

Highclimber

By DICK STRITE

Officials and unofficial representatives of the five northern division, Pacific coast conference schools that compete in basketball gathered in a small ocean-view room of the Gearheart hotel last Friday night and "bulled" until the wee hours of Saturday morning. The representatives were Howard Hobson of Oregon, Slati Gill of Washington State, Jack Friel of Washington State, Hec Edmundson of Washington, and Lt. Guy Wickes of the U. S. navy, late of the Idaho Vandals. There were an assortment of others, including L. H. Gregory of the Oregonian, Stan Church of the navy and an ex-draft sports-caster, Bob Lucas, the Astorian who conceived the basketball jamboree that prompted the gathering and your truly.

Stories about the traveling salesman and the farmer's daughter were missing as the coaches and writers talked mostly of the coast conference, and particularly of northern division basketball. There were a few conclusions, few of which were unanimous. One was that the coaches should have a vote in the policies formed by the conference, at least an equal vote with the graduate managers and the faculty representatives, some of whom were charged with unfamiliarity with existing conditions and a general lack of knowledge of intercollegiate athletics.

Discussion of the "Atherton Code" was inevitable and the general opinion was that the rule against proselyting athletes is a handicap to the smaller schools. Jack Friel was a defender for the code, however, but he pointed out that while the code was fundamentally good (eliminating the tiresome and bothersome job of coaches going after athletes) it was poorly administered.

The thing finally came around to the idea proposed a year or so ago that the schools be allowed to contact athletes within their own state—the four California schools in California, OSC and Oregon in Oregon, Washington and WSC in Washington, and Idaho in Idaho. This would eliminate the California schools from drawing from Portland and Seattle, the Oregon schools from contacting boys in Washington, and vice versa.

One conservative pointed out that any proselyting influenced athletes from going to schools where the studies they wished were not available—possibly completely sidetracking the kid's educational plans. But with intrastate contact work, the future college sports star could still choose a school of his liking outside his home state. It was pointed out, however, that eastern schools would still have virgin field in the northwest.

Our suggestion that the National Collegiate Athletic association, an intercollegiate sports governing body of which all conference schools and other accredited institutions are members, should be charged with the responsibility of standardized proselyting, received little attention. So we sat meekly in a corner and listened most of the night.

Although the coaches have no official say, as we've pointed out before, the University of Washington would not be able to use its service team in Seattle for home games if the mentors had a vote. The boys told Uncle Hec in no uncertain terms they did not believe it fair—in view of the inexperienced squads of the other four schools.

One coach went as far as to say—and it didn't have a humorous tone—he would not compete against Washington as long as the Huskies used their service team, an outfit that includes six letter-men and will be added to by letter-men from WSC and Oregon after the Rose Bowl football game.

So, brother basketball fans, don't be too surprised to hear of some attempt legislation in the conference to force Hec's servemen out of the circuit—and rightfully so.

As it now stands, the only fair way to figure the outcome of the circuit—that starts next month—will be to discount all home contests. If the Husky navy and marine trainees are allowed to play it will take away considerable interest in the league race. Washington can virtually count on starting the campaign with eight wins, although the veterans may be beaten in Seattle by an outside chance.

Eliminating the service team from the league would not be cheating the kids of competition. There are any number of strong quintets (service and independent) in the Seattle area that could furnish the club with considerable competition.

Lucas, incidentally, deserves the orchids for staging the jamboree—and it should be an annual event. It takes absolutely nothing away from the conference season, but does give followers a chance for comparison—although weighing the results will not be true measure for several reasons. The chief argument against the jamboree is that in playing separate 20-minute periods, three of the four teams must rest anywhere from 35 minutes to more than an hour between contests. While no one could be found to absolutely agree, we believe those rest periods sap considerable strength and fire from a team's play.

The other drawback for the annual event will come in peacetime when some of the northern schools will make December barnstorming tours of the mid-west and east—

the Webfoots years ago. A possible remedy for this would be the inclusion of two touring mid-western teams along with two Pacific northwest stay-at-homes in the four-team jamboree.

Regardless, the jamboree idea is a splendid one and was well conducted under the leadership of Lucas—former Oregon State hooper and journalism graduate of the University of Oregon.

Oregon State Loses To Packards, 49-43

CORVALLIS, Ore., Dec. 21.—(AP)—Oregon State College and Pacific Packers' basketball teams prepared for the second game in their two-day series here tonight following a 49-43 overtime victory by the Portland semi-pro five over the Orangenems last night.

