HIGH CLIMBER

By DICK STRITE

SEATTLE, Jan. 7—Uncle Hec Edmundson has been around the maple courts a long, long time. Fact of the matter is he has been coaching varsity basketball here at the University of Washington since 1920—after a "hitch" at the University of Idaho. So, when the dean of Pacific coast conference coaches says it won't work, we wonder why the boys continue to harp on the plan to lift the baskets two feet skyward from their present 10-foot level.

Dr. Phog Allen, who we are given to understand would propose replacing the baskets with manholes if it brought enough nation-wide attention, has been the author of the plan—as a means of curbing the use of "hoop goons", those fellows towering around seven feet. Well, anyway, Hec tried the plan out at the close of the season here several winters ago and found the added height no disadvantage. Afterall a guy who stands seven feet is still a foot closer to the bucket than a six-footer whether the goal be 10 or 15 feet from the floor.

We still think Hobby Hobson's idea the most logical solution. Most of the criticism against the use of big men comes not from offensive, but defensive tactics—stopping the ball before it reaches the basket. Hobby would award the ball out of bounds to the shooting team if and when an opponent bats the ball while it is above an imaginary line drawn at the level of the rim. Hank Iba of Oklahoma A. and M., highly regarded as a hoop coach by Hobson of Oregon, grudgingly admits the basket-lifting might work, and predicts many postwar changes. He sees one advantage in the higher baskets—rebounds further to center-court which would stimulate more outside shots. Iba, incidentally, is the mentor of Bob Kurland, a seven-footer.

The 17-year-olds are having their "day" . . . Accounts of the recent bowl games heaped praise on youngsters like Wedemeyer, Scharfschwerdt, Hoernschmeyer and Sensanbaugher. . . . There will be lots of yearlings who gain the spotlight on the basketball courts of the nation this winter, too. Who was that 17-year-old who broke in as regular catcher for the Los Angeles Angels last summer? It doesn't matter, there have always been young diamond stars. . . . But now comes a 17-year-old hockey goalie, Harry Lumley, with the Detroit Red Wings of the National hockey league.

There were likely hundreds of youngsters on the prep gridirons of the nation this fall who will carry on as collegians in 1944. Take a look at Dinkey Brown, 175-pound Greenville (Miss.) high, for example. . . . He made 30 touchdowns and place-kicked 47 extra points for 227 points in 10 games, besides passing for 14 other touchdowns. In the same league was "Shorty" McWilliams of Meridian who also clicked on 30 touchdowns with average runs of 36 yards, passed to eight more scores, averaged around 40 yards in punting, and backed up the line on defense.

One of the best right uppercuts we've heard land on the high and mighty Amateur Athletic Union was penned recently by George Huber of the Washington Evening Star: "We see by the papers that the Amateur Athletic Union has a new plan for developing athletes. First part of this plan is the appointment of commissioners for each of the 15 sports in every district, instead of having one commissioner handle all sports. Don't know exactly how effective this will be in developing more and better athletes, but it certainly means a big, new crop of brass-hat badge wearers to take center stage at AAU functions."

What Huber didn't mention was where—with most of the athletes in the service—the competitors for the events would crop from. We'd wager the commissioners would outnumber the competitors at most events.

Along the same line is Ray Dumont's answer to a critic that asked the commander in chief of the National Baseball Congress to define "semi-pro". His answer follows: "You tell me the difference between an amateur and a professional and I'll give you the definition of a semi-pro." We could lift our hand to the teacher and say—a professional is one who openly takes money for his athletic prowess; an amateur (not all of 'em, but the best of 'em) is a guy who accepts more payment for expenses than most pros receive for their services in competition. . . . All of which makes a semi-pro a young ball player who will play for a team that offers the most dough; or an old-timer who will play for a team that offers the most dough.

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Feldman Gets OK; To Report to Giants

FORT SMITH, Ark., Jan. 7.—(AP)—Pitcher Harry "Hank" Feldman of the New York Giants, forced out of play in mid-season last year because of ill health, says he has received permission from his doctor to resume activity and will report to the Giants for spring training. The 26-year-old right-hander underwent treatment at the Arkansas tuberculosis sanitorium.

Tiders Host to Junction Friday

Junction City, Cottage Grove, University high will be making their District 6 inaugural appearance in Friday night hoop tilts, while the fourth contender, the Eugene Axemen, will be out after their first win after losing a close 35-33 victory to the Springfield Millers last Tuesday night. The Millers will be idle—resting on their glory over the week-end.

