

HIGH CLIMBER

By DICK STRITE

Hobby Hobson's pitchers and catchers reported Tuesday, and Tex Oliver held a preliminary meeting of football prospects Monday and started official practice Tuesday—can spring be far away?

Yes, it certainly can. Spring can be very far away in spite of the sun shining while I'm giving this mill the one-two. Why say fellow, the toughest part of the basketball season hasn't even started, so don't sell Old Man Casaba short.

Starting as early as Thursday night the hoop wars really begin to hum. Six county independent quintets stage a playoff at Springfield high Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Then next Tuesday night the "A" and "B" high school all-stars of the county tangle with the first and second University of Oregon freshmen clubs in a Finnish fund benefit, with a game between the Junior Rubes and the Duckling "John Day Rangers" tossed in for good measure.

Wednesday in Portland the Rubenstein Oregonians and the McKee Bakers of Springfield open four-day campaigns for "A" and "B" division state A. A. U. championships, respectively. Thursday is the opening of the annual Lane county "B" league basketball tournament at McArthur court, an event rated the top athletic contest of the year by our country cousins and many Eugene residents as well.

Although no official announcement has been made, the district "B" play will probably be held at Junction City high the following Friday and Saturday. Then comes it, the state championship tournament with University high more of a cinch to represent this district than Oregon State to annex the northern division crown.

It appears quite likely Lane county might have two entries at Salem again this season. The county "B" contenders are rated considerably weaker than last season, but several quintets have shown great improvement during the past few weeks. While Pleasant Hill remains the outstanding contender, don't sell Oakridge short. The Warriors have the Salem habit, winning the state "B" title last season after finishing no better than runner-up in the county playoff.

Uni high might surprise critics. The Tide was rated pre-season favorite in the district 7, but actually Ray Hendrickson's aggregation has less individual talent than potential material on any of the other five league squads. The campus mentor has done a fine coaching job and displayed a team against Eugene high last week that measured up to the club that was a definite threat at Salem last year.

Of course the dying moments of the northern division season could be lived up if a relaxed Webfoot squad knocked over a Beaver team tightened up for the title-clinching tilt, or possibly with thoughts in Los Angeles and either Kansas City or Honolulu. That would be sumptuous, Oregon with

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Oregon-OSC Sports Rivalry This Week

Oregon-Oregon State athletic rivalry for the winter season will be brought to a close this week-end with five events scheduled for Eugene and Corvallis. The lone activity billed for the University campus is the second engagement between Webfoot and Orange wrestling teams, to be staged Friday afternoon. The more experienced Beaver matmen scored a 30-0 victory three weeks ago at Corvallis.

Both the Oregon varsity and freshman basketball teams invade Corvallis to conclude their annual series. Coach Howard Hobson takes his second-place varsity five the O. S. C. campus Friday evening and the freshmen stage their fourth and final brush with the Beaver yearlings Saturday night.

Oregon's undefeated varsity swimming team meets the Orange splashers for a second time this winter Saturday afternoon in Corvallis. The Webfoots already boast one victory over the Staters, 62 to 13, and will aim to repeat and win their conference winning streak to five straight.

Freshman tank teams of the two schools will meet in the Corvallis pool Saturday morning, also for a second time. The Ducklings won handsily in Eugene earlier in the month, 59 to 16.

Standings between the schools for the winter competition show that Oregon is three up in freshman basketball, one up in varsity and freshman swimming, three down in varsity basketball and one down in wrestling.

St. Mary's To Invade Junction City Tonight

JUNCTION CITY, Feb. 21.—(Special)—St. Mary's high of Eugene, fresh from a 20-19 upset over Eugene high will meet Junction City high in a district 7 league game here Wednesday night. The local Tigers are campaigning to move out of the league cellar. A second-team game will start at 7:30 p. m.

Washington Eliminates Washington State From Title Race

Huskies Defeat Cougars, 53-52

Bob Lindh Takes Big Lead In Scoring Drive

NORTHERN	W	L	Pts.	Opp.	Pct.
Oregon State	11	2	494	427	.846
Oregon	7	4	487	415	.836
Washington	7	6	502	564	.838
Washington	5	9	556	540	.867
Idaho	2	11	471	557	.854

Games Friday—Oregon at Ore. State. Games Saturday—Washington State at Idaho.

