HIGHCLIMBER

By DICK STRITE

What new style of offense?

That was Hobby Hobson's answer to our question regarding the Webfoot offense used against Washington State—which the sportscaster made so much fuss about.

Hobby was rather mystified, stating that he had no new offense went on to say that he was attempting to find the reasons why sportscasters and sports writers have been unable to report on Oregon's style of play. He said that upon occasion writers of Oregon's zone defense when the Webfoots were using a five-man, etc. He wonders if the reporters are unfamiliar with game, or if Oregon's style of play is so poor that the styles can be accurately identified. Could be!

Hobson blames the disease of "championshipitis" as the main of Oregon's disappointing showing in Northern Division play —not overconfidence or cockyness, but a tenseness caused the high expectations of the cash customers. Hobson believes confidence would help the Webfoots.

—MAIL-A-BUCK—

Possession is not only nine-tenths of the law, but of vital importance in the game of basketball. In attempting to make a technical analysis of Oregon's five losses in eight starts this season, Hobby said his team has completely dominated every opponent in jump balls or opponents' violations. In no game this season the possession of the ball—either on rebounds, intercepted the Webfoots had possession less than 100 times during a and have always taken more shots than the opposition—an of ten more shots per game.

Shooting has been the chief reason for the losses—and not partly from the freethrow line where Oregon has hit 62 per cent one-point attempts as against 64 per cent for the opponents. The field-goal shooting is different, however, with Oregon only 26 per cent of its shots in the eight conference as against better than 30 per cent for the opposition.

Although the Webfoots are now in third place in the five-team three full games out of first place, they're not hopelessly out race. Should Washington beat OSC twice this week-end and beat WSC (the Vandals are bound to win a few games), and beats Washington twice next Monday and Tuesday, the standings would look like this:

	W	L	Pct.
Oregon State College	5	3	.625
Washington State College	6	4	.600
University of Washington	7	5	.583
University of Oregon	5	5	.500
University of Idaho	1	7	.125

—MAIL-A-BUCK—

This is not a prediction, but a possibility. The peculiar thing if it happens would be that Oregon would be just one full game behind the top three teams who would be divided in the percentage but even in games won and lost.

Bob Wren, the senior member of the Oregon squad who played the Rose Bowl football game with Washington, told members Oregon Club last Monday about the organization of the "Vertebrae" quintet of the varsity squad. He said the name was derived from Hobby's oft-presented speech that the reserves were the bone of the squad. Wren said to date the Vertebrae quintet has conference wins to date and have never been outscored by opponent. They even have a pep song, presented to the club members by Reedy Berg and Jim Bartelt.

—MAIL-A-BUCK—

Our little appeal of yesterday apparently did little good in the of Mail-a-Buck. . . . Monty Montgomery, however, comes with a buck to bring the total to $551. . . . Readers of this are cordially invited to mail a buck or many bucks to this department, care of the Register-Guard, and for the Lane County Polio Fund.

Graziano to Testify 'Bribe Story Was Ridiculous Friday

NEW YORK, Jan. 29—(AP)—Middleweight Boxer Rocky Graziano will have opportunitw Friday to convince the New York Athletic Commission that the $100,000 bribe offer he claims to have received was too "ridiculous" to refuse.

Graziano's chance for a return bout with middleweight champion Tony Zale on March 21 is at stake.

District Attorney Frank S. Hogan, whose investigation of fixed contests already has resulted in the conviction of one man and indictment of three others in connection with an attempted fix in professional football, disclosed the bribe offer to Graziano. Graziano told reporters Tuesday that Hogan and his assistants had twisted into something like his story of being offered $100,000 to "throw" his scheduled bout Dec. 27 with Ruben "Cowboy" Shank of Denver, repeating a story of the visit of an unidentified man to his dressing room, Graziano said:

"The thing was so ridiculous I figured the guy was kidding and I kidded back with him. Nobody ever offered me a bribe seriously in my whole career."