Junction City, beaten only once, will be top-heavy, a favorite over University high, and the Axemen will hold a similar position at Cottage Grove. The Junction-UHS game will be played at McArthur court with the 'B' squad tilt starting at 7 p.m. and the regular game slated for an hour later.

Coach Harry Davis has an inexperienced band at the Tide school and as yet, the boys haven't hit their stride. Pleasant Hill recently took the Tiders to the cleanings, although the Billies can be classed with any 'A' school, when it comes to hoop strength this year.

Grove Inexperienced

Virgil Kingsley has an experienced first-string at Junction, and with All-star Don Davenport leading the way, Junction has high hopes of obtaining the district title. Kingsley will probably open with Larsen and Lyons at the forwards; Nelson at center; and Davenport and Rasmussen at guards.

The UHS opening five will probably be Sergeant and Bruegger, forwards; Martin, center; and Hardisty and Lawson, guards.

At Cottage Grove, Coach Hank Kuchera's Axemen—one of the strongest teams in the state—are expected to take the tilt easily as Coach Curtis French has an inexperienced team except for one position—center.

The Axemen have one of the strongest teams in local prep history beneath the backboards—and could have been victorious by a good margin in their first league game had they made a nominal percentage of their shots. The showings of Gus Hunter, Cece Berg and Dale Warberg may cause the EHS mentor to shift his line-up, but the opening five will probably be composed of Elder and McKevitt, forwards; Sprecher center; and Hoiland and Hutchinson, guards.

Triangle at Florence

In Lane county 'B' league games Friday, the unbeaten Pleasant Hill team meets Coach Jack Walton's fast improving Oakridge quintet at Oakridge in the top Eastern division tilt. In others in that section, McKenzie high plays at Lowell, and Mohawk meets Creswell.

In the Western division, St. Mary's plays at Crow, and Lorane meets Elmira. In an intersectional game, Elmira plays at Mapleton, a coast division school.

The only league tilt in the coast division sees Triangle Lake traveling to Florence.

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Willard Sues Film Company

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 7.—(U.P.)—Jess Willard, who lost the world boxing championship to Jack Dempsey at Toledo, O., in 1919, Friday sued 20th Century-Fox film Corp. for allegedly using films of the historic bout without his permission.

Willard charged the studio incoporated the film in the motion picture "The Great American Broadcast," released in 1941 without his consent. Willard said he did not see the film until last fall.

The pugilist said the film was owned jointly by himself, Dempsey and the late "Tex" Rickard, promoter of the title bout. Willard asked an accounting of the picture's earnings and a reasonable proportion of the receipts.

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Patty Berg To Start Golf Again—for Fun

NEW YORK, Jan. 7.—(U.P.)—Second Lt. Patty Berg, U. S. marine corps women's reserve, and former women's golf champion, will start playing golf again shortly—war work permitting.

"I need some sort of relaxation," she said today, "and it might as well be golf. Besides, I want to keep my hand in. I have a few postwar plans of my own."

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U-Bowl Bowling

Whittals Cement Busters and the U-Bowl keglers took three straight games in Moose bowling league play at the U-Bowl alleys Thursday night.

Whittals stopped the Rex Cafe quintet, while the U-Bowlers downed Bristow's Jewelers. P. B. Keys of Whittals and G. H. Dotson of Rex Cafe tied for singles honors with a 182, while Dotson took the series—a 521. Northam paced the U-Bowlers with a 267 singles and 675 series.

In other league games, The Retread Tire Shop managed to win two games from Poole's Funeral Home, while the AAA did likewise against White Fuel Company.

Purser topped the Retreaders with a 221 lone game and 566 total, while W. Stanfield rolled a 215 and 526 to lead the AAA five.

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TEAMS WIN

MODESTO, Cal., Jan. 7.—(U.P.)—Pasadena Junior College Thursday night overwhelmed Fullerton 76-49 in the opening round of the State Junior College basketball tournament, while Reedley upset Santa Ana junior college.

Big Mike

Army Urged To Let Soldiers Play College Sports By NCAA

NEW YORK, Jan. 7.—(U.P.)—The National Collegiate Athletic Association invited the army Friday to reconsider its regulations prohibiting trainees from participating in intercollegiate sports events, in a pointed resolution adopted by the executive committee.