(Associated Press) Bobby Lindh, sophomore forward, increased his lead in the northern division, Pacific coast conference basketball scoring race as the Washington Huskies defeated the Washington State Cougars 53-52 Tuesday night to split their two-game Pullman series and definitely eliminate W. S. C. from the running.

Lindh scored 11 points to bring his total to date to 157. His nearest competitors are Bud Olson of Washington State, who has 123 and John Dick of Oregon, who has 120.

Lindh set a new scoring record for sophomore players at the University of Washington by his sharpshooting. The previous record of 146 points was set by Johnny Fuller during the season of 1931.

With the Huskies having but two games remaining, Lindh has little chance of hitting the Oregon division record of 191 set by Laddie Gale of Oregon in 1938.

The Huskies won on a freethrow by Bob Dorr, substitute forward, in the last half minute of play after Capt. Bill McDonald had pulled them into a 52-52 tie with only a minute left to play.

The victory gave the Huskies an even break with the Cougars in the intra-state schedule of four games for the season.

Summary:

WASHINGTON 53	FG	FT	PP	TP
Lindh	5	1	1	11
Nelson	2	0	0	4
Dorr	0	1	0	2
Shaffer	0	1	0	12
Thompson	1	0	0	0
McDonald	2	0	0	4
Schlichting	0	0	0	2
B. Voelker	0	4	3	16
J. Voelker	2	0	1	4
Stewart	0	0	0	2
TOTALS	21	11	8	53

W. S. C. 52	FG	FT	PP	TP
Olson	2	0	1	4
Chase	1	2	3	5
Gentry	5	2	4	12
Jennings	0	1	0	2
Lindeman	1	0	0	0
Butte	4	0	2	8
Gebert	4	0	1	9
Sundquist	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	23	4	14	52

Halftime Scores: Washington 25 Washington State 30. Missed Freethrows—Lindh, B. Voelker 2, J. Voelker 2, Shaffer, Olson 2, Gentry 3, Lindeman 1. Officials—Eira Hunter, Spokane; Emil Piluso, Portland.

Yoncalla Champs To Play Benefit Clash

YONCALLA, Ore., Feb. 21.—(Special)—Local fans will have their last opportunity to see the newly crowned Douglas county consolation champions of Yoncalla Thursday night, as they play here in a benefit program for the jaunt to the southern Oregon championship tournament at Ashland, next week.

An opponent has not been named as yet, but will probably be the Junior Rubes of Eugene.

Angels Lose To OCE After 19-Point Lead

MONMOUTH, Feb. 21.—(Special)—A 19-point first-half disadvantage failed to daunt Oregon College of Education basketball players who rallied last night in the second half to defeat Mount Angel, 38 to 26.

Benny Hall Develops Star Elks Club Leather Slingers

By JACK WELLS, JR. Friday night at the Eugene armory six great leather slingers from the local Elks club will appear for the first time in public. These amateur boxers have participated in private smokers and have been entered on many out-of-town cards, but Friday night they will all be on deck to take part in the gigantic program being sponsored by the local Elks for the Finnish benefit.

The Eugene fighters are all coached by Benny Hall, one time Golden Gloves champion of the 126-pound class and winner of many prominent boxing awards during his lifetime boxing career. Hall started boxing when he was five years old and has had his foot in the ring ever since, meeting and defeating many great amateurs during his time.

He quit boxing in 1923 to take up coaching boys who were interested in boxing and for ten years turned out many Golden Gloves champions. Hall has been with the local Elks club for the past three years and started with a few green kids who have advanced as champions in their own class. Among those boys is Wayne Dillingham, 18-year-old 175-pound A. A. U. champion and entrant in the National Golden Gloves tournament at San Francisco last year. Dillingham boxed his way through to the quarter finals before he was defeated and won his Golden Gloves by virtue of his

Oliver Starts Grid Drills

The University of Oregon's 1940 football season became a reality Tuesday when Coach Tex Oliver began spring practice with a large turnout of around 65 players participating in the first practice session.

