

HIGH CLIMBER

By DICK STRITE

Basketball and Wally Johansen are synonymous. This being the eve of the northern division, Pacific coast conference opening (Oregon against Washington in Seattle and OSC against Idaho at Moscow Friday night) it's timely that we bring to you Ensign Johansen's communique we promised some week or ten days ago.

War does strange things. Johansen, after completing his collegiate basketball career as a member of Hobby Hobson's NCAA championship team, entered this sports-writing racket and was chief of the Astorian-Budget before his enlistment, but he writes that he has completely lost touch with sports—and welcomes our occasional letters to keep up with events because he intends to return to sports scribbling after the war. "I hope to be in Seattle when Hobby takes his gang to meet Washington. In reply to your question about my 'work,' there's really not a great deal to say. I'm the Armed Guard Officer, in charge of naval gun crew and an army transport. It's interesting and we all consider it good duty. That, it seems, tells the story. Joe Huston (ex-Oregon gridman who was co-coach with Hank Nilsen at Bend when the Lava Bears won the first official state football championship) has the same duty on another ship, of course, and is reported to be around this same area. Joe and I spent the greater part of our first year in the navy together, going to schools, but I haven't seen him since last June."

We might well finish up with our service correspondence. A letter from Rolfe Hamer AOM 2-c, former southpaw pitcher, writes from a seaplane base in the south Pacific that he has given up baseball for softball, and that his ordnance team placed second in league play with 15 wins and 5 losses—Rolfe being the runnerup hitter with a .406 average. No wonder he likes softball.

A note from Sgt. Wayne Harbert at Ft. Benning, Ga., sends word about Lee Russell, one of our former associates and an expert editor of the Idaho (Boise) Statesman. Lee is a first lieutenant in Ireland.

Lt. (jg) John Buchanan, former Mohawk high principal-coach, writes from Cape May, N.J., where he is second in command (135 men). He says Jack Sutherland, ex-Pitt football coach, is morale officer for the base and carries the title of lieutenant commander. John has two brothers in the navy—Bob, the ex-Albany high coach, recently finished boot training at Farragut; Gay, former steward of the local Eagles lodge is with the Seabees at Gulfport, Miss. "I'm begging for carrier duty, but so far they give me little hope. Hurray for Doug Skordahl and his Mohawk (six-man football) champs. Those kids have it in their blood."

Major Jim Watts, former Thurston and Roseburg high coach, ex-Oregon hooper and one of our best wartime operatives, writes from Italy:

"At one time I thought it rained in Oregon and the mud was quite bad. Brother! You haven't seen anything yet—the hills over here are now covered with snow, and it is chilly, somewhat like Oregon, except, I believe, the rain and mud is worse than ever. Maybe I notice it more because we are in it 24 hours a day, seven days a week. We are now with the 5th army. We left the 7th shortly after the Sicily show, and invaded Italy before we could catch our breath. The going here is tougher than in Sicily. The Germans are putting up a scrap for Italy. I recently returned from 59 days up front and it is no picnic. The old doughboy to me is the greatest guy that ever lived. Wish the people at home could realize what he has to go through. "I am getting a little homesick for the family, Eugene, a coke at Seymour's, a bull session at DeNeffe's, a good basketball game, a hot shower, a fireplace with a book to read. It's been 15 months now and it seems like a long time from the good old U.S.A. It has been an exciting 15 months—wouldn't want to trade it with anyone."

Bronko Nagurski Plans Wrestling Comeback

INTERNATIONAL FALLS, Minn. Jan. 6. (AP)—Bronko Nagurski, whose comeback in professional football helped the Chicago Bears regain their National title, announced today that he is coming out of retirement in wrestling, too.

Nagurski has not wrestled since May, 1942, but he said his football experience during the last few months convinced him he was "in as good shape as ever." He said he would meet Paul Jones of Houston, Tex., at Minneapolis next Tuesday.

