoon.

Marvin Crawford, Steamboat Springs, Colo., took the lead for one of the combined berths on the final U.S. Nordic team when he sailed 207 feet on his third jump.

Crawford had placed third in the cross country run Wednesday. The two feats gave him a total of 463.5 points toward becoming a member of the squad. Final positions will not be decided, however, until further cross country and jumping trials are held.

Runnerup to Crawford is Lynn Levy, New Orleans, with 435.3 points, and Russell Cary, a Colorado entrant, with 433.3.

## Colorado A-M Next for UO's

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON, Eugene (Special)—Two more games remain on the University of Oregon basketball schedule in December. Coach Bill Borchert's Ducks play host to Colorado A&M on December 27-28, Tuesday and Wednesday.

The Ducks then go idle until January 7 when the Portland University Pilots play here. First conference action finds the California Bears here January 13-14, but the Ducks play Washington in a non-counting game here on January 10.

The Oregon record for the six games now played is two wins and four losses. The Ducks downed Oregon State in their first game, then lost to Colorado and to Brigham Young twice before defeating Northwestern University. Michigan downed the Webfoots in the sixth game.

Max Anderson, who is having his biggest season for the Ducks, is the team's leading scorer and rebounder. Phil McHugh and Jerry Ross have filled adequately at the guard positions for Oregon, but Borchert has been having difficulty finding the best set of forwards to work into the regular unit. He has tried a number of aspirants there.

## The Oregon Statesman



8-(Sec. 1) Statesman, Salem, Ore., Sun., Dec. 25, '55

## The Babe Holds Bebe



FORT WORTH, Tex. (AP)—Mrs. Babe Diddrickson Zaharias says she will visit with longtime friends, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond L. Bowen. Mrs. Zaharias flew here from Galveston, where she has been undergoing X-ray treatment for pains in her leg. (AP Wirephoto)

## Basketball SCORES

California 78, Dartmouth 59

## Halas Honored As Pro Coach

WASHINGTON (AP)—George Halas, owner-coach of the Chicago Bears, Saturday was named outstanding professional coach of 1955 by the Touchdown Club of Washington.

It was a somewhat surprising selection in view of the fine record turned in by a local coach, Joe Kuharich of the Washington Redskins.

The club announced that the contest between Halas and Kuharich was close but noted that since Halas has announced 1955 was his last season as a coach, "it is particularly fitting that one who has done so much for professional football should be honored with this award."

National Football League Commissioner Bert Bell will present Halas a trophy at the club's annual awards banquet Jan. 7.

## Knox Handed Complete OK

LOS ANGELES (AP)—UCLA's passing halfback Ronnie Knox definitely will be able to play in the Rose Bowl game Jan. 2, his physician said Saturday.

Dr. Walter Scott, after looking at the new X-ray pictures of Ronnie's ankle—broken in the Washington game—declared:

"Ronnie has made a remarkable recovery to date. X-rays now show healing sufficiently advanced to permit full activity with the squad. Ankle protection should be maintained, however.

"I will make a double check examination next Wednesday, but I fully expect him to play in the Rose Bowl game" against Michigan State.

Coach Red Sanders of the Bruins said he was much pleased but added "I will have to be guided by how much limit there is to Ronnie's movements."

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Washington Senators announced Friday that three young pitching prospects have been signed up and assigned to minor league farm clubs.

They are Joe Langhammer, Paul Fiore and Joe Vau.

Langhammer, a righthander from the South Dakota Semipro league, is ticketed for the Senators' double-A club, Chattanooga of the Southern association. Fiore, a righthander from Providence, R. I., and Vau, a lefthander from Newport, R. I., have been assigned to Erie, Pa., of the class-D Pony league.

## Rams Figured As Underdog

By BOB MYERS  
LOS ANGELES (AP)—The machine-like Cleveland Browns, appearing in the title game for the sixth straight year, are favored to defeat the surprising Los Angeles Rams two days hence for the 1955 championship of the National Football League.

The Browns' margin of favoritism is slim, and few would be too surprised if the injury-beset Rams pulled another of a series of upsets Monday afternoon.

But harking back to one year ago, when the forces of Coach Paul Brown humiliated a great Detroit Lion team, 56-10, the cause looks bleak for the Rams and their coach Sid Gillman, who already has achieved amazing success in his freshman year in professional football.

Attendance in Memorial Coliseum is expected to range from 60,000 up, provided the weather is satisfactory. The Rams have averaged 56,000 in their six home league games this season.

This annual struggle for the NFL crown will be televised nationally over the National Broadcasting Co. network, with the Los Angeles area blacked out.

Kickoff time is 1 p.m., Pacific Standard Time.

Herr Otto Graham, the field wizard of the Browns, led the club to nine victories, two losses and one tie in winning the Eastern Conference title.

Quarterback Norman Van Brocklin and his patchwork Rams won (Cont. page 2, col. 1)

## Armchair QB's To Get Feast In Bowl Tilts

By WILL GRIMSLEY  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS  
A holiday football feast is in store for the nation's armchair quarterbacks, beginning with the pro championship game Monday in Los Angeles and ending with the college bowl jousts Jan. 2.