The spring session will be staged on a three-day-week basis, Oliver stated, with a break at the end of the winter term next month. Pacific coast conference schools are limited to 30 such spring workouts.

The opening turnout included 23 members of the 1939 squad, eleven lettermen and twelve reserves. Sophomores and a few newcomers completed the list, which is one of the largest in history.

McKee Bakers Beat Albany, 57 To 20

ALBANY, Feb. 21.—(Special)—The McKee Bakers of Springfield, entrants in the state AAU "B" championship tournament, handed Albany's leading independent quintet, Equipment Sales and Service, a 57-20 walling here Tuesday night in a Finnish fund benefit feature, played before several hundred spectators.

The Springfield quintet took a 17-4 lead and never allowed the locals to get within striking distance, despite Palmer King's gift basket. The McKee player scored two points for Albany by mistake, but also collected 15 for his own club.

Howard Fox led the scoring with 18 points.

Summary:

McKEE 57	20	ALBANY
K. Fox 12	P	3 N. Rounds
P. King 15	F	6 R. Rounds
H. Fox 18	F	Murray
Holverson 2	G	2 Lenzie
K. King 7	G	8 Bush
P. Fox 2	S	3 P. King

(*) Scored for Albany.

Demaret, Penna Tie In Texas Tourney

HOUSTON, Texas, Feb. 21.—(Special)—Jolly Jimmy Demaret, impervious to pressure, sallies forth this afternoon to do right by the home folks.

He had done a handsome job of coming through for them by tying Tony Penna, Dayton, Ohio, professional, for the Western open lead at 293 and was the favorite for the 18-hole playoff.

Penna posted his 146-74-73—293 to take a lead he never knew he could reach—and the word went out to Demaret and Sammy Sneed of Shawnee-on-the-Delaware.

Coming to No. 17, they knew they could shoot par golf on the next two holes and tie Penna. Sneed folded and bogeyed No. 17, winding up in third place with 143-76-75—294.

Demaret calmly parred each hole and reported the day's finest score, 35-38—71, identical with River Oaks' par.

He paired it with his morning 76 to give him 146-76-71—293.

The winner of today's tilt pockets \$1,000; the runner-up \$750 of the \$5,000 in prize money. Sneed won \$500.

Ralph Guldash of Dallas, who won the title three times in a row before Byron Nelson took it last year, blew up for 145-77-81—303.

Nelson quit the tournament because of poor putting.

Additional Sports

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Willamette Wins Over Whitman In Overtimes

(Associated Press) As less than 30 seconds remained in the second overtime period of a Northwest Conference basketball game Tuesday night Murray and White fired field goals to give Willamette a 47-43 victory over Whitman at Walla Walla.

The contest was close throughout. At the end of the regulation final period it was deadlocked 39-39. After five minutes of overtime it was tied 43-43.

In another conference tilt Pacific university closed its home schedule by defeating Linfield college 40-39 at Forest Grove.

St. Mary's Beats Eugene, 20 to 19

Axemen Eliminated From District 7 League Race

DISTRICT 7	W	L	Pts.	Opp.	Pct.
University	7	0	298	128	1.000
Springfield	3	0	213	178	.825
St. Mary's	3	4	192	212	.529
Eugene	3	4	158	178	.429
Cottage Grove	2	5	214	244	.375
Junction City	1	6	142	186	.143

Games Wednesday—St. Mary's at Junction City. Games Friday—Cottage Grove vs. University. Games Saturday—Eugene at Junction City. Springfield at St. Mary's. Games Saturday—University at Roseburg. (Non-league).

Eugene high bowed out of the district 7 league basketball race Tuesday night by dropping a heart-breaking 20-19 decision to its intra-city rivals, St. Mary's high. The exit was anything but graceful because twice in the last five seconds the Axemen had opportunities to tie and win the game.

It was a close battle from the opening minute despite a six-point lead for the Axemen in the first five minutes of play, with the score being knotted three times and the advantage changing on six other occasions. But the big thrills came in the final 90 seconds after Ray Blatchley's basket on a free ball under the hoop cut the Saint lead to one point.