The resolution cited the "effective use of the facilities and staffs of many member institutions last year by the armed forces" calling attention to the Navy's policy of permitting athletes in its V-12 and V-5 programs to play on varsity teams.

"We believe that continuation of competitive athletics throughout the period of the war is vital to the total training of the individual," the resolution said. "We believe that additional use of existing staffs and facilities can and should be made."

Eligibility Changed

Informally, the committee acknowledged that there was no indication the army would reconsider its policy.

Following the lead of several individual conferences, the N.C.A.A. broadened eligibility requirements for all member schools, lengthening the long-standing three year eligibility rule to four years for undergraduates only.

Tournaments Scheduled

In a discussion which preceded the election of Lt. Col. William J. Bingham of Harvard as chairman of the football rules committee, there was sentiment for several minor revisions, particularly a restriction on the out-of-bounds kickoff play. Bingham succeeded the late Walter Okeson of Lehigh.

Philip O. Badger of New York university, re-elected president yesterday, said the Association had adopted a policy "to go ahead and hold tournaments in 1944 whenever feasible and possible, and wherever we can overcome limitations of travel restrictions, and lack of manpower."

The 1944 N.C.A.A. swimming championships will be at Yale, the tennis meet at Northwestern with dates to be announced later. Plans for other tournaments will be announced by individual committees.

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Workers Dominate Hialeah Turf Opening

MIAMI, Fla., Jan. 7.—(U.P.)—It was opening day at picturesque Hialeah park and normally society's day at the races, but the war-riddled ranks of the social register were forced into the background with newly rich, money-to-burn turf fans stealing the spotlight.

Defense workers on the swing-shift, tourists, and a sizeable throng of $2 bettors dominated the crowd of close to 12,000 persons witnessing the return of racing to Hialeah after a year's forced absence.

In pre-war years, opening of Hialeah, showplace of the turf world, would signal the opening of the winter sports season for South Florida's colonies of blue-bloods. The influx of notables from Palm Beach, Miami Beach, and other resorts would highlight the day.

But not so this year. Society too, has gone to the wars. Many of the old familiar faces are missing from pre-war hangouts and in their stead at Hialeah were the khaki of soldiers, the whites of the navy, and the multi-colored attires of defense workers and tourists.

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Sports Slate

FRIDAY
Intercollegiate Basketball
Oregon at Washington.
Oregon State at Idaho.
Interscholastic 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 Coburg.
Triangle at Florence.

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

ASTU Quintet Plays At Bend

Coach John Warren's ASTU hoop quintet, will make its first appearance on the maple court at Bend Saturday evening and Sunday afternoon, meeting the Camp Abbot Engineers.

The soldiers have been working out since early December, though the members have little time to practice. However, the Oregon mentor has had a large turnout, and several boys have shown considerable promise during recent workouts, and scrimmages against the University of Oregon quintet.

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Montgomery Tackles Peralta at Detroit

DETROIT, Jan. 7.—(AP)—His eye fastened on another shot at Beau Jack's New York - Pennsylvania version of the lightweight title, Bobcat Bob Montgomery of Philadelphia tackles durable Joey Peralto of Douglas, Ariz., in the ten-round feature Friday at Olympia Stadium.

ND Basketball Opens Tonight

(United Press)

Northern division coast conference collegiate basketball, the annual 16-game campaign, opens at Seattle and Moscow, Ida., Friday night—and freshmen will be conspicuous by their presence. Of the 50 or 60 players due to see action, only six are lettermen from past seasons.

The University of Washington Huskies, with a host of navy and marine trainee talent and four of the six lettermen, are highly favored.

The Huskies play Friday and Saturday night against the University of Oregon at Seattle, and Oregon State meets Idaho at Moscow.

Borrevik May Play

Husky coach Hec Edmundson plans to start his veterans—Bill Morris, all-American guard, Bill Taylor, Dale Gronsdahl, Perry Nelson, all lettermen from last year's coast conference champions, and Hec Brown.

Oregon's lineup includes Bob Caviness and Bob Hamilton, sophomores, and George Bray, Bill Phillips and Dick Humphreys, all freshmen. But a 6 foot 8½ inch giant by the name of Wally Borrevik may go in as center, despite only four days' practice. Borrevik, a two-year letterman, is no small addition to the Oregon outfit.