However, Chairman Eddie Dorman ordered Graziano to appear today before the Athletic Commission "in connection with the circumstances surrounding his alleged fight" with Shank.

Irving Cohen, Graziano's manager said he asked the cancellation after the fighter developed a slight ailment. Hogan had said Graziano "faked" a sore back to avoid the match.

Dorman said the commission can take disciplinary action if a fighter has been offered a bribe and has not reported it to the commission." He added that he would make no statement regarding the Graziano-Zale match prior to Friday's hearing.

Last September Graziano gave Zale a pounding before the champion rallied in the sixth round to win by a knockout. Their return was expected to draw a gate that would net Graziano close to $100,000.

Dorman, declining to comment on Graziano's complaint that his story had been misinterpreted, meanwhile sent out a 48-state alarm for Davidson "Pete" Krakauer, indicted on perjury and conspiracy charges in connection with an attempt to fix the National Professional Football League title game Dec. 8.

Krakauer, described by Hogan as a "known gambler," was one of four men indicted Monday after a grand jury had heard testimony by Alvin J. Paris, who was indicted Jan. 8 of offering bribes to Frank Filchock and Merle Hapes of hte New York Giants to "throw" the Dec. 15 game to the Chicago Bears. The Bribes were not accepted. The Bears won, 24 to 14.

The other two indicted were Harvey Stemmer and Jerome Zarowitz, who pleaded innocent at their arraignment Tuesday.

Zarowitz, said by police to be a clerk in an Elizabeth, N. J., betmaking office for which Paris was front man, was held in $10,000 bail. Stemmer is serving a prison term for attempted bribery of Brooklyn College basketball players in 1945.

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Hoop Scores

Detroit 69, Percy Jones Hospital 44.
Morris Harvey 55, Concord State 46.
Kansas 50, Kansas State 39.
Lawrence Tech 71, Cedarville 50.
Holy Cross 47, Canisius 36.
Notre Dame 87, Marquette 61.
Boston College 58, Geneva 46.
Abilene Christian 61, Howard Payne 50.
Kearney State 44, Hastings 39.
Tulane 76, Springhill 51.
Springfield 53, New Hampshire 50.
Franklin 94, Manchester 52.
Oklahoma A & M 47, Oklahoma 42.
John Tarleton Agric. 88, Gainesville 15.
Kirksville Tchrs. 64, Simpson 46.
Denver U. 51, Colorado U. 47.
Wilberforce 71, Wilmington C. 50.
Knox 70, Monmouth 65.
Ottumwa Sea Hawks 58, Havana 55.

OREGON HIGH SCHOOL

Eugene 36, Springfield 33.
Salem 56, Oregon City 28.
Gresham 51, Tigard 37.
Waldport 22, Toledo 15.
Forest Grove 35, Vernonia 23.
Estacada 50, Silverton 35.
Monmouth 33, Monroe 12.
Cottage Grove 33, Elmira 23.
Central Catholic (Portland) 47, Milwaukie 38.
Beaverton 48, Sherwood 42.
O.S.C. Rooks 46, McMinnville 34.
Ogden Meadows (Vancouver) 36, Parkrose 30.
Washington 51, Franklin 38.
Grant 41, Jefferson 39.
Roosevelt 42, Commerce 28.
Sabin 47, Lincoln 42.
Molalla 43, Canby 23.
Rainier 39, Hill Military 34.
University High 28, Junction City 23.
Tillamook 48, Taft 45.
Columbia Prep (Port.) 48, Scappoose 43.

◆ ◆

Fitzy Wins 20th

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 29—(AP)—Fitzy Fitzpatrick added another victory—his twentieth—to his local string when he decisively defeated the Veteran Lee Savold of Patterson, N. J., before nearly 10,000 fans at Olympic Auditorium in 10 rounds Tuesday night.

Fitzpatrick at 181 was outweighed 24 pounds but carried the fight throughout.