The spacing of the attractions due to the extended week-end makes tempting television fare for the inveterate knob-turner, who can gorge himself as fever before.

While an estimated 716,500 will view the far-flung program in the flesh, added millions will enjoy the conflicts on their screens.

Pro Tilt First  
The National Football League playoff game between the Los Angeles Rams, Western Conference title winners, and the Cleveland Browns, kings of the East, will be televised by NBC, starting at 1 p.m. Pacific Standard Time.

The Browns rule a five-point choice over the Rams in the game which will attract some 90,000.

The North and South Shrine game at Miami, Fla., untelevised but broadcast by Mutual, won't conflict, starting at 5:15 p.m. PST.

Because Christmas and New Year's Day fall on the Sabbath, most of the bowl games have been sandwiched around Sunday, falling on Saturday and Monday. The big day, of course, is Monday Jan. 2.

Gator Bowl Saturday  
Next Saturday the Gator Bowl at Jacksonville, Fla., pitting Auburn against Vanderbilt, will be televised by CBS, starting at 11 a.m. PST. It will be possible to get the Blue-Gray game at Montgomery, Ala., starting at 11:30 a.m., and the East-West Shrine game at San Francisco, kickoff at 2 p.m., both put on the screens by NBC.

Only on Jan. 2 will the television viewer be confronted with the quandary of which channel to seize, since three of the major bowls are in direct conflict. But even so he can have four or five hours of solid viewing, with the (Cont. page 2, Col. 6)

This is quite a day for the kiddies, and for at least 284 of their pappies. It's estimated that 284 electric train sets were deposited locally by the ol' boy with the red nose and white whiskers early this a.m. On three occasions the ol' boy himself was caught operating the things when Junior bounced from bed and roared into the living room . . . We hope that everyone got everything he or she wanted from St. Nick, and then some.

We doubt that the following items were actually delivered this morn to individuals and institutions on the local and surrounding sports front, but rather imagine they'll be welcome should Mr. Claus make a return trip. Then too, some of 'em may yet be found in the deeper portions of the fireplace stockings:

The Salem Senators in general would be extremely happy were they to find stuffed in their sock a brightly colored banner with this inscription: "Northwest League Champions, 1955" . . . Uncle Hugh Luby would no doubt settle for the written guarantee that Medford will be the league's 8th member . . . The average golfer, including Luby, would trade all else for a ball that will go straight when hit. The lopsided ones now used are too hard to find after being hit . . .

## WU Would Like Assurance of Giants' Return

Willamette University would be grateful for the assurance that the New York Football Giants will again use their facilities for training, and should any long-legged, 6-foot 10-inch basketball players or half a dozen Vic Backlunds be found beneath the WU tree, so much the better. You'd hear no complaints from J. Lewis, T. Ogdahl and J. Long . . . North Salem High would gladly settle for football and basketball conquests of South Salem. And on the other hand, South Salem will be happy to have things left just as they are . . .

Down at Corvallis they have little hope of seeing their Beavers again occupied in the NCAA playoffs come March. But if Santa should deliver the San Francisco Dons and their Bill Russell again, few will complain. It'll be big business at the gate with USF on the program . . . The U of Oregon didn't have much on the "please provide" list this trip. The Webfoots figure Mr. Claus made his visit early to Eugene—on November 19, to be exact, when the Oregons walloped the Oregon Staters, 28-0 . . .

## All in All, It's Been a Pretty Good Year

All in all, it hasn't been too bad a year, looking at it from a sports angle. The town Senators won half of the pennant, didn't lose their shirts financially (for the first time in years) and provided their supporters with one of the most interesting young clubs in the history of the pro sport here . . . The NY Giants again made the summer a much brighter one with their presence, the Willamette Relays were their annual whopping success and the golf course bulged at the seams as more and more guys and gals took up the fine outdoor sport.

The village schools won no major championships, but did acceptably well in view of the circumstances encountered along the way. Most of the thousands of hunters and anglers had few complaints during their favorite seasons. The TV fan was given a wide and wonderful assortment of football and basketball games; horse racing, boxing and rassin' bouts for the best year he's ever had. Auto racing, wrestling, archery and boat racing all played active parts during the year, and in most cases were well attended. Bowling was again a big item for those who like to participate rather than watch, and although the major tourneys escaped it this year, the Salem Gun Club had its interesting innings.

S. Claus did okeh by most of us a year ago, and we'll betcha he's tried hard again this trip. We hope that he's done as well for all of us as he has for those in our house. We'll never know how he got down so small a chimney with so much stuff . . .

## Browns Arrive For Title Tilt

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The Cleveland Browns arrived in a light rain Saturday for their National Football League title game Monday.

Betting Record Set By Illinois Track  
CHICAGO (AP)—A record total of \$204,991,019 was wagered at Illinois thoroughbred racing tracks in 1955.

The Illinois racing board's annual report Friday disclosed this amount was bet by 2,939,772 patrons at the five Chicago area and two downstate tracks.

Another new record was set in purse and stake distribution with \$8,528,790 paid for the 2329 races run.

## Christmas GREETINGS

As we celebrate His Natal Day, we wish for everybody the blessings of friendship, love and understanding that are the very essence of Christmas.

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