In the final stages the Galloping Gaels tried a stalling game with little success. Al Kuppenbender refused to try for one freethrow in the last minute in order to allow the Saints to keep command of the ball. But in the last 30 seconds Noel Dion chose to try for a free shot and missed, the Axemen taking command, but Dion took a free ball and missed a setup that would have salted the game for St. Mary's. Then in the last five seconds Dion fouled Bruce Frye.

The regular guard, who played as a sub Tuesday, barely missed the shot and Loren Skirvin crossed the foul line to attempt to curl in the winning basket. The ball rolled around the rim—and out. The game ended before either team could advance with the ball.

"Stonewall" Zilkowski gave St. Mary's first blood with a freethrow, but Blatchley's gift knotted the score. Bob Deller, Duane Marshall and Harold Hagg scored to give Eugene a 7-1 lead in the first five minutes. Although the Saints failed to score from the field they trailed by only a 7-5 margin at the end of the opening period.

Score Tied at 12-All Hagg opened the second period with his second one-hander from behind the key, but Kuppenbender collected St. Mary's first field goal after 10 minutes of play to cut the margin to 9-7. Midway in the period Joe Taubenkrau canned a

preliminary game the Pleasant Hill girls' volleyball team won 30-25.

Verlin David paced the Broncos in the close-checking game with 16 points. Coburg held a 12-6 halftime advantage.

Summary:

COBURG 30	13	PLEAS. HILL
V. David 16	F	3 Jones
Schwartz 4	F	T. Staley
D. David 10	C	4 G. Staley
Joranger 8	G	4 Neet
Stonberg 2	G	2 Macklin
Jones 2	S	2 Bushnell

Coburg Broncos Upset Pleasant Hill 30-13

PLEASANT HILL, Feb. 21.—(Special)—Coburg's Broncos, contenders for the National division title, scored a surprisingly easy 30-13 victory over Pleasant Hill high, American division champions, in an inter-division B-league basketball game here Tuesday night.

In preliminary games the Pleasant Hill girls' volleyball team won 30-25. Verlin David paced the Broncos in the close-checking game with 16 points. Coburg held a 12-6 halftime advantage.

Basketball

Oklahoma A. & M. 27	Oklahoma 35
Kansas 44	Kansas State 23
Notre Dame 56	Marquette 39
Pittsburgh 68	West Virginia 49
Alabama 34	Mississippi State 26
Santa Clara 52	San Francisco 38
Washington 53	Washington State 52
Willamette 47	Whitman 43
Pacific 40	Linfield 39
East Wash. 47	West Wash. 41
California 38	Olympic Club 29
St. Mary's 20	Eugene 19
Springfield 30	Cottage Grove 22
Commerce 21	Grant 26
Jefferson 26	Benion 25
Franklin 45	Edwards 24
Pendleton 34	Hermiston 27
Roosevelt 48	Washington 22
Dallas 41	Silverton 20
Salem 34	Oregon City 30
Corvallis 22	Sweet Home 14
Melilla 45	Lebanon 29
Columbia 27	Rainier 31
McMinnville 24	Milwaukie 17

Coach Lists 'B' All-Stars

Sixteen Lane county "B" high school basketball players from 10 schools have been selected by Virg Kingsley of Oakridge to meet the University of Oregon freshmen in one of three games in the Finnish fund benefit at McArthur court next Tuesday night.

Kingsley and Ray Hendrickson of University high were named as coaches of the "B" and "A" all-star quintets because their 1939 quintets represented this area in the 1939 state tournament.

In announcing his squad, Kingsley explained that he failed to select players from Vida, Blue River and Crow because he had not seen these teams play this season. The coast teams were eliminated because of travel difficulties.

Kingsley notified the following players yesterday: Albert Goode, Elmiria; Alton Wheeler, Creswell; Lorang and L. Davis, Lorane; Verlin Davis and Erwin Schwartz, Coburg; Wayne Hickson and Delano Fox, Thurston; Walter Aldridge, Santa Clara; "Ink" Smith, Mohawk; Grant Staley and Neil Jones, Pleasant Hill; Lyle Gibson and Warren Renfro, Lowell; Wallace Ellefson and Earl Bleie, Oakridge.