◆ ◆

Ruth's Condition "Good"

NEW YORK, Jan. 29—(AP)—The condition of Babe Ruth, the former home run king, was reported as "good" early Wednesday at French Hospital, where he underwent a neck operation Jan. 6.

Ruth spent 20 minutes Tuesday on the hospital roof although earlier in the day his condition was listed as "not so good."

Axemen, Golden Tiders Forced to The Limit to Tip Millers, Tigers

Eugene Ekes Out 35-32 Triumph

BIG-SIX LEAGUE

Standings	W	L	Pct.
Albany	4	2	.667
Corvallis	2	1	.667
Eugene	3	2	.600
Bend	3	2	.600
Salem	3	2	.600
Springfield	0	6	.000

By DEWEY RAY

A husky band of Springfield High Millers matched the Eugene High Axemen in everything but tries from the freethrow line, and surpassed them in goals from the field, at the armory Tuesday night but dropped a thrilling 35-32 tilt to the defending state champion Axemen.

It was a moral victory for the Millers, who had not been figured to extend the Eugene outfit. Springfield has been able to register victories over only Elmira and Cottage Grove in District 6 play and has yet to win a victory in the Big-Six League. The Millers led the Axemen all the way through the first half and were trailing by only one point at the three-quarter mark.

Ninth District Win

The victory kept Eugene's district record unmarred and moved them above the .500 mark in the Big-Six circuit.

The Eugene High "B" squad dealt the Miller seconds a 30-24 defeat in the preliminary tilt.

Gene Rider's lay-in started the scoring in the main game for Eugene but freethrows by Paul Nordling and Don Barge tied it up for the Millers and Jim Todd's one-hand push shot put the Springfield crew out in front. Kermit Chapman laid one in for Springfield and then added a freethrow to make it 7-2 for Springfield. Ernie Wilde swished one from the corner and the two teams battled on even terms for the remainder of the torrid first quarter which ended with Springfield out in front, 16-13.

Dick Garrett's shot from the key and Don Ruth's freethrow tied it up at 16-all. Erv Bingham put the Millers back in front and the teams traded freethrows till the half ended with Springfield holding a 20-18 edge.

Axemen Take Lead

Wilde's swisher put Eugene in the lead with six minutes left in the third quarter at 23-22 and the lead changed hands three more times before the quarter ended with the Axemen leading 27-26.

The Millers were never able to regain the lead in the last quarter as the Axemen ran the lead up to five points three different times only to have the Millers cut it back to three. Todd's push shot made it 33-30 with two minutes and 20 seconds left but Jack Smith same through for Eugene with a field goal. Springfield missed one freethrow and took another one out of bounds in the last minute of play and with only 10 seconds to play Chapman pushed one in to bring Springfield up to 32.

It was a rough and tumble affair that saw the Millers play their best game since they almost trimmed Roosevelt earlier in the season. Springfield scored 13 field goals against 12 for Eugene. But the Axemen made good on 11 out of 21 freethrow attempts while Springfield scored only six gifters out of 16 attempts. Both teams were charged with 17 fouls. The armory crowd was in a constant uproar as the two teams battled closely all the way.

Kermit Chapman, Springfield forward, led the scoring for the game with 15 points.

Summary:

EUGENE (35)	FG	FT	PF	TP
Ruth, f	1	3	3	5
Garrett, f	0	0	3	0
Rider, c	1	3	4	5
Miner, g	3	3	2	9
Wilde, g	2	2	3	6
Smith, f	2	0	3	4
Welch, g	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	12	11	17	35

SPRINGFIELD (32)	FG	FT	PF	TP
Chapman, f	7	1	3	15
Todd, f	3	0	3	6
Barge, c	0	2	1	2
Nordling, g	0	1	1	1
Thomas, g	0	2	4	2
Clingman, f	1	0	2	2
Bingham, c	1	0	2	2
Woods, g	0	0	1	0
Bergman, g	1	0	1	2
TOTALS	13	6	17	32

Halftime score: Springfield 20, Eugene 18.

