

HIGH CLIMBER

By DICK STRITE

DENVER, Colo., March 18.—The Oregon Webfoots arrived here today and plan a workout at the University of Denver, but Dr. George Guldager, the writer, hopes to sneak away to watch a couple of games in the National AAU tournament before entraining later in the day for Kansas City—and we're hoping to see either Portland's Fee Music Makers or Gull Bishop's Fort Lewis Warriors in action... but more about that later.

But while the Oregon-WSC series is still fresh in mind, we might warn the rabid University of Oregon fans that Webfoot basketball is in danger of being outlawed if attacks against referees are permitted to continue. Oregon, with no fault of the university, has already gleaned an unhealthy reputation—which does not do justice to the Oregon officials, Coach John Warren, or the Webfoots.

The players "cry" about questionable decisions at times, but let it go there: "Honest John" never "beats" to an official; the athletic department officials always treat the whistle-blowers as gentlemen who are expected to do competent jobs. But the good feeling stops there.

After the Oregon-OSC game here some weeks ago, won by the Beavers 55-51, several heated fans took several punches at Art McElroy, former WSC man from Seattle. Friday night, after Oregon lost 53-48 to WSC, Elroy "Squinty" Hunter of Spokane was "pushed around" by several groups of spectators. We talked to Squinty and Emil Piluso before Saturday's game and they reported threats during halftime of the Friday tilt. They expect the boos of the crowds and criticism—they get paid handsomely for their work—but they are not expected to take anything but verbal abuse. Hunter refused to return Saturday night until Anne Cornell assured him of police protection.

Such incidents and conditions must be stopped or Oregon basketball will lose everything that it has gained—and that's considerable.

Jack Friel, WSC coach, and the staff of officials, but the veteran writer hardly agree on the value of Cougar mentor told us that he rates Hunter and McElroy the best officials in the conference, and Piluso the worst. He thought Hec Edmundson had made an excellent selection in McElroy for the NCAA tournament. Friel said his fans thought Piluso was a poor referee.

We have seen McElroy work only three games in the past two seasons—two in Seattle last year and one here this season—and he gave terrible exhibitions. Hunter was 100 per cent better in the two games here than in the game at Pullman when Oregon won 51-41, so use your own judgment.

Our friend, L. H. Gregory, sporting editor of the Portland Oregonian, says he never writes about referees... But we see no reason for giving 'em a free ride... Many of the spectators at college basketball games aren't even familiar with the rules and base their boos on violations and fouls called against their favorites—just because they don't like the decisions.

Here is an example on how well versed the average fan is. We traveled to Salem with a fellow the other day who had worked until 2 a. m. that morning to be able to attend the opening of the state prop lottery. He asked us to explain the difference between a personal and technical foul.

Incidentally, Friel suggests an annual clinic for conference referees before the start of the season, and the mixing up of the men who work together and in "pairs" the same locality all of the time... But he still thinks it is all right to have McElroy work games in his home town and for a team from his home town is under too much home town pressure to do a creditable job.

Tex Oliver campaigned for years to eliminate just such conditions in football, particularly in the San Francisco bay region.

We saw only the opening round of the state tournament, but still can't believe that one or more Eugene players weren't good enough to make at least second all-state selections... We were also amazed that the slow-moving Rinearsen of Oregon City did make the grade.

Although they gained only fourth place, Hank Kuchera's Eugene Axemen could easily be rated the second best quintet in the Salem classic—at least mythically. They gave Washington a terrific battle before losing, and won all the rest of their games... In regular season play Eugene defeated Oregon City's runners-up... The margin was only one point, but Eugene held a substantial margin until reserves allowed the Pioneers to close the gap.

Hank gave three or four sophomores a chance for state tournament experience—which may come in handy in 1947... Next year will be a building year at Eugene, and Eugene City and Roseburg are slated to fight it out for the District 6 title.

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OVER THE TOP—Minnie Wannamaker, 13, rides "DunPickin'" in a jump during an Equestrian Club horse show at the Riviera Country Club, Santa Monica, Calif.

U. Of O. Cagers En Route To Kansas City

By DICK STRITE

BAKER, Ore., March 19.—A University of Oregon basketball squad is en route to its second National Collegiate Athletic association tournament, but will be making its first appearance in Kansas City next Friday night when the Webfoots meet the Arkansas Razorbacks in the first round of the western regional playoff.