The Packers led 22-19 at halftime, but the lead changed eight times in the second period and was tied at 42-42 before the visitors ran up a margin to win. Murray Logan, packer forward, was high scorer with 16 points.

Summary:
PACKARDS (49) (43) O. S. C.
Logan, 15 F 5 Anderson
Pfeiffer, 13 C 5 Nelson
Osterhaus, 15 C 6 Marshall
Monroe, 3 G 2 Lee
Rayley, 3 G 12 Fowler
S 8 McGrath

Al Reasoner Dies After Dawson TKO

CHICAGO, Dec. 21.—(AP)—Al Reasoner, 23-year-old lightweight boxer, died in Columbus hospital today, about five hours after he suffered a technical knockout in a 10-round boxing bout last night with Freddie Dawson of Chicago.

Reasoner, who had been boxing professionally since October, 1942, was unconscious when he was carried from the ring in the 10th round and died without regaining consciousness, said Dr. E. J. Buchan of the Illinois athletic commission.

Dr. Buchan, who said the cause of the young boxer's death was cerebral hemorrhage, announced an inquest would be held. He termed death "an accident."

Reasoner, who was married and the father of one child, was 1941 Catholic Youth Organization lightweight champion of Chicago.

Since turning professional 14 months ago he had appeared in several fights in Chicago, moving up in the ranks to gain headline bouts at the Marigold Garden shows.

Sgt. Laddie Gale, Mrs. Gale Visiting Here for Christmas

Sgt. Lauren "Laddie" Gale, former all-American basketball star at the University of Oregon, and Mrs. Gale are in Eugene visiting friends and relatives during the Christmas holidays.

Gale, who was an all-state center for Oakridge high before attending Oregon, is in charge of swimming instruction for the U. S. army at Balboa (Cal.) Beach.

While at Oregon the local athlete set two northern division, Pacific coast conference scoring honors (the 20-game mark still standing) and was a member of Coach Howard Hobson's 1938-39 Webfoot quintet that annexed the National intercollegiate crown.

Mrs. Hallie Gale taught at Thurston high school after graduating from the University of Oregon.

Synthetic Rubber Used In Approved Baseball

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—(AP)—National League President Ford Frick confirmed today that a new baseball with a synthetic rubber core had been approved by the major leagues and that it would be available in quantity production for the 1944 season.

The ball replaces the balata core ball used last season and blamed generally for the drop in batting averages in both leagues.

Hoop Scores

Albina Hellships 39, Oregon 31.
Pacific Packers 49, Oregon State 43.
Great Lakes 39, Minnesota 32.
Illinois 42, Kentucky 41.
Indiana 38, DePaul 34.
Heres 62, Louisville 37.
Drake 46, St. Ambrose Naval 31.

HIGH SCHOOL
Klamath Falls 34, Roseburg 23.
Oregon City 52, Estacada 34.
Castle Rock 38, Rainier 27.
Eugene 47, Springfield 26.
University 39, St. Mary's 27.

Eugene Recreation

The KORE bowlers edged out the H. Gordon team 2-1 in Women's league play at Eugene Recreation plays as McCarthy of the winners posted a 212 single and 523 series.

In other matches, both ending 3-0, Royal Crown beat Woolworth's and Monroe Lumber beat Goodyear. Eaton had a 176 for Royal Crown and tied with a teammate, Carroll, with a 417 series. B. Johnson of Goodyear had a 179 single and 484 series.

Klamath Beats Roseburg

ROSEBURG, Ore., Dec. 21.—(AP)—Klamath Falls, last year's prep high school champion, defeated Roseburg 34-22 in the first of a two-game basketball series here last night.

Eugene, University High Quints Win Jamboree Opener

Four Teams Vie Tuesday Night

By RED Q. GATES

Eugene and University high schools and Infantile Paralysis, Inc., were on the long end figures at McArthur Court Monday night in the opening of the benefit three-day hoop jamboree. The Axemen downed the Springfield Millers in the feature of Monday night's program 47-37. Uni high turned back St. Mary's 39-27. And more than 360 cash customers paid over \$90 (at two-bits a throw) for the Infantile Paralysis fund—so that some crippled person may walk again; may even play again.

Fans were treated to considerable hoopla Monday night at bargain-basement prices, especially in which Eugene showed mid-season form—a very fine passing attack that led to the downfall of the Millers. It was the performance of Bob "Bunny" McKeivitt, ace forward who potted 13 points and played a floor game that made the Millers look silly under the buckets a number of times, that sparked the Eugene offense.

University high, after starting with its third team, and spotting the Saints a 10-point margin, came from behind with their regulars and rolled to an easy victory.