Missed freethrows: Eugene 10—Garrett 3, Smith, Rider 2, Miner 3, Wilde. Springfield 10—Chapman 3, Barge, Bingham 2, Nordling 4.

Officials: Hugh Hartman and Chuck Schmidt.

◆ ◆

Eugene Recreation

Bob Bennett rolled 190 and 488 to lead the Twin Oaks team to a 2-1 win over Long-Bell Lumber in the Retail Lumbermen's League at the Recreation alleys Tuesday night. Moe Moyer's 183 paced the Eugene Planing Mill to a 2-1 victory over Giustina Lumber.

Anita Young hit 204 and 528 to lead the Sigwart Electric team to a 3-0 win over Goodyear Tires. M. Wendell of the losers rolled scores of 203-202-173. The New Service Laundry defeated Kenney's Kitchen, 2-1, Miller Lumber downed the ABC Club, 2-1 in other matches.

Cottage Grove Tops Elmira 33-23 Loss in District Play

COTTAGE GROVE, Jan. 29—The Cottage Grove Lions handed the Elmira Falcons their eighth straight District 6 basketball beating here Tuesday night by a 33-23 count. It was the second victory over the Falcons for the Grovers and their second district win.

The Falcons were never in the game as Cottage Grove piled up a 9-1 lead at the end of the first period and stretched it to 22-6 at the end of the half. It was 28-14 at the three-quarter mark and the Lions coasted in from there.

The Grovers also won the "B" squad tilt by a 47-21 count as Schaffer scored 20 points for the Lion reserves.

Summary:

COTTAGE GROVE (33)	FG	FT	PF	TP
Mickey, f	1	0	4	2
Chapman, f	2	0	5	6
Kanel, c	3	2	3	8
Newton, g	3	0	0	6
Gamble, g	4	0	0	8
Johnson, f	1	1	0	3
Ross, f	0	0	1	0
TOTALS	15	3	13	33

ELMIRA (23)	FG	FT	PF	TP
Marsh, f	4	2	3	10
Reid, f	0	3	3	3
Warnke, c	1	1	4	3
Brown, g	2	0	2	2
Toney, g	1	2	0	4
Grantham, f	0	1	0	1
Fawver, g	0	0	0	0
Smith, f	0	0	0	0
Herbert, f	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	8	9	11	23

Halftime score: Cottage Grove 22, Elmira 6.

Freethrows missed: Cottage Grove 9—Chapman 3, Newton 3, Gamble 2, Johnson. Elmira 4—Marsh, Reid, Brown 2.

Officials: Doug Caven and Dick Thrapp.

◆ ◆

Matmen to Vie for Traveling Trophy

The Traveling Trophy and a $250 purse will be at stake Saturday night at the armory when eight of Matchmaker Don Owen's toughest ringmen enter a tournament consisting of seven matches. The proceeds of the show after the winner's purse and expenses will go to the Lane County Sports Polio Fund.

Owen announced today that George Dusette', the strong-armed French-Canadian grappler, had returned to this area and had signed up to participate in the tournament. The remainder of the entry list includes Frankie Hart, Gray Mask, Billy Fox, Tony Ross, Billy McEuin, Tommy Nilan and Billy Weidner.

The fans will have the say in the first round and semi-final pairings and three judges for each match will be chosen from the ringside audience. The show will mark the first time in armory history that the audience has participated in the show, aside from catching an occasional wrestler in the lap.

The four first-round matches will be one fall or a decision with a 10-minute time limit. The two semi-finals will also be 10 minutes and the finale will be a 20-minute affair. The cash purse will not be the only incentive to victory since Pete Belcasiro has agreed to match for the Pacific Coast junior-heavyweight championship against the winner.

The judging setup will allow 21 ringsiders to take part in the benefit program since a different trio of judges will be used for each of the seven matches.