Cougars Rest

Oregon State, weakened by recent losses to the armed forces of Jim Catterall and Bud Fortier, is a slight favorite over Idaho's "mystery" five. Coach Slats Gill plans to start freshman Allen Anderson and Frank Marshik, Bob Reiman, Bernard McGrath and Jack Simms, all sophomores, for Oregon State. Six foot two George Sertic, out since chipping a wrist bone in the first pre-season game, may see play.

Only thing known for sure about Coach Babe Brown's Idaho Vandals is that they will start Tom Collins, lone two-year letterman guard and the rest of the boys are newcomers.

Washington State rests until Monday, when the Beavers move from Moscow to Pullman for a two game series.

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Lou Little Wants Pass Rule Changed

NEW YORK, Jan. 7.—(U.P.)—Coach Lou Little of Columbia University, speaking at a dinner in his honor Thursday night, urged that college football rules be changed to permit use of the forward pass anywhere behind the line of scrimmage instead of five yards or more as at present.

Little, who received the annual award of the Touchdown Club for his contribution to college football, criticized members of the National College Athletic Association, now in executive session here, for advocating a "freezing" of football rules for the duration of the war.

He said college football was not now below the general average of the professional game but that it might stagnate unless rule changes were made to improve the game from the spectators' point of view.

Little said he was in favor of eliminating the rule prohibiting players from running with recovered fumbles. He empasized that the rule was established to popularize the lateral pass and that it had failed to do so.

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Shrine Receipts Top All Previous Records

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 7.—(U.P.)—The 19th annual Shrine East-West New Year's day football game grossed $131,250 and netted $77,016 for the Shriners hospital for crippled children, W. M. Coffman, managing director, reported today.

Coffman said receipts of the game, which ended in a 13-13 tie, were the largest of any contest of the entire series.

The Shrine hospital has received $765,000 from the 19 games, Coffman said.

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NEW L. I. U. COACH

BROOKLYN. — George Wolf, new Long Island university basketball coach, is a graduate of St. John's and stars with the Philadelphia Sphas. Clair Bee is in the maritime service.

Davidson, Hager Expected To Produce 'Rugged' Match

COMPLETE PROGRAM

Main Event—Buck Davidson vs. Tex Hager.

Semi Final—Ernie Piluso vs. Leo Karlinko.

Opener—Jack Lipscomb vs. Jack Kiser.

Buck Davidson, the rabbit-punching Texan, and Tex Hager, the diminutive but dynamic Creswell grappler, promise Lane county wrestling fans one of the most rugged matches in local history when they meet in the headline attraction on the Saturday night program at the Pearl Street arena.

The match is a return engagement, the two matmen being principals in a two-fisted brawl that ended in a draw last week. The re-match not only came as a request from the principals, but from hundreds of fans who were on hand for last week's holiday Doneybrook.

Matchmaker Don Owen has arranged a crowd-pleasing list of preliminary matches for his weekly show. Ernie Piluso, the Portland Italian, and Leo Karlinko, the "Mad Russian," will vie in the semi-final match. Jack Lipscomb and Jack Kiser are opponents in the curtain-raiser, scheduled to start at 8:30 o'clock.

Piluso will have a slight weight advantage over Karlinko who will "outweigh" the popular Portlander in the matter of illegal tactics. The meanie is one of the roughest and toughest customers now campaigning in the Pacific northwest, but Matchmaker Owen believes Piluso is capable of handling himself—as well as Karlinko.

Every one of the three matches will be a meanie-vs.-cleanie affair, and the opener between Lipscomb and Kiser will take a back seat to none of the following bouts. Because of the short time limit, both men will go "all out" in an effort to score a quick victory—Kiser with the use of speed, and his sure-fire "skin the cat;" Lipscomb by any tactics he cares to use. The Hoosier's chief hold among a few legal offensive threats is a half Boston crab but he usually waits until an opponent is badly battered to apply the hold.

Saturday will mark one of the few main-event assignments here for Hager. The formidable grappler, however, holds high national ranking and was a world light-heavyweight championship challenger in California last summer. He is taken too much for granted here because of his hometown complex, but the "Creswell Cyclone" is capable of wrestling with the best and always gives a superb account of himself.

He handed Davidson a terrific physical beating last week when the two matmen staged a blistering battle that started on the mat, continued among the spectators and wasn't stopped until they reached the dressing rooms. There will be no love lost when the two meet again Saturday—and for that reason local grappling addicts are taking considerable interest in the skirmish.