Coach John Warren's 10-man squad that entrained from Portland last night clinched the northern division, Pacific coast conference crown at Eugene Saturday night in a 39-37 Donnybrook court battle against Washington State's veteran Cougars. The triumph gave the young Webfoots a 2-1 edge in the three-game title series, Oregon having won 51-41 at Pullman in the opening tilt and WSC taking the second game by a 53-48 count.

Jim Bartlett, the 17-year-old freshman guard who enters the U. S. army air corps in a couple of months, was still the toast of the squad—for his field goal in the last 40 seconds of Saturday's game to break a 37-37 deadlock.

Other members of the traveling squad include Dick Wilkins, Del Smith and Reedy Reed, forwards; Ken Hays and Ed Allen, centers; Chuck Stinner, alternate center; and forward, Capt. Bob Hamilton, Frank Hoffine and Lou Kotnik, guards. Other members of the party, besides Warren and the players, are Anne Cornell, graduate manager; Nick Weddle, student manager; and Dr. George Guldager, team physician.

The squad arrives in Denver Tuesday and the Webfoots will work out on the University of Denver court. A drill Wednesday night has been planned in Kansas City with a light workout Thursday. Oregon's game against Arkansas will follow an opening tilt between Utah's NCAA champions and Oklahoma A. & M. The two winners and two losers will meet in the finals Saturday night. The regional champion will play in the national finals in New York City the following week-end.

Oregon's last appearance in the NCAA tournament was in 1939 when the Webfoots won the national championship. In the western regional at Treasure Island, Oregon defeated Oklahoma and Texas and then downed Ohio State in the finals in Evanston.

Except for Kotnik and his two dislocated toes, and the end of Bartlett's nose, where WSC's Bob Bennick punched him in the dramatic closing seconds of Saturday's thriller, the Oregon squad is in fine physical condition. Dr. Guldager is giving Hays treatments for the injured toes every few hours and the 6-foot, 7-inch center is expected to be in good condition for Friday's tilt.

Wilkins' return to shooting form gives Oregon needed scoring punch. The freshman forward tallied 21 points in the last two games to bring to 500 his total points for the season—among the top scorers of the nation. Hamilton, who was the top scorer of the series for Oregon with 37 points in three games, is also among the nation's top scorers with 464 for the season.

The 6000 spectators who were on their feet most of the second half of last Saturday's game must still be talking about the heart-thumper that saw the Webfoots overcome an eight-point WSC lead with a stretch drive that copied the crown. The score was tied seven times—at 2, 4, 12, 29, 31, 33 and 37—before Bartlett's winning basket.

Hope Steals Light In Golf Match

PALM SPRINGS, Calif., March 18.—Comedian Bob Hope today crowned his golf career with a victory over Capt. Jack Anderson to win an exhibition golf match from screen star Bing Crosby and Sgt. John Alver.

A record crowd of 3500 saw Hope score 37-35-72. His companion, Anderson, of the 21st Army Air Corps, brought in 36-35-71. Crooner Crosby scored 40-37-77 and his teammate, Alver, of the air base, shot 36-37-73.

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Pacific Coast League Starts To Take Shape

By Associated Press

Scores were close yesterday when seven Pacific coast league baseball clubs engaged in pre-season games, except at Sacramento, where the Solons ran over non-league Camp Beale.

The Los Angeles Angels defeated the Seattle Rainiers 9-7 at Anaheim, and the Hollywood Stars took the San Diego Padres 7-5 at San Diego. The Portland Beavers lost to the non-league Lucky Lager club 5-3 at San Jose, the Sacramento Solons swamped non-league Camp Beale 11-5 at Sacramento, and the San Francisco Seals edged out the non-league Alameda coast guard 6-5.

Four eighth inning errors permitted three runs which spelled victory for the Angels. Lou Novikoff hit one home run, a double, and a single for the Los Angeles team.

The Padres started early with a one-run lead, but were topped in the third inning when the Stars scored twice. The Stars held the lead the rest of the way, though the Padres outlived them 10 to 9. The San Diegos made two errors, the Stars one.

A pitching duel between the Beavers' Ad Liska and Tom Seals, playing for the Luckies, marked the San Jose game. They were on the mound five innings, each allowing three hits. Liska fanned eight batters.

The Solons played two teams against the soldier nine, using light-hand hurlers Gene Babbitt and Lou Penrose. Camp Beale made all its runs in the fourth inning with Babbitt on the mound.