◆ ◆

U-Bowl Bowling

The Penney-Wise Druggists behind Ossie McPherson's 256 and 631 defeated Hart Larsen's 3-1 in Super League bowling at the U-Bowl alleys Tuesday night.

Frank McCants hit 231, but his Custom Lumber team took a 4-0 white-washing from Miller Lumber. George Drinkwater's 222 and 563 led the Paul D. Green team to a 3-1 win over Richfield Oil.

Stan Bachman's 195-195-186 led the Oregon Trail Pet Corral to a 4-0 win over Beau Monde Market in the only other match.

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HOCKEY AT A GLANCE

Pacific Coast League

Portland 3, Fresno 2 (two overtimes).
Oakland 5, Tacoma 2.
New Westminster 6, Vancouver 3.

State Board Approves Aiken Pay at $7000

PORTLAND, Jan. 29—(U.P.)—The salary of James W. "Jim" Aiken, new football coach at the University of Oregon, will be $7000 a year, it was disclosed here Tuesday when the State Board of Higher Education approved the figure.

Aiken is coming to Oregon from the University of Nevada, where he has produced some outstanding football teams. His pay will be figured on a year-round basis and he will be rated as an assistant professor.

Aiken's No. 1 assistant, who also comes to Oregon from Nevada, will be Richard K. Miller. His pay will be $3750 a year and he will be rated an inspector.

While the board members were on the subject, they also approved a pay boost for Oregon's veteran basketball Coach Howard Hobson from $5270 a year to $6000.

◆ ◆

Johnny Peskey Inks Contract with Boston

BOSTON, Jan. 29—(U.P.)—Shortstop Johnny Pesky of the Boston Red Sox, "goat" of the 1946 World Series, signed his 1947 baseball contract Tuesday after a conference with Manager Joe Cronin, scotching reports that he would jump to the Mexican League.

Simultaneously the Red Sox announced the receipt of signed contracts from righthanded Pitcher Harry Dorish and Infielder Charlie Koney who were members of the Louisville club of the American Association last year.

The signing of Pesky ended reports that the hard-hitting infielder would transfer his batting power south of the border. The pint-sized Pesky was third in American League batting last season and has led the circuit in total hits throughout his two-year service. In 1946, he also was the best-fielding shortstop in the League with a .969 average.

Though Pesky's salary was not disclosed, it was reliably reported as between $25,000 and $30,000. He had been offered a contract running into six figures by the Mexican League.

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Polio Fund

WATCH IT GROW

Mail-a-Buck	$ 550.00
Outdoor Store Benefit	377.39
Moose Bowling League	75.00
Elmira High	$77.21
Recreation Bowling	69.00
Wilson Junior High	50.10
Springfield Musicians	44.00
Lane 'B' Leagues	33.21
Roosevelt Junior High	17.70
Total	$1293.61

COMING EVENTS

Feb. 1—Wrestling Benefit, Armory.

◆ ◆

Swiss Skiers Tour Western Ski Meets

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 29—(U.P.)—A Swiss ski team composed of three men and three women will compete in several western tournaments this winter, it was announced Saturday.

Among the races in which the team plans to compete are the national downhill and slalom championships at Alta, Utah, March 1 and 2; Olympic tryouts and Harriman events at Sun Valley, Idaho; and Dho trophy downhill and slalom in the Sugar Bowl, California on March 22 and 23; the Farwest Kandahar at Timberline Lodge, Mt. Hood, Oregon, March 29 and 30.

◆ ◆

Springfield Grapplers To Meet Salem Tonight

Springfield High's wrestling team will meet Salem in a 14-bout program at the Springfield High gym tonight, at 8 p. m.

The Miller grapplers are undefeated in one prior test, that a 63-18 win over Albany a couple of weeks ago.

ALWAYS RAPID — Bob Feller stands beside a small plane identical to one he purchased to continue his private flying which was interrupted by the war.

