

HIGH CLIMBER By DICK STRITE

Bob Knox, former physical education and athletic director at Wilson Junior High, was fed up with coaching a few years ago after mentoring at some comparatively small eastern-Oregon high school.

Bob's retirement from the coaching field was short-lived and he suddenly turned up at the University of Idaho where he coached the Vandal boxing team and helped with football as one of the late Francis Schmidt's assistants—aiding Babe Brown with the freshman squad.

The hoop survey conducted by Knox while doing graduate work here was conducted in the country's "B" high schools. He gave the kids a series of tests at the start of the season, tabulated his findings and sealed them.

In other words, if a coach wishes to chance it, he could give his basketball squad the "Knox test" at the start of the season and eliminate those players who failed to stack up with the best.

The mention of the late Francis Schmidt, who died at a Spokane hospital Tuesday night at the age of 58, brings back the memory of one of the most fantastic football games in collegiate grid annals.

But along about eight or nine years ago, if our memory has survived, we were attending a game at Corvallis and listening to a broadcast of the Oregon-UCLA game in Los Angeles up in the Bell Field press box at the same time.

Yes, the news of Schmidt's death no doubt brought back thrilling memories to many of the 80,000 fans who were backslammed into the stadium at Columbus, Ohio, that November afternoon of the 1935 football season.

Sam Sneed, the Slammin-Sammy from the Virginia hills, may return to competitive golf in time to compete in the \$10,000 Portland Open Thanksgiving Day.

That announcement also brings back the memory of an amazing sports feat—in the 1939 National Open at Philadelphia where Sneed needed a par five on the final hole to win or a bogey six to tie Denny Shute and Byron Nelson.

Major Leaders NATIONAL AB R H Pct. Walker, Brooklyn .490 73 172 347

Home Runs Nicholson, Cuba .32 Oct. Giants .28 Egan, Yankees .20

Medo-Land Creamery defeated McDonald Candy in McKennie league play, with Cowles of the Creamery quintet taking high series with a 502.

1944 Eugene High Grid Team Lacks Experience; Kuchera Has Top-Flight Backfield, Line Fair

Axemen Go to Oregon City

Billy Hutchinson Only 1943 Regular Returning

By RED Q. GATES Closing out their last practice session with a light workout, the "Big Purple" of Eugene High, Thursday marked time till the opener Friday night at Oregon City, against the vaunted Pioneers.

As the Axemen coach, Hank Kuchera, put it "on paper they'll beat us, but they had better not," seemed to be the thought of every Eugene player, down to a fourth-string substitute.

Just how Kuchera's eleven will stack up is not known, but in practice to date the boys who have an ax to grind, show enough to do some fancy decapitating of the No-Name title aspirants.

As far as experience goes Kuchera has a green team, especially in the line where there is not a 1943 starter returning, and a lone letterman, center and co-captain Ronald Ham, heading the group.

Despite this gloomy grid outlook, Kuchera and assistant, Duane Mellem, have done this—developed 14 men into first-rate contenders for starting berths in the line, and has 12 backs who could rate to "pack the piggy" for anybody in the section.

To select a starting lineup is one thing, no coach will divulge for certain, till game time. But a glimpse of the Axemen in working clothes, lines them up like this: at left end will be Bob Sawyer, a rangy two-year veteran who is plainly adept at defensive work besides being a pass-catcher of note.

Marv Reynolds, has been working out as No. 1 left guard, and has really been "showing", although a reserve, Dick Hopper, is due for considerable action. The center post is neatly taken care of by Ham, with a good reserve in Junior Charles Mornhinwig.

Now that backfield. There's no shortage of talent there. In fact, so much material is on hand that Kuchera hasn't quite given the nod to any one player. Dead certain to be in there though is Hutchinson, but whether it will be at right or left half is not known.

Billy Harber, is pretty sure of the blocking-back spot, holding a decided edge on the other candidates as far as blocking and tackling goes. At fullback, if not in playing end where he is a letterman, will be Darrel Robinson, hard-hitting line-smasher.