The Gaels were out in front 10-0 late in the first period, when University coach, Harry Davis, sent in his first squanders—and they immediately went to work. Bob Martin connected and Jack Lawson followed with a long shot. Jim Pourtales sank a freetoss, but Dawson, Dale Brugger, and Doc Sargent made successive baskets on steal-aways to give the Tigers a 12-11 lead at the quarter.

Sargent, Dick Haridist, and Brugger, opened in the second frame with quick baskets to jump to a 20-12 lead. The Tigers potting buckets at will to lead by a 28-16 margin at halftime.

University high had an easy time of it again in the third quarter, building a 34-23 lead. The Tigers coasted to victory in the final frame.

The opening contest was played mostly on the ragged side, but both teams showed signs of improvement over their previous engagement. Lawson and Martin of University were perhaps the two outstanding players. Bill Hunter and Paul Grieg showed possibilities for the Saints.

Springfield and Eugene really made a show of it—also serving notice that both are going to be plenty good by the time league play starts in January. Kuchera's Eugene team was a credit to his coaching, showing that the Axemen were especially well drilled in fundamentals. While Mel Johnson's Springfield boys looked rather ragged at times the Millers were far from green and proved that they could give Eugene or any other ball club a mighty interesting evening.

The Millers jumped into an early lead on Wade Cowan's gift shot, and Larry Moore's tip-in. McKeivitt and Jerry Holland came back on two quick baskets, after neat pass set-ups to put the Axemen out in front. The two teams steamed up and for the next few minutes, both employing blistering fast-break offenses. Cowan scored a lay-in, and Bill Elder, another outstanding Eugene boy, came back with a pot-shot from the side. McKeivitt hit on a bucket from close in, but Moore dribbled in from the side for two points to the Millers. Warren Hunter made a swing shot from the key, to put the Axeman out front 10-7 at the quarter.

Curt Luckey opened the second canto with a gifter, and Bill Hutchinson replied with a long set shot. Holland sank a free-throw, Elder and Warberg doing the same. McKeivitt shot a pretty southpaw hook shot from the side, and Luckey and Jim Lee made two nice baskets to end the half at 17-12, for the Axemen.

Wendy Ray Sparks Rally

Fire-wagon basketball again dominated in the third frame. Eugene increased its lead to 25-12 on baskets by McKeivitt, Elder and Daryl Robertson before Luckey scored for Springfield. Moore and McKeivitt exchanged baskets and Luckey hit on two gratis shots, with teammate Cowan sinking one. Hutchinson, Holland, and Cowan all made scores in the last minute of the third frame, which ended 31-21 for Eugene.

Wendy Ray, who played outstanding ball for Springfield, made two freethrows and then swished in a one-hander from back of the key at the start of the last frame. But Elder and Hunter picked up a couple of two-pointers to further insure the Eugene lead.

It was virtually little Ray against all of Eugene high in the closing minutes, but the game little Miller guard, despite some fine ball playing, wasn't quite enough to close the wide gap separating the two teams' scores. The Axemen, with reserves playing the final seconds, went on to win.

Elder and Hunter, along with McKeivitt, made a very good Eugene forward wall, as well as a high-scoring combination, which probably will not meet its peer in this locality. Ray and Luckey both gave good performances in the Springfield guard slots.

Doerr Leads Red Sox Defense

By CARL LUNDQUIST

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—(AP)—The Boston Red Sox salvaged one important distinction in the past American league baseball season which saw them tumble from second to seventh place in the final standings—they were the fielding "smoothies" of the circuit.

Led by their human "stop sign," Bobby Doerr at second base, the Red Sox edged the Cleveland Indians and St. Louis Browns for team fielding honors with a mark of .978. They also were tops in total number of put outs and assists negotiated.

Doerr, for many seasons forced to back in the shadow of Joe Judge of the Yankees for top American league second-base honors, had his best year afield and generally outshone his rival, who ranked fourth individually while Doerr led the way. The Boston second-sacker, who completed his seventh season with the team, set a new league record for consecutive chances handled by a second baseman without an error, accepting 349 and breaking the 1933 record of 271 set by Oscar Melillo with the Browns.

Webfoots Lose To Albina 36-31

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 21.—(AP)—Breaking up the zone defense which had left them on the short end of an 11-10 halftime score, Albina Hellships defeated University of Oregon cagers 36-31 last night for their 20th win of the season. Oregon held a 2-0 lead after 9 minutes of play.

In posting their 20th consecutive victory, Urgel "Slim" Wintermute & Co., played cat-and-mouse with Oregon's fighting youngsters. They teased the Webfoots in the first half with a tight zone defense when the visitors preferred to gallop.