Havana Quintet May Invade Pacific Coast

NEW YORK, Jan. 6. (AP)—Juan Bras, Cuban promoter, said he expected to learn today whether University of Havana authorities would permit their basketball team to make a second trip to the United States to play a series of 11 games on the Pacific coast. Havana won its first game from Long Island University at New York and lost its other engagements to Canisius at Buffalo and Temple at Philadelphia.



GEORGE BRAY, 6-foot-4 center-forward, will be an important cog in the University of Oregon basketball machine when the Webfoots meet the strong University of Washington veterans in Seattle Friday and Saturday nights.

Oregon Webfoots Entrain For Division Hoop Opener

A University of Oregon varsity basketball squad, including one reserve letterman, headed for Seattle Thursday morning with determination to stop the highly-touted University of Washington veterans Friday and Saturday night at the Husky pavilion.

The game will be the opening tests in 1944 northern division, Pacific coast conference play for both teams while Oregon State opens against Idaho at Moscow, and Washington State awaits its opening against OSC at Pullman Monday and Tuesday nights of next week.

Borrevik Only Letterman
Only Wally Borrevik, two-year letterman reserve center who towers nearly six feet and nine inches, has had previous conference experience among the Webfoots—

Rich Purses Offered In Bowling Tourneys

CHICAGO, Jan. 6. (AP)—The American Bowling Congress is a war casualty but big-time competition is very much alive in Chicago where tournaments, offering rich purses, again this winter are luring the nation's top keggers.

The first big tourney of 1944 is scheduled for this week-end, the eighth annual Ray Schalk five-man holiday sweepstakes, and 96 teams, the best in the Midwest, will compete for 16 cash awards. Top prize money will be \$1000, and 15 other awards will total \$3800.

The teams will bowl four games across eight alleys. Ned Day, who regained his National individual match-game championship in the all-star tourney here last month, probably will compete, bowling with a Milwaukee team.

The biggest individual prize ever offered in any kegling tourney—\$5100—is the pot of gold which a record number of bowlers will shoot for in the 31st Petersen Classic which will start Jan. 22. Second prize is not exactly pin money, \$2500, while the complete prize list for the event, regarded as one of the most popular in the country, will total \$30,400.

Hillbillies Halt Uni High, 48-14

PLEASANT HILL, Jan. 6.—The undefeated Pleasant Hill high school basketball team, defending Lane county "B" champions, handed University High of Eugene a smashing 48-14 defeat here Wednesday night. The speedburning Hillbillies played rings around the class "A" school team that played poor defensive ball.

Uni high, without the services of Center Martin, trailed throughout. The Billies were ahead 12-6 at the quarter, 21-6 at halftime and 35-10 at the end of the third quarter.

Summary:
PLEASANT HILL (48) (10) UNIVERSITY (14) (2)
Duke, 2 F 2. Sargent
Hutton, 10 F 3. Bruenger
Staley, 11 C 3. O'Brien
C. Kistler, 10 G 2. White
C. Smith, 7 S 2. Lawson
A. Smith, 4 S 2. Haley
D. Kimball, 3 S 2. Byland
Robertson, 2 S 2. Gillilan

Sports Slate

THURSDAY
Independent Basketball
U. O. Men's Gym.

FRIDAY
Intercollegiate Basketball
Oregon at Washington,
Oregon State at Idaho.
Intercollegiate Basketball
Junction City at Uni High.
Eugene at Cottage Grove.
Pleasant Hill at Oakridge.
McKenzie at Lowell.
Mohawk at Creswell.
St. Mary's at Crow.
Elmira at Mapleton.
Lorane at Corvallis.
Triangle at Florence.

SATURDAY
Intercollegiate Basketball
Oregon at Washington,
Oregon State at Idaho.
Oregon Army-Camp Abbot, Bend.
Professional Wrestling
Pearl Street Arena.

and because the Reedsport hooper arrived on the campus only this week he is expected to see little if any action against the Huskies. Coach Howard Hobson is certain to start Dick Humphreys, a junior newcomer from Northwest Christian College, and Bob Caviness, a sophomore from McMinnville who played Frosh ball last season, at forwards. George Bray, 6-foot-4 freshman from Southern Oregon College, will be at center. Bob Hamilton, a sophomore from Marshalltown, Iowa, who came up from freshman ranks of last season and the leading squad scorer, will be at one guard position. Bill Phillips, a freshman who played at Roosevelt high in Portland last year, will be at the other starting berth.