Although there has been a brisk advance sale, the Club cigar store reported Friday that some choice tickets remained for sale.

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WANTE L. A. PROXY

SEATTLE, Jan. 7.—(AP)—Providing he can be talked into taking the job, Emil Sick, owner of Seattle's Pacific Coast league baseball club, favors Clarence Rowland, Los Angeles prevy, for league president. Sick made the statement before leaving on a trip which will end in Sacramento for the January 17 league meeting.

Beau Jack Favored Over Costantino

NEW YORK, Jan. 7.—(AP)—Mike Jacobs' champ dollar magnet gets the call to start the 1944 Madison Square Garden fight season in the approved big money tempo Friday night when Beau Jack, the New York and Pennsylvania lightweight king, risks his reputation against Lulu Costantino in a non-title 10-rounder. Twelve thousand are expected to look on.

It's 1 to 3 that Jack, the Augusta, Ga., shoeshine boy, will be able to outpunch the clever East Side New Yorker but the dissenters argue that the Beau won't be able to catch Lulu let alone punch him.

In making his first start since winning back his 135-pound crown from Bob Montgomery, the Georgia kid is taking on a real fancy dancing mate. This is the kind of fighter calculated to give Jack the miseries. Lulu has been a consistent winner in the smaller clubs where he has fought the best, and the rest too. He has a pair of nimble feet, a talented left hand and an able corps of assistants in the Johnston brothers.

Those who like Lulu disregard the New Yorker's recent loss to Frankie Rubino and point to his consistent win record and the fact that Jack had plenty of trouble with another "fancy Dan," Bobby Ruffin. It's the second big chance for Costantino who blew a featherweight title shot to Chalky Wright in 1942.

Jack expects to carry 137 pounds into the ring and Lulu, usually a feather, must top 135. The question is whether the extra pounds will slow Lulu down and let Jack's heavier punches work their damage.

The champ's camp must consider it a "warmup" scrap for Jack is signed for a tough one with Sammy Angott in the same arena on Jan. 28.

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McCarthy Pulls Blooper At Home; Can't Make Inspection Journey

NEW YORK, Jan. 7—(AP)—Joe McCarthy's aim was a little short when he pitched a log on the fireplace of his Buffalo home during the Christmas holidays. So the manager of the championship New York Yankees won't be in the party of club officials that will inspect the club's spring training site at Atlantic City over the week-end. The log fell on McCarthy's big toe of his right foot, giving him a painful, but not serious injury, club officials said.

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Norm Verry Outstanding Rose Bowl Participant

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 7.—(U.P.)—Big Norm Verry, 235 pound guard of the victorious University of Southern California Rose Bowl team, today was chosen the outstanding player of the New Year's Day game by the Helms Athletic Foundation.

Verry was given credit by Coach Jeff Cravath for firing up the Trojans from their pre-game underdog odds of 3 to 1 against Washington.

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Eugene Recreation

Chambers of the Beeson-Hall bowling team rolled the highest singles and series scores of the evening, though his team lost two out of three games to the Eugene Farmer's Creamery in a McKenzie league bowling match at the Eugene Recreation alleys Thursday night. He had a 236 singles, and 606 series.

Murphy and Young of DeNeffes polled the highest singles and series marks respectively—219 and 558—in the match between DeNeffe's and Rubensteins, though the latter won two of three games.

Pik 'n' Pak also won two out of three, beating Medo-land. Gunderson of Medo-land had a 189 lone game, while Foster of the winners rolled a 508 series.

McDonald won its games from Weber's Feed Co., by forfeit.

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INTERCOLLEGIATE BOXING

STATE COLLEGE, Pa.— Pennsylvania State will play host to the Eastern Intercollegiate boxing tournament, March 11.

ONLY TO THE BEST

MILWAUKEE. — Marquette's football team lost only to the best —Great Lakes twice, the Iowa Seahawks and Purdue.

Nelson Backs In LA Open Pl

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 7.— The nation's leading prof golfers, lured by a purse of in war bonds, opened first firing Friday in the 72-hole day Los Angeles open at tricky Wilshire Country course.

Pre-tourney favoritism with "Lord Byron" smooth-hitting stroker from who is at the top of his game and proved it with a practice of 65—seven under par.

Those who will chase Nelson lead him over the somewhat course included the best of and amateur linksman Harold (Jug) McSpaden, horse Harry" Cooper, Ed Lloyd Mangrum, Sammy Craig Wood, Ralph Guldahl lie Goggin, Marvin Stahl, Dawson, Bruce McCormick many lesser names.