Eugene will again use the single wing, with an unbalanced line with their main force probably line bucks. Kuchera indicated though that there will be considerable use made of the air-liners, and also plenty of hipper-dipper.

Pik-N-Pak defeated Chase company, with Harvey of the winners having the high series for the contest with a 149-141-133-423.

Eugene Recreation Medo-Land Creamery defeated McDonald Candy in McKennie league play, with Cowles of the Creamery quintet taking high series with a 502.



COACHES AND CAPTAINS AWAIT OPENER—Pictured left to right are assistant coach Duane Mellem, Co-Captain Billy Hutchinson, Co-Captain Ronald Ham, and head coach Henry E. Kuchera, of Eugene High. Hutch is a starting backfield man, and Ham is the first string center. Eugene opens against Oregon City Friday night.

1944 EHS Grid Squad . . . Baseball

Table listing Grid Squad members: ENDS, GRADE, Age, Wt., Ht., Exp. Includes Graham Mischbach, Bill Fulps, Bob Sawyer, Dick Strite, Darrel Robinson, Pat Byrne, Jim Gatewood, Ken Ruth, John Banks, Del Moberly, Ed Neuen, Graham Mischbach, Don Nordling, Bob Hunter, Jack Huber, Bob Moffitt, Eugene Paul, John McAlone, J. McMillan, Norm Privovsky, Jim Privovsky, Harry Paulus, Al Palmateer, Stu Rankin, Gerald Harris, Jim Hoffa.

Table listing Grid Squad members: GUARDS, GRADE, Age, Wt., Ht., Exp. Includes Marv Reynolds, Corky Moberly, Charley Campbell, Ed Anderson, Doug Sawyer, Bill Raso, Bob Bollova, Norman Richards, Greg Smith, Charles Mead, Cecil Welch, Char. Mornhinwig, Marion Jones, Art Johnson, Stan Ricardo, Allan Nye, Jim Hanne, Cal Harvey, Harold Walker, Floyd Greene, Dale Warberg, Bill Harber, Bill Hutchinson, Andy Bodner, Milton Denzer, Tom Ferrick, Lincoln High, Portland, Transfer, Lincoln High, Portland, Co-captains.

Table listing Baseball players: AMERICAN, NATIONAL, W. L. Pct. Includes Detroit, St. Louis, New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Chicago, Washington, St. Louis, Philadelphia, Chicago, Brooklyn.

Many Former Diamond Stars To Play in 'World Series'

HONOLULU, Sept. 21.—(UP)—The biggest array of major league talent in the armed forces ever gathered since the war began will perform for thousands of servicemen here starting today, when the powerful seventh air force, representing the army, meets the navy All-Stars in the Pacific "world series."

Despite the fact that the seven-game series would attract capacity crowds at top prices in the local stadium—which holds 25,000—all games will be played on service fields before routing sections of sailors and G-I's who undoubtedly will see as good, if not better, baseball than the real world series.

Indiana Gets Last Year's Ace Again

BLOOMINGTON, Ind., Sept. 21.—(AP)—Storm warnings for football foes were flying over Indiana University today.

The Hoosiers, counted out as a threat to anybody before the season started, now are recovering remarkably well after a shot in the arm with the surprise arrival of Bob Hoernschmeyer, freed by the navy to resume tossing yard-gaining passes that gave Indiana one of the best all-civilian teams last season.

True, Indiana broke its stadium scoring record with a 72 to 0 rout of a big Fort Knox team last Saturday, but coach Alvin N. "Bo" McMillan explained the lopsided triumph away by bewailing that the Armorers displayed a sorry brand of ball.

With "Hunchy" Hoernschmeyer starting at halfback next Saturday against Illinois, McMillan gave "my boys" a "fighting chance" against all rivals.

"Hunchy," a Cincinnati, granted a "special order discharge" from the Bainbridge, Md., naval training center and he beat the announcement back to Indiana's practice session yesterday. The discharge will permit him to make up a deficiency in mathematics before taking up an appointment to the naval academy next April.