Other reserves likely to see some action besides Borrevik will be Ernie Danner, freshman forward from Eugene high, and Norm Henwood, a guard from Grant high in Portland. When the squad assembles in Portland later in the day Hobson will complete the 10-man traveling unit by adding two players from among Marion Huff and Bill Mayther, forwards; Ed Allen, center; Lee Wimberly and Barney Koch, guards. Nick Weddle, student manager, completes the squad.

Show Form in Scrimmage
The Webfoots went through their final scrimmage here Wednesday night and showed promise of matching the usual race-horse style of offensive usually found in Oregon-Washington series. A short workout was planned for the Washington court Thursday night.

Reports from Seattle indicate Hec Edmundson will use only two of the players from his civilian squad that defeated Oregon 30-19 and 26-18 in two 20-minute sessions at Astoria in mid-December, namely, Jim Mallory and Jack Nichols. Bill Morris and Billy Taylor, regular guards on the coast championship Washington team of last year, are certain to start. Other navy trainees may see action, including Doug Ford of last year's title team; Al Atkins, WSC star, and Bob Wren, a letterman here at Oregon for the past two seasons.

The Oregonians are in hopes of at least duplicating last year's performance in Seattle where the series was split, the Webfoots taking a 47-41 victory and losing a 46-31 verdict.

HEC TO START VETS
SEATTLE, Jan. 6. (AP)—The old standbys will get the call when the University of Washington basketball team lines up for the opening of the northern division schedule against the University of Oregon here tomorrow night. Coach Hec Edmundson indicated today.

Edmundson, who has been considering the introduction of a couple of freshmen into his all-lettermen navy trainee five, said the starters probably would revert back to Bill Morris, Billy Taylor, Dale Gronsdahl, Perry Nelson and Hec Brown. All but Brown are lettermen from last year's conference champions.

The combination lineup may be worked in after the game gets under way.

GETS TOP NET RATING
PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 6. (AP)—Doris Jane Hart, Miami, Fla., has been named the No. 1 player in the United States junior girls' tennis rankings.

ORVAL GROVE, TO WED
CHICAGO, Jan. 6. (AP)—Orval Grove, who in his first full year with the Chicago White Sox was the club's leading pitcher, will be married Saturday to Catherine Sloan, 22, of Chicago.

GRID STAR IN V-5
SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 6. (AP)—Herman Wedemeyer, sensational St. Mary's college football player, has qualified in the navy V-5 program.

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Because of construction work in progress in the east gym at the University of Oregon the schedule for Thursday night practices for City basketball league teams has been changed, starting a half hour earlier than Monday night.

The schedule follows: West gym—7 p. m., Junior Chamber and Fenn's; 8 p. m., Man's Shop and Independents; 9 p. m., Farmer's Creamery and Skele's. East gym—7:30, Springfield CIO; 8:30, Northwest Christian College.

League play will start next Monday night. Several teams have not as yet qualified their players for participation in the league by failing to post AAU membership regulation blanks.

Oregon State Heads For Empire Invasion

CORVALLIS, Jan. 6.—Oregon State's inexperienced young basketball team will open its 16-game northern division schedule against Idaho at Moscow Friday and Saturday nights. Next Monday and Tuesday nights the Beavers will complete their invasion of the Palouse country with two contests against Washington State at Pullman. Coach Slats Gill will take 10 men on the trip.

Like the other northern division schools, Idaho is somewhat of an unknown quantity, but boasts one of the few returning lettermen in the league, not counting Washington's navy veterans, in Guard Tom Collins.

The Orange were unimpressive in their pre-season games, winning three and losing five. However, four of the five defeats were to the powerful Albina Hellships and Pacific Packards, veteran independent fives of Portland.

