

District 8 Basket Tests Face Vik, Saxon Squads

North Salems Host Spartans

Southerners to Play Albany High Bulldogs

It's more crucial District 8 basketball season for both the North Salem Vikings and South Salem Spartans tonight, with Ken Hunt's Northerners drawing the home assignment. The Vikings play the Corvallis Spartans in the Vik Villa, starting at eight o'clock.

Dick Ballantyne's Saxons move to Albany for their mix, going against Tommy Holman's Bulldogs, also at eight o'clock.

Another district fracas tonight finds the Sweet Home Huskies at Lebanon, and on Saturday night the Bend Lava Bears visit the Spartans at Corvallis.

After early volleys in the district, the young race looks like this: South Salem and Albany tied for the lead with two wins and no losses, which throws the big beam on their game tonight at Albany. Corvallis, owner of 1-1 mark, after losing to South Salem here earlier in the week. Bend with a 1-1 mark also, after losing to South Salem and defeating North Salem last week. North Salem, Lebanon and Sweet Home all with 0-1 records.

After a two-game slump in which their scoring went kaput, the Vikings returned to form Tuesday night, lashing the McMinnville Grizzlies by a 66-51 score. The comeback came none too soon, for further district losses for the Vikings could prove disastrous when the final compilations are made.

In spilling Corvallis by the 65-52 margin of Tuesday night, Ballantyne's Southerners stamped themselves as real threats for the championship. But more will be known about that status after tonight's clash at Albany, which hasn't been an easy place for Salem victories in the past.

Dan Torrey's Sweet Homes gave Albany a real go Tuesday at Sweet Home, losing by only four points, 56-52, and will be heavily favored to upend a weak Lebanon team in their fixture tonight.

OCE, Dragons Do Team Act

DALLAS—(Special)—The Oregon College Wolves of Monmouth and the Dallas High Dragons will do a "team" act here Friday night, by playing in a basketball double-header at the high school gym.

Coach Gordy Kunke's Dragons, who were allowed a requested postponement of their scheduled game with Molalla, will go against the OCE Frosh in the 7:30 o'clock first game of the twin bill. Then at 9 p. m. the OCE Varsity plays Southern Oregon's Red Raiders in a regular Oregon Collegiate Conference clash.

The second OCE-Southern Oregon game, Saturday night, will be played in the OCE gym at Monmouth. Dallas' postponed game with Molalla is to be played on February 3 here.

After winning six in a row, the Dragons have lost their last three games, to Corvallis and Marshfield (2). They will be out to break the losing streak in the Frosh clash Friday.

OCE is out to bust a losing streak also, of eight straight games. The Southern Oregon team, coached by Ted Schopf, is rated as one of the best in the OCC this season.

'Sucker Shift' Issue Shunned

LONG BEACH, Calif. (U)—The football rules committee of the NCAA Thursday night decided to stay out of the "sucker shift" problem and let the coaches handle the situation.

Chairman Fritz Crisler of Michigan pointed out that the American Football Coaches Assn., in its convention in Los Angeles earlier this week, voted to let its committee on ethics take charge of the false-start issue, a questionable type of play which draws a team offense and gives it a penalty.

"The NCAA rules committee supports this move enthusiastically and the coaches are to be commended for their action," Crisler said.

Juniors Open Hoop Play

Salem's Junior High League opens basketball play today, with three games involving all six of the circuit members. The jamboree was held last week.

Two of the openers are to be played at 4 p. m. today, the other at 8 p. m. Cal Bonney's Leslie Blues in one of four o'clockers, at Leslie, and Johnny Dalke's Parrish Grays go against Glen Collins' Parrish Pioneers, at Parrish, in the other.

The night game, at Parrish, will feature Tom Warren's Leslie Warriors and Fabian Nelson's Parrish Cardinals.



Statesman, Salem, Ore., Fri., Jan. 13, 1956 (Sec. IV)—1



Received notice this week that the Salem (Sprig) chapter of the Oregon Duck Hunters Ass'n will hold its first meeting of 1956 come Tuesday evening, February 7, at the Salem Gun Club. A meeting was scheduled for January, but the Salem Gun Club was staging a pot-luck dinner on the intended duck meeting night, which put a damper on the January get-together. . . . Many sports organizations normally suspend meetings during the summer months due to many of the members being out of town on vacations. The Sprig Chapter of the Duck Hunters Ass'n chose to suspend meetings during the months of November and December due to the open waterfowl season, and also due to the fact that Thanksgiving and Christmas interfered.