"Hunchy" was on the Associated Press All-Western conference last year, and was on the eastern All-Star squad, for which he tossed a touchdown pass to Pete Pihos, a teammate last year, against the West team in the annual charity contest at San Francisco.

was an odds-on favorite to grab the title because of such stars as Joe DiMaggio, Red Ruffing and Joe Gordon of the New York Yankees; Mike McCormick of the Cincinnati Reds; Walter Judnich of the St. Louis Browns and Dario Lodigiani of the Chicago White Sox.

The navy, however, sent out an SOS for pitching strength so Lynwood (Schoolboy) Rowe and Virgil (Fire) Trucks, both of the Detroit Tigers, stepped off a ship the other day. The next transport delivered Johnny Vander Meer of the Cincinnati Reds. They'll work with a mound staff which already numbers Verne Olsen, Chicago Cubs; Hugh Casey, Brooklyn; Tom Ferrick, Cleveland and Walter Masterson, Washington.

Bill Dickey, Ruffing's old battery mate with the Yanks, will master-mind the navy nine and take his turn behind the plate, with his kid brother, George, of the White Sox, Vince Smith of the Pittsburgh Pirates and Don Padgett, St. Louis Cards, backing him up.

Johnny Mize of the Cardinals is at first base for the navy with Pee-Wee Reese for Brooklyn; Al Brancato of the Philadelphia Athletics and Eddie Pellegrini of the Boston Red Sox rounding out the infield.

The navy outfield has Barney McCoskey of Detroit, Jim Carlin of the Phillies and Joe Grace of the Browns. Dominic DiMaggio of the Red Sox is reported on his way here, while Phil Rizzuto also may be on hand for an infield post.

The 7th easily won the Hawaii league and Central Pacific area circuit championships, winning 60 and losing only 13.

Ruffing to Get Call Ruffing will share mound chores with Johnny Beazley of the Cards and Al Lien of the San Francisco Seals. In addition, manager Tom Winsett, long-time major league, can call on Ruggar Ardizola of the Kansas City Blues, and Carl De Rose, ex-Yank rookie from Albany, Cal.

Charley Silveira of Kansas City and Will Leonard of the Red Sox will catch. Ferris Fain, San Francisco's modern Hal Chase, will be at first base, with Lodigiani at second; Gordon at short, and Bob Dillinger of the Toledo Mudhens at third.

The fence-busting outfield of DiMaggio, Judnich and McCormick is enough to make strong navy men tremble.

Wakefield's Batting Helps Tigers Greedy

By JACK CUDDY NEW YORK, Sept. 21.—(UP)—The "vigor of Wakefield" has come to be recognized, as the most potent force in the American league pennant push, and potentially a determining factor in the approaching world series.

Regardless of the gamblers of orients that have been hung about the necks of (1) pitchers and (2) batters, and (3) Lou Gehrig's plate slanting, who has come too an unexpected brilliant job behind the plate.

It was dangerous Dick Wakefield, the \$52,000 beauty, who paired yesterday with fire-baller Trout to drive another nail into the New York Yankees' coffin, 8-2 in five trips to the plate, this 23-year-old swaggar garnered three hits, including his ninth home run of the season, meanwhile scoring twice and driving in two runs. He has hit safely in his last 14 games for a .521 average in those 14 contests. He did most of his damage yesterday while the game was close.

That was just another game for tall, handsome Dick of the chestnut hair; but it was an important victory for Steve O'Neill's outfit as the stretch shortens and the contending teams approach the pennant wire. It put the leading Tigers two full games above the second-place Browns, and four full games ahead of the defending Yanks. Regardless of the brand of snuff one uses, such an advantage cannot be sneezed off in these wind-up days.

Portland Girls Fling Another No-Hitter, Continue To Win

CLEVELAND, Sept. 21.—(AP)—Portland, Oregon's Lind Pomeroy girls softball team scored its fourth straight victory in the World Amateur Softball championships here Wednesday, downing the Stamford, Conn., Nutmegs, 1-0.