Mangrum, fourth money ner among the touring pros winter, became the official horse of the play because ever-present jinx which has him "blowing up" in Cali tourneys.

Nelson, winner of the round-the-nation tourney in petition with McSpaden, also a jinx of having been low this particular play, although won all the rest of the tournaments worth mention

The starting field of 140 cut to 60 for the final 36 play.

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Maple Leafs Back Into Tie for Second

By United Press

The Toronto Maple Leafs a 6 to 1 victory over the Chicago Blackhawks to get back into a second place tie National League hockey race day, while Detroit gained a place tie by defeating the York Rangers 5 to 0 last night.

Toronto put on a diversified fensive before 9100 home fans five players sharing in the Windy O'Neil, rookie left man, scored twice, with Carr, Elwyn Morris, Gus and Don Webster getting the tallies. Chicago's lone goal in the second period on a George Grigor, a Toronto borrowed for the evening.

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HOME AND HOME

SEATTLE, Jan. 7.—(AP)— tle's Alpine Dairy quintet, year Pacific Northwest champion, and the strong Hellships of Portland will a home and home series, it nounced last night. Games scheduled for Seattle Jan. at Portland, Jan. 30.

Big Ten Boss Sees College Athletics Continued In 1944

By MAJOR JOHN L. GRIFFITH
(Commissioner of Athletics, Big Ten Conference)

CHICAGO, Jan. 7.—(AP)—College athletics, and sports in general, will continue in 1944 with the blessing of the American people. College football will continue, not primarily because it is conducive to improved morale and because it furnishes entertainment, but because it has training values that army and navy officials for the most part, recognize.

Reviewing 1943 on the collegiate sports front, we find that the majority of colleges and universitise kept their sports programs going. These institutions of higher learning, without exception, sities kept their sports programs in 1944. Meanwhile, many schools which abandoned football in 1943 have announced that they plan to put teams in the field this year and are now attempting to arrange schedules.

Looking back a year, 1943 will be remembered as one of the most remarkable in college athletics.

It will be remembered as the year that many college football coaches sent out boys to do a man's job, with most gratifying results. It will be remembered the year that college fo proved it belongs on the Ame scene in wartime as a condi of fighting men, as a stimulu national morale and as the head of college athletic pro that conditioned the general dent body for prospective w signments.

It will be remembered a year that young men in co reaffirmed the fact that the of football belongs to them that they will play the game after university authorities don intercollegiate competiti a university function.

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New Football Rules Chairman Wants No Changes During War

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., Jan. 7.—(AP)—A policy of following in the footsteps of his three great predecessors as chairman of the football rules committee, which will go into effect after the war, was announced today by the newly appointed William J. Bingham, Harvard athletic director now on leave of absence as a U. S. army lieutenant colonel.

"It is my hope and intention to be a worthy successor to the three outstanding men who have preceded me to the chairmanship of this important committee," Bingham said. "Since 1905, when President Theodore Roosevelt demanded that college authorities reform college football, the rules committee has had three chairmen: Walter Camp, 1906 to 1911; Edward K. Hall, 1911 to 1932, and Walter R. Okeson, 1932 to 1943."

No Meeting During War

Bingham explained that he was opposed to holding a meeting of the rules committee during the duration of the war. He pointed out that at the last meeting, held in Tuscon, Ariz., after the 1941 football season, his immediate predecessor announced that the rules would be frozen for the duration.

That decision, to Bingham's mind, was a wise one for, he said, college football has been played under abnormal conditions for the past two seasons and eligibility rules and amateur standards have been relaxed for the duration.

"Our most important job right now is to concentrate on getting the war over with as quickly as possible," Bingham continued. "When that task is finished, the football rules committee will make a penetrating analysis of the game to determine what changes, if any, are necessary."

In paying tribute to his predecessors, Bingham cited Walter Camp for his leadership when football was passing through its transitional stages from mass strategy to the open game; Edward K. Hall for stabilizing it following the introduction of the forward pass and Walter Okeson for codifying the present playing rules.

"They were responsible for preserving the traditions of one of the best of our American college games," Bingham added. "They have on many occasions reminded the members of their committees that they were the trustees of the game and they never yielded to the demand to make football more spectacular if, by so doing, it would increase the hazard of injury to a player."

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