Junction Beaten By 28-23 Count

DISTRICT 6

Standings	W	L	Pct.	Pts.	Opp.
Eugene	3	0	1.000	358	247
University	3	1	.750	146	98
Junction City	5	3	.625	233	243
Roseburg	4	3	.571	347	312
St. Mary's	3	4	.429	225	220
Springfield	3	4	.429	277	244
Cottage Grove	2	7	.222	125	307
Elmira	0	8	.000	234	272

By RED Q. GATES

JUNCTION CITY, Jan. 29—University High had a scare thrown at 'em before they defeated the Junction City Tigers, 28-23 here Tuesday night to take over second-place in the District 6 basketball race and set themselves up for Friday's game with Eugene's league-leading Axemen.

In fact it wasn't until about two minutes left to play that the Tiders had anything to act very assured about. Jerry McInroe's hook shot from the key made it 25-22 after 6:10 of the last quarter and the Tiders got out from under the pressure that the Junction quintet had put on them all evening.

Uni-High led all the way but seldom did their margin exceed three points.

Tiders Held Scoreless

At times the Uni-High attack showed signs of flashiness as they passed the ball beautifully to work it in for a score, but the aggressive Tigers stayed in there and kept the situation "tight" all the way.

Only in the first heat did the Golden Tiders enjoy much of a lead, that a 9-2 one at the end. Things began to get tight in the second frame as Junction held Uni-High scoreless, while pulling up to within one point of them.

Jim McKay opened up after two minutes with a close up after dribbling in, and Charles Garner duplicated to make it 9-6. Five minutes later Garner scored a tip-in to make it 9-8 at halftime.

Ray Jackson put the Tigers up 10-9 as the second half opened but with one minute gone McInroe put Uni-High back in the lead with a hooker from the key. Garner tied it up on Rog Pitchford's foul, and Jim Irish put UHS back in the lead with a close up after having it worked in by some fine Tide passing. Boyd Dwyer let fly with a long push shot making the score 15-11. Then Garner came up with the ball after a mad scramble and sank one, and McKay dropped in a freethrow to make it 15-14 at the quarter.

Uni-High Leads at Time Out

With one minute gone in the final quarter Junction led 18-15 on two baskets by Del Lawson and Garner. Irish closed the gap to one point on his lay-in, and tied it up with a charity shot. After three minutes McInroe pushed the Campus team into the lead on his hook from the key, but Dale Bayne made it 20-20 on his shot from the side. Irish sank a freethrow on Garner's foul to make it 21-20 University at the automatic time out.

Dwyer canned a long set shot making it 23-20, but then Bayne dribbled in to score and with two minutes left to play the game was again close. McInroe made it 25-22 on his aforementioned basket, then Irish sank another freethrow, and Dwyer hit on another long set shot. McKay ended the scoring with a last second free shot.

In the preliminary University High's "B" squad kept their seasonal record perfect by dropping Junction City's Cubs, 42-26, after leading 18-17 at halftime. Dave Dana paced the scoring with 13 points.

Summary:

UNIVERSITY (38)	FG	FT	PF	TP
Brown, f	2	0	1	4
McInroe, f	3	0	1	6
Irish, c	2	4	1	8
Pitchford, g	0	1	5	1
Dwyer, g	4	1	4	9
King, g	0	0	3	0
Gould, f	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	11	6	15	28

JUNCTION CITY (23)	FG	FT.	PF	TP
Jackson, f	1	0	2	2
Bayne, f	2	0	1	4
McKay, c	2	2	4	6
Lawson, g	2	0	0	4
Garner, g	3	1	3	7
Larsen, g	0	0	1	0
TOTALS	10	3	11	23

Halftime score: University 9, Junction 8.

Missed freethrows: Junction (13) McKay, Lawson 4, Jackson 2, Bayne, Garner, Larsen. University (5) McInroe 3, Pitchford, Gould.

Officials: Al Dietz and Earl Vossen.