Behind 10-11 at halftime, the shipmen took to the running game in the second period and dominated backboard play. Bob Caviness, Oregon forward, copped scoring honors with 10 points.

It was the first of a three-game series here. The same two teams were scheduled to play a return game Tuesday night, and the Webfoots meet the Fort Lewis Reception Center quintet here Wednesday night.

Following Wednesday game the Oregon squad will disband for Christmas and return to the campus and hoop practice December 28.

Summary:
OREGON (31) FG FT PF TP
Bray, F 1 2 3 4
Caviness, F 4 2 3 10
Hays, C 1 0 0 2
Phillips, F 1 0 0 2
Hamilton, F 3 1 1 7
Henwood, F 0 0 0 1
Huff, C 0 0 0 0
Totals 13 7 10 31

Western All-Stars Lose OSC's Stevens

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 21.—(AP)—Twenty-four strong, the travel-weary east-all-star football team was due here today for the New Year's day game with the west all-stars.

Coach Andy Kerr's charges include Bob Hoernschmeyer, spectacular Indiana freshman rated second among the nation's passers, who may be matched against another yearling prodigy, Herman Wedemeyer of St. Mary's College, Hawaiian triple-threat.

Coach Orrin "Babe" Hollingbery ran his 22-man squad through drills today in Kezar Stadium, site of the Shrine hospital benefit, and tomorrow moves his players to Menlo Junior college at Menlo Park on the peninsula for 11 intensive workouts before the official kickoff.

Mike Marienthal, guard of the University of California at Los Angeles, was added to the west team today after Bob Stevens, Oregon State back, was hospitalized at Corvallis, Ore., for second degree burns. Stevens was burned when his trousers caught fire as he slept in front of a fireplace.

Hollingbery renewed efforts to get his club to 24-man strength as Bill Hatcher, University of California guard, turned down an invite because of naval studies.

Baseball to Carry On

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—(AP)—Baseball plans to carry on in 1944 as long as each club can field nine men, according to Ford C. Frick, president of the National league.

The head of the senior loop pointed out that the game was not trying to minimize the number of stars who have been called to the service nor the seriousness of the problem it faces but was prepared to accept what is left with no thought of closing down.

Tippy Larkin Scores

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Dec. 21.—(AP)—Tippy Larkin, 142, New York, scored a fourth-round knockout over Gene Ward, 154, Chicago, in the 10-round feature bout at the Rhode Island auditorium Monday night before 1400 fans.

SLATS MARION 1-A
ABBEVILLE, S. C., Dec. 21.—(AP)—Martin "Slats" Marion, lanky shortstop of the St. Louis Cardinals, has been placed in 1-A and may be called for induction next month, his draft board reported today.

Doerr Leads Red Sox Defense

Playing in 155 games, Doerr made 415 putouts and 490 assists and was in on 132 double plays with only nine errors. His .980 average was 18 points better than that of Jimmy Bloodworth, Detroit second baseman who placed second among the regulars with a .972 mark.

Three other marks were set by individual fielders and the general quality of ball handling was surprisingly high, considering the number of young players and "war replacements" who filled the ranks of every team. Milt Byrnes, rookie St. Louis Brown outfielder, completed his first season with a new league mark of .997, topping the previous figure of .996 by Dick Porter, Cleveland outfielder in 1933. Rudy York of Detroit, added to his laurels as home-run king of the majors by handling 149 assists, a new record for first basemen, surpassing his own of 146 set in 1942. Lou Boudreau, Cleveland manager, set a new record for double plays handled by a shortstop—122.

The best fielding first-basemen were Joey Kuhel, the Chicago White Sox catcher, and Mickey Rocco, a rookie with the Cleveland Indians, who had .985 averages. Mickey Vernon of Washington tied the league record for number of double plays handled by a first sacker in one game—five.

Eddie Mayo of the Philadelphia Athletics led the third basemen with a .976 average, although he was released late in the season. Billy Johnson, Yankee rookie, who was voted the best first-year star in the majors, handled 527 chances and finished with a .966 record.

There were 22 pitchers who fielded their positions perfectly, while Paul Richards of Detroit was tops with 986 among the three catchers who played in more than 100 games. The Yankee perfectionist, Bill Dickey, led the catchers unofficially with .994 but he played in only 71 games so his average had to be tossed out as did his .351 batting mark which also was tops for the league.

The Browns and Indians collaborated to set the only two team fielding marks, both made in one game. The Browns played without making an assist and both breaking the old record of eight for longest in one game.