Loss of three of its best guards has greatly weakened Oregon State for the conference campaign. Already seriously hurt by the induction of Jim Catterall, sharp shooting guard, into the navy two weeks ago, the Beavers were dealt another hard blow this week when Bud Fortier, former Albany high star and the man who had stepped into Catterall's shoes; and Harold Zurcher, reserve guard from Jefferson high of Portland, left the campus for the armed forces.

To help fill the gaps Gill has shifted Bernard McGrath and Jack Simms from forwards to guards. McGrath has been teaming with Fred "Happy" Lee on the first team while Simms has been working with Johnny Moore in the second combination. Filling out the starting five probably will be Frank Marshik, center, and Bob Reiman and Allen Anderson, forwards.

Costantino, Jack Weigh in for Fight

NEW YORK, Jan. 6. (AP)—Lulu Costantino expects to weigh around 137 pounds for his 10-round non-title fight with lightweight champion Beau Jack at Madison Square Garden Friday night. Jack expects to come in at 138.

Costantino tipped the scales at 139 and Jack at 142½ Tuesday when they underwent a fitness examination by the state athletic commission.

EX-NEVADA COACH MISSING
SUSANVILLE, Cal., Jan. 6. (AP)—Lt. Douglas McDow, 30, Susanville, former football and track star at the University of Nevada, has been reported missing from a routine flight made Dec. 28 from the Douglas, Ariz., army air base.

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District Preps To Vie Friday

District high school basketball advances into full force Friday night when University high entertains Junction City at McArthur court and Eugene travels to Cottage Grove for a game against the lowly Lions. Springfield, resting on the momentary glory of a 35-33 upset victory over Eugene high, will remain idle.

Coach Virg Kingsley's Junction City Tigers, defeated only once in eight pre-season games, will be favored to measure Coach Harry Davis' Golden Tiders who suffered a 48-14 setback at the hands of Pleasant Hill Wednesday night. Particular interest will be centered around the performance of Don Davenport, high-scoring Junction City hooper and a favorite to win the district scoring crown this season.

Coach Henry Kuchera's Eugene Axemen will be heavy favorites over Coach Curtis French's Lions who suffered a 31-15 defeat at the hands of Roseburg in their last start. The loss at Springfield Tuesday night was only the second this season for the potentially powerful Axemen.

Coach Mel Johnson's Millers, determined to add the district hoop crown to state tennis and Tri-County football championships already won during the past year, will return to action next Friday night against Junction City.

Kiser, Lipscomb Wrestling Rivals

Jack Lipscomb, the dynamic villain from Indiana, has been signed to meet Jack Kiser, youthful speedburning grappler from St. Johns, in the opening match of next Saturday's professional wrestling show at the Pearl Street arena, according to an announcement made Thursday by Matchmaker Don Owen. Signing of the bout provides local grappling followers with promising all-star program.

Headlining the card will be a return grudge affair between Tex Hager, the "Creswell Cyclone," and Buck Davidson, the tough ex-marine from Texas. The two matmen staged a blistering battle as a preliminary to last week's team tilt and both men are anxious to settle a fistful argument that followed the match—which ended in a deadlock of one fall each.

A couple of burly mat battlers, Ernie Piluso and Leo Karlinko, will meet in the semi-final attraction which is expected to vie with the main event for top interest. Piluso is a clean, scientific wrestler who can and does give and take with the roughest of meanies—and Karlinko is among the most formidable.

Although there has been no unusual demand for reserved seat tickets at the Club cigar store agency, the well-balanced card is expected to attract a well-filled arena.

Hoop Scores

Penn. State 37, N.Y.U. 36.
Pittsburgh 63, Carnegie Tech 33.
Columbia 49, Stevens Tech 37.
Pennsylvania 33, Princeton 46.
St. John's 45, C. C. N. Y. 34.
Yale 61, Camp Thomas 52.
Camp Edwards 69, Tufts 46.
DePaul 69, Wabash 49.
Indiana State 51, Evansville 29.
Norfolk Naval 57, Camp Peary 39.
Virginia 33, North Carolina 36.
West Virginia 53, Virginia Tech 29.
Norfolk Naval 57, Duke 28.
Rice 45, Baylor 27.
Texas 49, Southwestern 46.
Howard 70, Ft. Ontario 21.
Detroit Tech 34, Detroit Induction 25.