The Willamette Valley Retrievers Club also suspends meetings during the waterfowl season. . . . We talked with Sprig Chapter president Robert Elstrom, and also with Mrs. Val Sloper the club's secretary, and learned that a survey of the members in part showed an inclination to hold off the meetings during November and December. Mrs. Sloper had the unfortunate experience of having to travel to the gun club and build a fire for the October meeting only to have a mere three members show up for the meeting. One would gather that the members showed little enthusiasm.

Senator Elstrom, when elected president during his absence from the election meeting, voiced his objections but was over-ruled on the grounds that the vice president would do all of the work, which he did well. Frank Fulton, who filled the V. P.'s seat, has since moved to the sunny south (California) where he can fight water for a while.

Sprig Chapter Could Be Important
The Sprig Chapter of the Oregon Duck Hunters Ass'n. still has a strong backbone and could go far. However, we are inclined to think that the job it had in mind should have been (Cont. Page 2, Col. 1)

Linfield Here Saturday . . .

Northwest Conference Race in Second Round

The Northwest Conference swings into its second round of basketball play this weekend, with all members seeing action either Friday or Saturday nights, or both. The Willamette Bearcats are booked for only one appearance, that on Saturday night in the WU Gym with Roy Helser's Linfield Wildcats at eight o'clock.

Elsewhere, the leading College of Idaho Coyotes come west to play Lewis & Clark on Friday and

Saturday nights at Portland, and then Pacific on Monday night at Forest Grove. At the same time, Whitman is at Pacific Friday and Saturday, and at Lewis & Clark on Monday.

In last week's commences, the Coyotes of Coach Len (Go) Yandle spilled Willamette twice and Linfield once, at Caldwell. Pacific and Lewis & Clark divided their pair; Whitman managed to nose out Linfield in one game while losing another to the Wildcats, and then still another to Willamette, and the Bearcats of Coach Johnny Lewis bounced back for the Monday victory over the Missionaries after absorbing the two expected losses at Caldwell.

Since the Coyotes have been picked as the potential conference winners for the second straight year, this will be a mighty important weekend for them. Just as in any other conference, the traveling team very often finds it difficult to win games on the road.

Crosby Golf Meet To Begin Today
PEBBLE BEACH, Calif. (U)—A younger generation of pro golfers gets one more chance Friday at two of the game's biggest names, Ben Hogan and Byron Nelson, both retired.

The two will tee off in Bing Crosby's charity golf tournament and both have served up scores indicating they are not here just to walk around the course. Hogan posted a 63 and Nelson a 63 in practice.

Fix Comments On Cage Rule

PORTLAND (U)—The NCAA could do nothing else than to decide to hold a small college basketball tournament, Eldon Fix, Lewis and Clark basketball coach, said Wednesday night.

"The NCAA had to come to this or it would have lost all its small colleges," he said.

Northwest Conference members believe the National Assn. of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) has done a good job for the smaller schools, he said, but is weak in the east. He viewed the NCAA tournament decision as a possible move to keep the NAIA from getting strong there.

Northwest Conference schools belong to both the NCAA and the NAIA. Fix heads the NAIA's regional committee.

Needy Rod & Gun Club Sets Contest on Sunday

MONITOR (Special)—The Needy Rod & Gun Club will hold its first merchandise shoot of the 1956 season Sunday, and will continue to have shoots on the third Sunday of each month thereafter. The club grounds are located on the Monitor-Barlow highway, three miles north of Monitor.

All shooters are welcome to compete in Sunday's meet, and lunch will be available on the grounds.

Albert Takes Reins of Pro Grid Team



SAN FRANCISCO—Owner Tony Morabito of the National Football League's San Francisco 49ers, right, takes the hand of Frankie Albert, named Thursday to head the Forty Niner coaching staff. Albert, who quarterbacked the 49ers for their first seven seasons, replaces Red Strader who was fired after an unsuccessful season last year. (AP Wirephoto)

Serra Slates Stayton Crew In C-C Clash

The Serra Catholic Sabers take on the Stayton Eagles tonight at the Army in one of four Capital Conference basketball games booked for the evening. All four clashes start at eight o'clock, and carry prelim engagements.

In the other three games Mt. Angel is at Silverton, Woodburn at Gervais and Cascade at North Marion.

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After two rounds of action Fred Graham's Staytons and Cal Hersey's Cascades are tied for the league lead, with Leo Grosjacques' Serras, Ordie Hoyer's Gervais Cougars, Marshall Barbour's Woodburns and Don Reed's Silvertons a step behind. Mt. Angel and North Marion have yet to win in loop action.