New York Yanks Rated Best Team Of Year—Over Notre Dame Irish

By JACK HAND

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—(AP)—It's the New York Yankees doing the "rags-to-riches" routine to move from the biggest disappointment of 1942 to the No. 1 team of 1943, but Joe McCarthy's clan had to go hard to nose out Notre Dame's Irishmen.

For the twelfth straight year the annual poll of sports writers conducted by the Associated Press has produced a baseball winner but football might have broken the string this time if Notre Dame had been able to get past the Green Bay Packers in the last game.

Final tabulations show Yanks and Irish received the most number of first-place votes, each, but the world champion's winning margin in the balloting for second and third.

Once again it was the Yanks Series that counted most with 100 votes just as last year's top team had gone to the Red Birds of St. Louis after they had dazed the baseball world with their speed.

Of the 27 teams mentioned in the poll, 13 were football clubs. Illinois' whiz kids, who won the Big 10 basketball title without losing a game, surprised with first-place ballots and enough over the Chicago Bears to place by a comfortable margin placed fourth with 18 points and only one vote for first.

Ohio State's swimming team picked up two first-place votes for the big prize and the crown went to Wyoming's basketball team. Iowa's Seahawks, who gave Notre Dame its toughest scrap up to a fifth first vote but moved to a single behind the Bears with points.

The University of Washington football team ranked ninth with five points.

Lt. Patty Berg is No. 1 Woman Athlete

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—(AP)—The United States' marine corps reserve harbors the "woman athlete of the year" in Lt. Patty Berg, the golfing redhead from Minneapolis, who yesterday was so acclaimed by the Associated Press in its annual poll of the nation's sports editors.

A year ago it appeared probable that Miss Berg might never make another sports headline as she had suffered a fractured knee cap and lacerated jaw in a Texas automobile collision. But she hit the comeback trail and recaptured her Women's Western open crown in a thrilling last-round duel with Dorothy Kirby.

It's the second win for Miss Berg in the annual poll by which she was crowned in 1938. She and Alice Marble, champ in 1939 and 1940, are the only repeaters.

Gloria Callen, the swimming star, who was named top girl athlete last year, slid to third behind Pauline Betz, the national tennis champ.

Miss Berg received 30 first-place votes and a total of 118 points. The runner-up tennis champ had 11 firsts and 76 points.

Others who received first-place votes were Ann Curtis, 4; Suzanne Zimmerman, 3; Dorothy Germain, 2; and Babe Didrikson, one.

Sports Siate

TUESDAY
Infantile Paralysis Jamboree
Springfield vs. University
Eugene vs. St. Mary's
Intercollegiate Basketball
Oregon at Albina (Portland)
Junction City Polio Benefit
Oakridge 'B' vs. Junction 'B'
Oakridge varsity vs. Junction varsity
Monroe town team vs. Junction town team.

WEDNESDAY
Infantile Paralysis Jamboree
St. Mary's vs. Springfield.
Eugene vs. University.
Intercollegiate Basketball
Oregon vs. Fort Lewis in Portland.

SATURDAY
Professional Wrestling
Pearl Street Arena.

Rip Sewell Voted Top Pittsburgh Athlete

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 21.—(AP)—Truett "Rip" Sewell, ace pitcher for the Pittsburgh Pirates last year, won the fifth annual athletic award of the Dapper Dan club, a charity organization of sportsmen.

The blonde hurler of the super-soft "blooper" ball polled 20 votes, six more than boxer Fritz Zivic. He will be given a pocket watch at a dinner here next February.

Phillies Purchase Farm

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 21.—(AP)—Purchase of the Bradford (Pa.) franchise in the Pony league was announced today by the Philadelphia Phillies, giving the National league team a three-club farm system for the coming season.

The Phillies previously owned the Utica (N. Y.) franchise in the Eastern league, and Wilmington (Del.) in the Inter-State league.

Armstrong Comeback Set

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 21.—(AP)—Henry Armstrong, one-time triple titleholder, hopes to start another ring comeback when he fights Aldo Spoldi, northwest welterweight, in Portland, Ore., in early January. Armstrong's manager, George Moore, said the Los Angeles fighter would resume training for a circuit tour.

WAR BONDS
An Ideal Christmas Gift

Pacific 1st Federal Savings
And Loan Association of Tacoma
EUGENE BRANCH
10th and Willamette Eugene

Chase Gardens
58 East Broadway

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GOOD NEWS!

WAR BONDS
An Ideal Christmas Gift

Pacific 1st Federal Savings
And Loan Association of Tacoma
EUGENE BRANCH
10th and Willamette Eugene