Because of the traveling involved, the squad will not meet until shortly before the game.

Hendrickson, who is still trying to have the Eugene-UHS game, scheduled for the same night, shifted to Monday, has not selected his squad. It is expected that several practice sessions might be held for the "A" hoopers who will meet the regular Duckling quintet.

A third game will be played between the Junior Rubes of Eugene, young independent quintet, and the "John Day Rangers," a third freshmen quintet.

Al Dietz and Lyle Small have already accepted invitations to officiate. Others who have been invited are Stan Summers, Ed Siegmund, Ford Mullen and Hank Nelson.

Calendar

WEDNESDAY Basketball St. Mary's at Junction City. THURSDAY Basketball Independent Playoff Springfield High 7:30—McKee vs. Coburg. 8:30—Lowell vs. Company "M". Wrestling Professional, armory.

Thurston To Entertain Lowell Quint Thursday

THURSTON, Feb. 21.—(Special)—Thurston's high school basketball team plays its last home game Thursday night at 7:30 against Lowell.

Pete Belcastro Comes to Terms; Parks, Bobby Chick to Meet

Pete Belcastro will appear in the armory ring Thursday night against Dude Chick, but it required a guarantee of \$250 and some mighty hard work on the part of Promoter Herb Owen to get the coast champion to return here from his home in Klamath Falls.

Dude Chick has also gone to much trouble, and expense to nail down the match with the villain who fouled his brother in last week's headliner. Chick first telephoned the Klamath Falls promoter and explained why Belcastro should not be given a match there. Then when Pete demanded \$250 Dude said he would wrestle for nothing. So at least the fans will have a chance to see Mr. Belcastro take a whirling airplane spin.

In the meantime Owen has managed to sign Bobby Chick in a 30-minute opener with Herb Park. The match looks as a great scientific battle, a match that will give the entire card a pleasant start.

Company 'M' Wallops Elmira Townies 67-20

ELMIRA, Feb. 21.—(Special)—Company "M" of Eugene closed its regular Lane county independent league basketball season here Tuesday night by defeating the Elmira Townies, 67 to 20.

The Eugene quintet scored at will and used the game as a tune-up for its county league playoff clash at Springfield Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights.

Summary:

COMPANY M 67	20	ELMIRA
Collins 19	F	2 Moore
Clement 7	F	19 Erickson
Goodwin 20	C	6 Roberts
Palatnik 11	G	2 Halladay
Good 10	G	2 Spangler

Reference: Langston.

Millers Drop Grovers 30-22

Springfield Remains In Running For Title

By PETE GODDARD SPRINGFIELD, Feb. 21.—(Special)—The second place Springfield Millers still retained a chance of tying for the district 7 championship by defeating the Cottage Grove Lions 30-22 in a slow and rugged game here Tuesday night.

Newton opened the scoring with a howitzer from mid-court followed by a push shot by McCready to tie the score 2-2. Langston then tipped in a two-pointer to give the Grovers a 4-2 edge. McCready made a lay-in to tie the score again, but at 4 all. Dugan made a gift to put the Grovers ahead again but Hennebeck came through with a push shot to give the Millers a 6-5 lead. A freethrow by McCready and a lay-in by Newton tied the score 7-7 at the end of the quarter.

Second Quarter Slow The second quarter was very slow with but five points being made. Pollard and Bill Smith accounted for four—Smith three and Pollard a gift. Del Smith sank the only point made by the Grovers on a foul.

Pollard opened the half with a gift to give the Millers a four-point advantage. George Dugan potted a howitzer to close the gap but a push shot and a criddle by

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3 Unbeaten Quints In Church Leagues

Standings

The Y. M. C. A., Central Lutheran and Methodist basketball teams virtually clinched the "A", "B" and high school division titles, respectively, of the Eugene church league Tuesday night in games played on both the Northwest Christian college and Methodist church gyms.

The "Y" quintet downed the Baptist Single Men