In Tuesday games Stayton downed Silverton 49-45, Serra toppled Gervais 64-50, Cascade spanked Mt. Angel 52-44 and Woodburn outscored North Marion 47-44.

Marion Motors Nabs 3rd Win
Marion Motors pulled further ahead of the field in the National League division of the city basketball loop last night with a 65-34 victory over the YMCA Dorm. Marion's Tom Gooding was red-hot with 22 points.

Marion's eagles have now won three, lost none. But right on their heels is Ren's Drive In, made up of ex-OCE hoopers, which last night edged M&M Plywood, 51-49, for its second win in as many starts.

Dave Chamberlain paced Ren's with 18 points. In other action, Wolgast's nipped State's Attorneys, 41-38.

American Leaguers in the loop return to action Thursday, with Future Insulators meeting Orcutt's Market; National Guard playing Silverton Christian, and Prison Officers meeting Salem Auto Parts.

Marion Motors (65)
Chanda (10) F
Holt (13) F
Watanabe (4) C
Zeigleman (8) G
Gray (8) G

YMCA (34)
(10) Wilson
(8) DeArmand
(12) Morgan
(5) Thompson
(4) Kelley

Reserves scoring: Marion Motors—M. Gooding 22; YMCA—Getting 4. Halftime score: Marion 40, Motors 24. Officials: Ecker and Banick.

Wolgast's (41)
Hilticker (6) F
Hall (2) F
Unruh (14) C
Bassett (6) G
Ponley (5) G

Reserves scoring: Wolgast's—Norton 2, Johnson 2. Officials: Banick and Kleinsmith.

M&M Plywood (49)
Russell (8) F
Macdonald (6) F
Stephenson (10) C
Cary (13) G
Bates (10) G

Ren's Drive-In (51)
(7) Willis
(6) Miller
(2) McCord
(8) Coleman
(2) Kreners

Reserves scoring: M&M—J. Carey 4; Ren's—Chamberlain 18, Zurlfuch 3, Ingalls 4. Halftime score: Ren's 20, M&M 21. Officials: Ecker and Kleinsmith.

Dons Given Best Wishes for Mark

BROOKLYN (U)—Long Island University, co-holder with Seton Hall of college basketball's winning record of 39 straight, Thursday sent its best wishes to the University of San Francisco team, which will try to match this winning streak when it meets Fresno State Friday.

A telegram from Len Karlin of the LIU public relations office to Phil Woolpert, USF coach, said: "Look forward to welcoming you into the thirty-nine straight club. Good luck to your fine team."

PCC Cage Teams In Second Heat; Cal at Oregon

Second round play in the Pacific Coast Conference takes place Friday and Saturday, with California facing Oregon at Eugene, Oregon State going against Southern California at Los Angeles, UCLA tangling with Washington State at Pullman and Idaho opposing Stanford at Palo Alto.

The Washington Huskies, who divided their opening series with Stanford last week, are idle this weekend.

The PCC game to be televised Saturday (2 p. m.) will be the second Oregon State-Southern Cal contest in Los Angeles.

As the squads roll into the second round of their new schedule, Johnny Wooden's UCLA Bruins picked as one of the potentials for the 1956 title are alone atop the standings. The Bruins downed Idaho twice last week. All other entries are tied with 1-1 records with the exception of Oregon. The Webfoots did not play last week and open their conference schedule with California Friday and Saturday.

All games start at eight o'clock with the exception of the Saturday afternoon featuring the Beavers and Trojans.

Mikan Plans Hoop Return

MINNEAPOLIS (U)—George Mikan, longtime basketball great, announced Thursday night he is coming out of retirement as the team's general manager to play with the Minneapolis Lakers in the National Basketball Assn.

Mikan, who amassed a 23.05 per game point average in eight years before his retirement in 1954, will be in the lineup here Saturday night when the Lakers meet Ft. Wayne, he said.

Mikan said his decision was prompted in part by 1,500 letters he reported receiving in the past six months asking him to put on a Laker uniform again.

"It was pointed out that, since I asked the people of this area to support the Lakers, I should practice what I preach and try to give them a boost," Mikan said.

"I don't expect to be as sharp as I was in past years but if I can just help to win a few games I will be contributing something to our drive to win back the support we had in the past."

Attendance here has slumped badly in view of the Lakers' 14-21 season record. The team currently is a few percentage points ahead of St. Louis in the NBA Western Division third place.

Morris Chalfen, Laker vice president who made the deal with Mikan, said he expected to team to get a big boost out of Mikan's return.

Laker Coach Johnny Kundla said it would be up to Mikan himself. (Cont'd on page 2, col. 7)

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