Warneke Gets Screening

HOT SPRINGS, Ark., Jan. 6. (AP)—Lon Warneke is ready to give up chunking baseballs at opposing batters for a while and start tossing "hand grenades" at Hitler and Hirohito. The veteran Chicago Cubs' pitcher took his screening examination before his draft board here last night. Married and the father of two children, Warneke will be 35 in March.

RESUMES PLAY
Lane county's "B" high schools will resume play Friday night.

The favored Pleasant Hill Hillbillies travel to Oakridge, McKenzie plays at Lowell and Mohawk at Creswell in the eastern division. St. Mary's plays at Crow, Elmira goes to Mapleton and Lorane to Corvallis in the Western division. Triangle Lake invades Florence for the only coast tilt.

LA MOTTA VS. ZIVIC
DETROIT, Jan. 6. (AP)—Promoter Nick Londe announced today that he had arranged a match between Jake La Motta and Fritz Zivic at the Detroit Olympia Friday night Jan. 14.

YANKS PLAY 9 GAMES
NEW YORK, Jan. 6. (AP)—President Ed Barrow of the New York Yankees today announced an 11-game spring exhibition schedule for the world champions.

Minor Leagues Ready To Carry 72-70 Top Score In Angeles

By W. G. BRAMHAM
(President, National Association of Professional Baseball Leagues.)
NEW YORK, Jan. 6. (AP)—One cannot make rash predictions with a global war in progress, but minor league baseball has demonstrated its determination to carry on in spite of difficulties encountered. The continuation depends upon the needs of the government in the all-important item of manpower and it has first call. As we go into 1944 our nine leagues which finished the 1943 season are planning to carry on. Practically all of the leagues which suspended because of the war are ready to reopen the moment they are able to muster sufficient players of professional caliber. They have protected their territories and kept their organizations. They are eager to return to active play and will do so at the earliest feasible opportunity.

Several Schools May Resume Sports

NEW YORK, Jan. 6. (AP)—A possibility that several major colleges that suspended wartime sports activities last year may return to competition in 1944 was indicated today by members of the executive committee of the National Collegiate Athletic Association.

The committee is holding a session here which replaces the annual NCAA convention, suspended for the duration. Upon its recommendation last year a number of colleges that had considered suspending athletic programs, carried them out successfully. Similar recommendations to colleges that quit sports were expected after this year's meeting.

Philip O. Badger of New York U., president of the committee, said that a new chairman of the football rules committee will be appointed today to succeed the late Walter R. Oakeson.

Dates and sites for the annual NCAA national tournaments in basketball, track and other sports also will be announced.

No College Gridiron Deaths in 1943 Season

LaFAYETTE, Ind., Jan. 6. (AP)—There were no deaths attributed to participation in college football in 1943, Dr. Floyd R. Eastwood of the division of physical education for men at Purdue University, reported today.

Nine high school players lost their lives and one member of a club team was killed in a football accident, Eastwood said in a report to the rules committee of the N.C.A.A. and the committee on injuries and fatalities of the American Football Coaches Association.

Frank Leahy Says 1943 Irish Likely Greatest

SOUTH BEND, Ind., Jan. 6. (AP)—Coach Frank Leahy of Notre Dame says that the Irish football team of 1943 ranked among the greatest college elevens of all time.

Speaking at the 24th annual testimonial dinner last night, the coach of the team rated No. 1 among the nation last year, said: "Of one thing I am absolutely certain. In my opinion, no greater football team ever played on an intercollegiate gridiron than the Notre Dame team of last fall."