The coast guard boys outlived the Seals 10 to 6, but errors gave the San Franciscans the game.

Notes From The Camps

By United Press

LAKEWOOD, N. J., March 19.—Walter Ockey and Don King were a stride ahead of other young New York Giant pitchers today in their bids for regular jobs on the hurling staff.

They yielded only two hits pitching for the Giant first stringers to beat the Yanknigs, 2 to 1, in the opening intra-camp game yesterday. Each worked three innings.

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., March 19.—(UP)—The New York Yankee training camp wasn't the same today. Boss Man Col. Larry S. MacPhail left a wake of excitement after his flying trip here yesterday with Lt. Bert Shepard, the one-legged war veteran, who stayed to work out with the Yanks after being flown from College Park, Md., in Undersecretary of War Robert Patterson's private plane.

BEAR MOUNTAIN, N. Y., March 19.—(UP)—Pitcher Ben Chapman, a baseball veteran who made a comeback with the Brooklyn Dodgers, was picking up a few new tricks today from Curt Davis, one of the earliest moundmen in the game.

He experimented yesterday with a sinker ball which Davis uses effectively and said he thought it would help him considerably. PLEASANTVILLE, N. J., March 19.—(UP)—Manager Joe Cronin of the Boston Red Sox hoped for a big crop of the new arrivals at training camp today, when most of the regulars are expected to report. However, he said he was afraid transportation difficulties would delay some of them.

Outfielder Bob Johnson and third baseman Nick Polli reported yesterday, bringing the number of men in camp to 11.

FREDERICK, Md., March 19.—The booming bat of rookie George Burns made him a rival of George Kell today for the third base post with the Philadelphia Athletics. Burns made four hits in five times at bat, scored two runs and fielded perfectly yesterday as the Blues beat the Grays, 14 to 2, in an intra-camp game before 1,000 fans.

GEORGETOWN, D. C., March 19.—(UP)—Al Javery, tired of being the "hard luck" pitcher of the majors, was off to an early spring training start with the Boston Braves today, hopeful that his fortune will change in 1945.

National A. A. U. Underway At Denver, Colo.

By FRANK CRAWFORD

DENVER, March 19.—(AP)—The champion Phillips "66" Oilers' start in the National A. A. U. basketball tournament today is expected to be just another breeze in this mile high city in the Rockies.

The Bartlesville, Okla., titleholders meet the Greeley, Colo., Lions at 7 p. m. in a second round affair. The champions had drawn a first-round bye and Greeley took a 42-41 overtime thriller from the Glenwood Springs, Colo., naval hospital.

Three other seeded clubs will make their first appearance of the tourney in the seven-game program today. Allen-Bradley of Milwaukee will be first of the powerhouse quintets to exhibit its talent. The Milwaukee dark horse entry meets Toner-Mapell of Denver, 76-44 winner in the tourney opener yesterday over the Walsenburg, Colo., Shokys.

After the Phillips-Greeley fust at 7 o'clock the Cessna Bobcats of Wichita, at the top of the lower 16-team bracket, oppose Colorado University's medics at 8:45 p. m., and Denver Ambrose Jelly Makers close the day's festivities by taking on the St. Louis Candles, 66-16 runaway winner over Butte, Mont., last night.

Sunday's first round eliminations played to a crowd of 2,500 and sported three ding-dong battles, one a one-point overtime attraction, but it was plain the fans were waiting for their first glimpse of the top-flight favorites.

Today's program includes: 12 noon—Fee's Music Makers, Portland, vs. Ute, Iowa, Indians. 1:00 p. m.—Idaho Simplots vs. Mitchell, Neb.

The Clawson's Are A Sporting Clan

EVANSTON.—When Frank

Clawson entered Northwestern three years ago, his pet peeve was being referred to as Don Clawson's little brother. Don had just graduated with a record of nine letters; three each in football, basketball and track. It wasn't long before Frank established himself as a star in his own right. As a sophomore, the fiery redhead won three letters—in football, basketball and tennis. Last fall he was quarterback on the football team, and he has just completed the basketball season as a forward. Frank received his ensign's commission at the R.O.T.C. graduation, will not have the opportunity of swelling his brother's record. It's been a long time, however, since he has been referred to as Don Clawson's brother.