Gaels Down Pleasant Hill Quintet, 37-32

By BARNEY BARTHOLOMEW

Pushing through buckets when needed most, the St. Mary's Gaels nosed out Pleasant Hill 37-32 in a non-league tilt here Tuesday night. The Gaels led throughout the game except for a brief period in the third quarter. The Billies drove hard in the last half and the Saints were hard-pressed for their first victory over the Billies in quite a spell.

The first quarter was all St. Mary's as they held Pleasant Hill to three points, leading 12-3 at the end of the period.

Johnny Fisher and Jack Greig kept the Gaels out front in the second frame, collecting a pair of field goals each, as the Billie five got their range and cut their deficit to 21-16 at the intermission.

Pleasant Hill took over the lead on two quick buckets by Al Lindley and a couple of freethrows by John Dowdy early in the third quarter. Max Jones and Fisher tossed in six points to push the Gaels out front, leading 27-26 at the start of the final period.

Pleasant Hill tied the game at 29-29 on a bucket and foul shot by Lindley. Greig and Lindley exchanged counters and Bartholomew added another to put the Gaels out front 33-31 at the four minute mark. Graham for the Billies and Bartholomew left the game via the foul route and St. Mary's effectively stalled the remaining time, collecting two field goals to win 37-32.

Greig and Fisher topped the scoring with 12 points each. Lindley and Dowdy paced the losers with 11 and 10 counters.

In the preliminary "B" squad game, the Gaelets downed the Pleasant Hill second-team 23-14 to give St. Mary's a double win. Fred Gent paced the winners with 10 points and Don Miller led the losers with 6 points.

Summary:

St. Mary's (37)		(32) Pleasant Hill
Winther, 4	F	11, Lindley
Jones, 6	F	10, Dowdy
Greig, 12	C	2, Lantz
Fisher, 12	G	6, Casey
Bartholomew, 3	G	Graham

Substitutions: St. Mary's — Doss 1. Pleasant Hill—Nichols 3, Cole, Butler.

Officials: Doc Taylor and Windy Kaufman.

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Nation's Sport Writers Feel Gambling Proposes Threat

By LEO H. PETERSEN
United Press Sports Editor

NEW YORK, Jan. 29—(U.P.)—The sports editors and writers generally agreed Wednesday that it is time to hoist the danger signal on sports gambling.

The situation has become so serious that the majority of them feel that the very future of intercollegiate athletics, as well as professional sports, is in jeopardy.

Most of them also reported "alarming" increases in sports betting in their areas.

Voting in a United Press poll on the sports gambling situation, 55 per cent of the sports editors and writers felt that the gambling evil is serious enough to threaten the future of athletics. Forty-five per cent said it was not.

Most of those in the dissenting minority, however, warned that unless sports acted swiftly to put its own house in order, the situation soon could become alarming.

The majority believe that if colleges and professional sports act quickly and adopt immediate safeguards the evil can be curbed to such an extent that the danger signal can be taken down. Their big fear is that the organized gambling syndicates soon will try to bribe college athletes like they tried—unsuccessfully—to fix the National Football League professional championship game and the Rocky Graziano-Rueben Shanks prize fight.

And once they start doing that, they see the end of the greatest sports boom in history.

Those who formed the minority on the issue felt that college athletics—and professional sports, too,—would be strong enough to withstand any possible gambling scandal, just like baseball was able to survive the Black Sox scandal.

Of those participating in the poll, 57.4 per cent reported "notable" increases in sports gambling in their sections; 4.2 said there had been a decrease, while 38.4 per cent said there had been no change.

Most of the increases were in the big cities. Much of it was attributed to the fact that there are more sports events now than there were before and during the war.

But even some rural areas said that football, baseball and basketball pools were gaining popularity. They noted particularly increases in betting on high school contests and among high school students.

Those reporting decreases noted that "money is getting harder to get." The workers who during the war used part of their fat pay checks to gamble are now using their reduced income for buying the hundred and one things which they needed but couldn't get before.

Many predicted that that factor alone would account for a general decrease in gambling the country over during 1947.