USC Scores 45-28 Win Over 20th Century

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 6. (AP)—University of Southern California's basketball team took an early lead Wednesday night against the 20th Century-Fox cagers, built it to 21-16 at the half and romped on to win 45-28 at the Trojan gym. Led by Forward Bob Howard, who plunked in 12 points for high scoring honors, the Trojans trailed 4-2 in the first minutes of the game and then after forging ahead 8-4 were never headed.

ONE OAKLAND CATCHER
OAKLAND, Calif., Jan. 6. (AP)—The Oakland baseball club is left with only one catcher for the coming season as Will Leonard leaves for the army in three weeks.

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WSC GAME CANCELED
PULLMAN, Jan. 6. (AP)—Because they were confined to their post, a basketball game between the Fort Lewis all-stars and Washington State College scheduled for last night here was cancelled.

Hialeah Park Reopens

MIAMI, Fla., Jan. 6. (AP)—Glamorous Hialeah Park, with its pink flamingoes and exotic landscaping, reopens tomorrow after skipping an entire winter racing season because of wartime difficulties.

United States National Bank

Condensed Report of the
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RESOURCES

Cash on Hand and Due from Banks	\$ 97,109,980.62
United States Government Bonds	259,475,497.18
Municipal and Other Bonds	6,276,127.24
Loans and Discounts	39,805,321.02
Stock in Federal Reserve Bank	405,000.00
Bank Premises (including Branches)	3,273,126.55
Other Real Estate	1.00
Customers' Liability on Acceptances	26,027.57
Interest Earned	880,082.06
Other Resources	106,151.30
Total	\$407,357,314.54

LIABILITIES

Capital	\$6,000,000.00
Surplus	7,500,000.00
Undivided Profits	1,605,074.59
Reserves	1,265,014.53
Total	\$16,370,089.12
Reserves for Interest, Taxes, etc.	807,362.45
Acceptances	26,027.57
Dividends Declared	78,750.00
Deposits	390,053,770.62
Other Liabilities	19,314.78
Total	\$407,357,314.54

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72-70 Top Score In Angeles

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 6. (AP)—Harry Bassler, a local pro, held medalist honors in the hole qualifying round at the Angeles Open tournament under way tomorrow.

Touring his own layout, Fox Hills course, Bassler forced a 142 out of a par of a two-under 70.

With 109 qualifiers under wire after yesterday's round, Fox Hills and Sunset Fields starting list was limited to including 28 "big name" exempt from qualifying.

Eighteen holes were for the opening round at a country club, with another Saturday, reducing the total to 60 for Sunday's 18 and the round Monday.

Byron Nelson, who made a 65 in the warmups, was pre-tourney favorite, and the other aces, did not go to the qualifying rounds.

This course, and Sunset, were slowed by recent rains there were very few rounds. Scores of 154 or more were necessary at Fox Hills 161 at Sunset Fields.

Eddie Novak of Los Angeles finished second with 69-74, along with Amateur Bobby Berg of San Francisco, who 70-73.

Ted Longworth of Portland, Ore., was among the qualifying with even par, 72-72-144 to tie with two for fourth place.

Stagg Not Considered Grid Post at Stanford

CHICAGO, Jan. 6. (AP)—Alonso Stagg, football's "year," today denied a he will accept a coaching Stanford next fall. "That is all hokey. . . . I am planning to stay at the College of the Pacific season."

Hoppe Leads Cochran

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Jan. 6. (AP)—Willie Hoppe, world's cushion billiard champion, toward the third 50-point of his 1900-point non-title with Welker Cochran of Francisco today with a 100-65. Hoppe, the New star, won the opening 28 in 43 innings yesterday noon but bowed to the west player 50-44 in 44 innings second block last night.

Eugene Recreation

Goodyear Tires defeat the Shoe Doctor and Monte's defeated Penny Drugs, both by 2-0 score. Major league bowling at Recreation alleys Wednesday. Two other matches postponed. Hal Young right 228 single for Chiara while Bricker scored a 637 for Penny-Wise. Vic Johnson for Goodyear was high in the match, with a 207 single series.

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