Betty Evans tossed a no-hitter for Portland, striking out 17. Tuesday she had combined with Alyce Johnson for a no-hitter against Omaha, Neb. Portland hasn't allowed opponents a single run.

Minor League Baseball

(Associated Press) Yesterday's scores: International League semi-final play-offs: Buffalo 1, Baltimore 0 (7 innings, rain) (Buffalo leads series, two games to none). American Association semi-final play-offs: St. Paul 2, Toledo 1, (10 innings). (Teams are tied to three games apiece). Southern Association final play-offs: Nashville 11, Memphis 10 (Nashville wins championships, four games to three).

Detroit Adds To League Lead

Little Hope Left For Yankees To Win Race

Table showing Detroit's lead in the league race with columns for Team, W, L, Pct., Games Behind, Games Left.

NEW YORK, Sept. 21.—(UP)—Frank (Stubby) Overmire of the Detroit Tigers, a little man with a long memory, awaited his chance today to gain revenge against the New York Yankees—a chance he has waited for a year.

The Yankees are reeling on their heels now, all but mathematically out of the American league pennant race, but the things were different last season when Overmire, a rookie pitcher, permitted them to clinch the flag. The 5-foot, 7-inch Dutchman, didn't want to be the "fronk-guy" and he battled the Bronx Bombers 14-innings before losing 2 to 1 at Yankee Stadium. Yanks Plight Hopeless

The fact that he pitched creditably and lost to the league's best hurler, Spud Chandler, didn't minimize his bitterness. He wanted revenge and today the situation is reversed. The Tigers aren't going to clinch the pennant—yet—but no matter what the Yankees do, they aren't likely to be the team to beat them out of it.

Even the second place St. Louis Browns have a tough row to hoe. They would have to win seven out of 11 games to tie the Tigers and there is no reason to think the league leaders are going to drop to a 500 pace when they have won 10 of their last 12 games.

Paul (Dizzy) Trout, one of the Tiger "victory twins," got in his licks against the Yanks yesterday, beating them 8 to 2 in his 25th victory and his sixth straight against the world champions this year. It was the second straight Tiger victory over the Yankees, and their ninth defeat in 10 tries at Briggs stadium this year. Outfielder Dick Wakefield, who has made 25 hits in his last 50 times at bat, started Trout off to victory with an inside-the-park homer in the second off Rookie Mel Queen, who lost his second game after five victories for the Yanks.

The Browns kept their ebbing hopes alive by beating the Washington Senators 5 to 2. Chet Laabs, replacing the slumping Al Zarilla in the Brown lineup, supplied most of the punch for Jack Kramer's victory, getting three hits.

Phillies End Win Streak

Cleveland outlasted Boston, winning 11 to 10 in the 13th by scoring two runs in his half after the Red Sox had scored once. The Indians made 19 hits and the Red Sox 15 for a rough day on pitchers. Chicago made all its runs in the seventh, to defeat the Philadelphia A's 6 to 1, behind Orval Grove, who yielded only four hits in seven innings.

Pittsburg kept intact its slim chance to tie St. Louis in the National by beating Brooklyn 2 to 1 while the Cards were rained out at Boston. Nick Strincevich bested Rookie Fred Wells of the Dodgers in a duel.

Football Officials to Have Annual Tests at Eugene High Saturday

The annual examination for prospective high school football officials will be held at 9 a. m. Saturday at the principal's office at Eugene high school, according to Dean Mickelwaite who will conduct the tests. He announced that referees, umpires and headlinemen who are unable to make the date can arrange to have the test given at an earlier or later date. Arrangements must be made Saturday morning.

The Oregon High School Activities Association, which requires the examination, has announced that all officials must take the written test this season, with no exceptions. The usual annual fee of \$2 will prevail.

Qualifying For Golf Postponed

Not enough ladies turned out for the qualifying rounds of the Country Club's ball tournament yesterday, so qualifying rounds were postponed till next Wednesday, September 27.

Instead play was continued on the President's cup. With one more round remaining Mrs. David B. Evans is leading the field.