Coleman Takes Bride

CANTON, O.—Herb Coleman, center on Notre Dame's national championship football team of 1943, and now in midshipmen's school in South Bend, was married here March 10, two days after receiving his ensign's commission. Eleanor Marshall of this city is the lucky girl.

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Haegg Game For Another Track Meet

Loss Of Banker Mile Added Incentive

CHICAGO, March 19.—(UP)—Sweden's Gunder Haegg, although a bit puzzled by American indoor track methods flatly predicted today he would run the fastest indoor mile of the season Friday night in the Knights of Columbus games at Cleveland.

The long-legged Swedish running champ said he would run a 4:12 mile or better Friday which should give him his first victory in four tries this season, whether Jimmy Rafferty of New York runs or not.

Rafferty, a hard-running Irishman with an explosive finishing kick, has won seven major mile races this season, including three victories over Haegg. After whipping the Swede in the Chicago relay's Bankers mile Saturday night, Rafferty said he probably would not compete in the Cleveland meet due to "business matters."

Haegg, disappointed that he might not get a chance to gain revenge against Rafferty Friday, was puzzled about his loss to the New York Irishman here Saturday night.

"Nobody told me what lap it was," Haegg said. "I couldn't judge myself and it hurt my running." He also remarked he couldn't understand "some of the things" about American indoor meets, but he did not elaborate.

Haakon Lidman, Swedish newspaperman, and Haegg's traveling companion on his current American tour, said he would "be all set to run" in the Cleveland meet. Lidman, a hurdler, injured his knee during an eastern meet and was unable to compete here due to a severe case of buritis, which resulted in a stiff knee.

If Haegg does a 4:12 mile or better, it will stand as the best mark of the current season. Rafferty's 4:13.1 in an eastern meet currently is tops. The second best mark is the 4:13.7 Rafferty turned in Saturday night as Haegg ran second in the Bankers mile.

The Swedish shadow ran a 4:14.5 mile Saturday, his best time in three tries this season. He previously had run 4:31 and 4:19 miles.

Minors' Head Turns Down New League

DURHAM, N. C., March 19.—(UP)—An application of the Utah Industrial League for membership in the National association of professional baseball teams has been turned down, President W. G. Bramham said today.

Bramham, head of the minor leagues, said he would not approve applications of new leagues and would discourage restoration of suspended leagues to active status until manpower and transportation shortages are relieved.

Kentucky To Build New Fieldhouse

LEXINGTON, Ky.—A tentative

contract for plans for the War Memorial Fieldhouse to be built at the University of Kentucky has been approved by the executive committee of the board of trustees. It will cost \$1,000,000, exclusive of site and equipment. The new fieldhouse will accommodate upward of 10,000 spectators. It will be used for statewide sports and civic events, add thousands of dollars to the athletic department budget.

WESTERNER PICKED

KANSAS CITY, March 19.—(UP)—Bob Brumley, eastern Washington college of education basketball coach, was elected to the executive committee of the national intercollegiate basketball association yesterday.

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GRAY MASK WHIPS BELCASTRO AGAIN

Saturday evening at the Armory arena the Grey Mask took Pete Belcastro before an almost capacity crowd.

The Grey Mask took the first fall in just one minute with head butts and leg stopper. The first fall almost went to Belcastro by referee's decision, for the Mask

Lach Sets Puck Record

MONTREAL, March 19.—(UP)—

Whenever any new hockey records are set this season, look for the Montreal Canadiens to do it.

Elmer Lach, of the champion Quebec sextet, set a new National league mark for assists last week and increased his individual scoring lead over teammate Maurice Richard by six points, the official figures showed today. Lach, who has a total of 76 points for the season, made three assists against the New York Rangers Sunday night to give him a 51 total for the season. That was two more than Clint Smith of the Chicago Blackhawks made in setting the previous mark last year.

Referee for the evening was Ivan Jones. It was doubtful for a while if the bouts would go on because the matmen were held up by the blizzard. That was the reason for the change in lineup.

sneaked up on Belcastro and used his battering ram head on the back of Belcastro's head. Belcastro wouldn't take the fall.

The second fall went to Belcastro in eight minutes with lefts and rights to the head and two Sonnenbergs.

The third fall went to the Mask in 13 minutes with head butts and a body press.

The semi-final between Georges Dusette and Gust Johnson ran the full 30 minutes to a draw, but with spills and thrills aplenty for the wrestling fans who like to see real wrestling.

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