In sweepstakes held Wednesday, Mrs. Clark Johns and Mrs. A. W. Stiem were low in group one, with net 84. In group two Mrs. C. W. Guerrier was low with a net 81.

Major Leaguers To Tour War Theaters

NEW YORK, Sept. 21.—(UP)—Major league baseball stars including representatives of 10 American and National league clubs will leave this country shortly after the World Series to tour front-line areas in American theaters of war, the army special services division announced today.

Twelve currently active stars and six managers, including Mel Ott, playing manager of the New York Giants, have volunteered their services and will be accompanied by four former players, two umpires and five baseball writers.

In addition to Ott, Joe Medwick, Billy Jurges and Carl Hubbell will represent the Giants and Manager Leo Durocher and major league batting leader Dixie Walker will be the Dodger representatives. From the Yankees were Johnny Linnell, George Stainback, and Nick Etten in addition to their former pitching great, Vernon "Lefty" Gomez.

Manager Luke Sewell and Second Baseman Don Guttridge will represent the Browns, Manager Frankie Frisch and Rip Sewell will go from the Pirates and Joe Kubi and Dutch Leonard will represent the Senators. Managers Steve O'Neill of the Tigers and Fred Fitzsimmons of the Phillies have volunteered and the list is completed with the names of Cincinnati pitcher Bucky Walters and White Sox coach, Bing Miller.

The tour will last from two to three months and destinations are a military secret.

Kiser-Silent Rattan Meet In Mat Fracas

Matchmaker Don Owen signed three matmen to appear on his weekly wrestling show at the Pearl Street arena Saturday night—completing an all-star program that will feature the local debut of a highly-touted newcomer, the "Grey Mask."

Owen, willing to spend some extra money to assure a formidable opponent for the "Mask," agreed to the demands of Buck Davidson for an additional fee to the regular purse and signed the tough Texan as the main-event opponent for the much-feared hooded grappler.

At the same time, Owen booked Coast Champion Jack Kiser to meet Silent Rattan in the opening match of the program. The caliber of the card is indicated in the appearance of the light-heavyweight king of the coast in the curtain-raiser, and the ex-champion, Paavo Katonen, in a semi-final match.

Katonen, striving for a rematch with Kiser for the coast crown he dropped to the youthful and talented St. Johns grappler, will be meeting Tex Porter, the toothless Seattle villain, in the 45-minute match.

The opener, between Kiser and the Oklahoma deaf-and-dumb matman, will be in marked contrast to the headline and semi-windup. Rattan and Kiser are both fine scientific grapplers and are expected to give an excellent exhibition of pure modern wrestling.

Local fans aren't sure what to expect from the "Mask," but they are curious and have made a "run" on reserved seat tickets at the Club cigar store ticket agency, indicating a capacity crowd for the Saturday night show.

REFUSES \$15,000 JOB

TORONTO, Ont., Sept. 20.—(UP)—The National hockey league sought a new president today after it was learned that Major Connie Smythe of the Canadian army had declined the \$15,000-a-year post.

Lansdowne Reserve A MAN'S WHISKEY. Blended Whiskey. No Proof 45% Grain Neutral Spirits. The Lansdowne Distillery Ltd. Grace, Me.

Say... Korn's Corn Bread. At Your Grocers.

Eugene Motor Clinic. 115 Park Street. Directly Behind The Courthouse. SPECIALIZING - CARBURETOR - IGNITION and AUTOMOTIVE ELECTRICAL. REPAIR and SERVICE EXPERT MOTOR TUNE-UP. AUTHORIZED UNITED MOTORS - AUTO-LITE BATTERIES - All Parts and Service Guaranteed. OWNERS George Heddlger Ray Heddlger

Trim Your Dry-Cleaning Bills. SIGWART'S. Farmers Auto Insurance. Takes care of the... FRIENDLY AND IMMEDIATE CLAIM SERVICE... BROAD PROTECTION AT A SAVING... ROBERT CROSS, District Manager, 111 East Broadway St. FARMERS AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE.