

ONLY FOUR TEAMS BACK FROM LAST YEAR

Oregon Class 'A' Basketball Tournament to Open Tuesday

By PETE CORNACCHIA

It's roundup time again for Oregon's Class "A" high school basketball teams and more strange brands than usual will be in the pens this week at McArthur Court for the 37th annual state tournament.

Milwaukee's defending champion Mustangs and 1954 runnerup Eugene are two of only four schools that were in last season's 16-team field and are back in quest of the 1955 championship. The other two are Astoria and Dallas.

Some Salem fans will be back again but this time they'll be cheering for the South Salem Saxons. Just plain Salem was here last year and they were Vikings. Now it's South Salem Saxons, who were the last to qualify for the state tourney

when they defeated Cascade Union in Saturday night's battle to settle the District 11 question, and North Salem Vikings, who will be at Salem.

Three of the other 11 schools haven't shown their colors at the state tourney since it moved from Salem to Eugene in 1947. Franklin, runnerup in Portland's city circuit, hasn't been concerned with tourney accommodations since 1936. North Bend will be here after watching Marshfield's Pirates pass through on the way to tournaments since 1942. Baker supporters are seriously mapping routes to western Oregon for the first time since the final year at Salem.

More frequent and recent entries but not in last year's field are Central Catholic, Medford, Redmond, Hillsboro, Albany, St.

Helens, Cleveland of Portland, and Milton-Freewater.

PROSPECTS EYED

A high grade of beef in assorted sizes from tall to taller is expected to bring top prices in a procedure sometimes referred to as an auction market. College coaches from throughout the Northwest will be at the tournament during the week and not just because they happened to be in town to visit Aunt Minnie.

Many of them will happen into a conversation on Formosa and other topics with such senior athletes as Elmer "Red" Bloedel, who as a junior center was the main reason why Milwaukee beat Eugene in the 1954 finals and for that was rewarded by the coaches with a spot on the all-state second team; guard Ted Miller, Bloedel's teammate and the only all-stater

returning from last year; Mike Moran, Eugene's 6-foot, 8-inch center who established a District 6 scoring record with 317 points in 10 games; Dick Jolley, all-city forward for Cleveland's champions at Portland; Don Stamps, Albany's prolific point-producing forward; Larry Copple, Medford's play-making guard; Bob Wulf, Salem's hook-shooting center; and a rough pair of backboard aces from North Bend, forwards Will Reeve and Dick Woolstenhulme, who also are football prospects.

And the coaches may start pen pal relationships with such sophomores as Bjarne Jensen, a growing youngster who will be tallest lad in the tourney as a 6-foot, 9-inch all-city center for runnerup Franklin of Portland, or Jim Altenhofen, Central Catholic's 6-foot, 4-inch center who keep a dy-

nasty alive as fourth in a line of talented Altenhofen brothers.

Another purpose of the tournament, sponsored by the Oregon School Activities Assn., produced by the Eugene Active Club, and welcomed by local merchants, is to determine the best Class "A" prep basketball team in Oregon. Milwaukee's defending titlists, with Bloedel, Miller, and guard Bob Sturgis back from last year's starting lineup, and Medford are the top favorites. Others rated strong contenders are host Eugene, North Bend, Cleveland, and Albany.

LIONS UNBEATEN

Best record for the season belongs to St. Helens, whose Lions were unbeaten in 22 games. Medford divided a series with Eugene, for its only loss in 24 games, while North Bend is third with a 23-3 record. Milwaukee and Eugene are 22-3 for the season.

Astoria (24-4) owns the most triumphs. Other favorites with

impressive marks include Dallas (21-4), Albany (20-4), and Cleveland (18-4).

Astoria, slated for its 30th title bid, has been around the most although Salem led the veterans with 32 appearances before its division into two schools. Eugene will be in the scramble for the 24th time.

Here are the pairings for the opening round, with districts in parentheses: Tuesday—Redmond (3) vs. Central Catholic (13), 7:30 p.m.; Hillsboro (9) vs. South Salem (11), 8:45.

Wednesday—Eugene (6) vs. Milwaukee (12), 9 a.m.; Albany (7) vs. Dallas (8), 10:15; Astoria (10) vs. St. Helens (14), 1:45 p.m.; Baker (1) vs. Cleveland (15), 3; Medford (4) vs. Franklin (16), 7:30; Milton-Freewater (2) vs. North Bend (5), 8:45.

Record attendance at a morning session is expected for Tuesday's 9 a.m. tussle, when Milwaukee

and Eugene—finalists last season—decide which of the two strong clubs will step aside in the first round.

Action will continue Thursday morning, afternoon and night, Friday morning, afternoon and night, and Saturday afternoon and night. Season tickets, \$10 for adults and \$4 for students, may be purchased at McArthur Court. Reserved seat tickets for Friday's semifinals or Saturday's finals, at \$2.40, also are available. Ticket for each session during the tourney is 90 cents for adults and 45 cents for students.

SIX OFFICIALS

A steady flow of ticket orders at McArthur Court indicates record advance sales and a tourney attendance that will pass last year's record turnout of 69,539 for the 26 games in 5 days.

Game officials for the tourney are Bill Williams, Eugene; Steve Stivers, Madras; Loyal Rich, McMinnville; Len Patterson and Earl Younce, Portland; and Muri Anderson, Silverton.

Two activities in the latter part of the week are annual functions during the tourney. Oregon High School Coaches Association will meet Friday at the Eugene Country Club, while the University of Oregon's luncheon for all teams will be Saturday noon at the Osburn Hotel.

Eugene's Active Club, under general chairman Harold Miller, is coordinating many additional activities involved in this big show. The Active Club's many services, such as housing and entertainment for students and other visitors, are included in a general story on Page 1-A.

Ducks Boast Veteran Nine; Head South

Spring sports preparations slow down considerably for the Oregon Ducks next week as the four squads limit their activities to informal workouts during the annual winter term final examinations.

The baseball team, defending Northern Division and District 8 NCAA champions, will be the first of the four squads to get into action after the examination week. Coach Don Kirsch's team leaves Eugene next Saturday for a five-game trip which includes two games against both Stanford and San Jose as well as a single meeting with California during the vacation week.

The Duck baseball fortunes this spring apparently will rest on the work of a thin pitching staff and an all-veteran team elsewhere. The Webfoot infield of Dick Schlosstein, Jim Johnson, John Keller and Pete Williams is on and along with outfielder Jerry Ross, George Shaw, Bob Wegner and Bernie Averill and catcher Neil Marlett.

Norm Forbes, the winner of six games in seven starts last year in league play, Bill Blodgett and Bill Garner are the veterans on the pitching staff and the key to the Oregon success appears to lie in the rookie pitchers.

Coach Bill Bowerman has tabbed his early track workouts as satisfactory and the Webfoot coach, who will be after his second successive Northern Division title, has been pleased with the work of his distance men, Bill Dellinger, Ken Reiser and Jim Bailey. Dellinger won the division, coast and NCAA mile titles last year as a sophomore. Reiser won the division two-mile crown and Bailey, a sophomore, is the Australian 800-yard run champion.

Coach Hilbert Lee of the tennis squad said his squad had made good progress in the week of excellent weather and also announced a 14-match schedule for this spring.

The Ducks open against Reed College in Portland April 1 and they play Portland at Portland April 2, Reed at Eugene April 9, UO Medical school at Eugene April 16, Seattle at Eugene April 19, Willamette at Eugene April 21, Washington at Eugene April 22, Portland at Eugene April 23, Oregon State at Eugene April 30, Idaho at Moscow May 6, Washington State at Pullman May 7, Oregon State at Corvallis May 14, and the Northern Division meet at Pullman May 20-21.

Gavilan, Trainer Fined for Words

MIAMI BEACH, Fla. (AP)—Former welterweight champion Kid Gavilan and his trainer were fined \$100 each Saturday for some heated remarks made after the Cuba boxer lost a decision to Hector Constance here Feb. 23.

The Miami Beach Boxing Commission levied the fine against Gavilan and trainer Mundito Medina and reprimanded them for "bad sportsmanship."

Chairman Flame Adae warned that any further outbursts would result in a suspension and would take effect in all NBA territories, adding, "We mean business."

The Cuban Hawk was as meek as a canary as he was being reprimanded for the first time in his career.

"I know that everybody that night talk a lot... but I wasn't mad," said Gavilan. "I remember everything I say and I don't call nobody crooks and robbers."

Medina told the commission he considered the group "very honest."

"Otherwise," he said, "we would never have come back to Florida."

Medina said his heated remarks following the fight were addressed to a needling bystander, and did not refer to the judges. Gavilan was quoted as saying after the bout that the judges "did not act with honor."

But he said today that "honor" is used differently in Cuba and that what he meant by his comment was "the decision was incorrect."

BOWLING CHATTER

By BARNEY BARTHOLOMEW

★ The Oregon state men's bowling association released its tournament prize sheet last week and out of the \$12,416.80 prize pot, Eugene-Springfield bowlers brought home \$1,085 from the state tourney that was held in Coos Bay.

Class C entrants were the top money winners with \$516, followed closely by Class B entries with \$499. Only Jim Ekstrom's 2nd place prize of \$60 in Class A singles kept this area from a complete blank in A division, as no Eugene-Springfield entry made the grade in Class A team, doubles or all-events competition. The same almost held true for Class D where Bill Hart and Eugene Thiessen placed 10th and 11th in all-events.

Greenwood Lounge led this area in Class B with a 9th place finish and Ted Reed ended in 24th place. Trailing Larry O'Donnell-Howard Case's 1st place finish in B doubles was the Wes Fouts-Cliff Foster duo in 10th place. Hank Stuart ended 5th in B singles, Bob Wetzel was 7th and Bernard Bagley 11th. O'Donnell came back for 7th place money in B all-events and Howard Swan placed 10th.

Oregon's 1st place in Class C team action and Shisler Food Market's 5th place accounted for most of prize money in that division. Tom Colvin teamed with C. Smith of Grants Pass to cop 8th place money in C doubles and Wally Moore took 14th in C all-events. Scott Page finished the highest of any local entrants in C singles with 9th place, one step ahead of Colvin.

The University of Oregon bowling squad will enter four tournaments between now and the end of the school year. Besides rolling in the city marathon, the Ducks are slated to attend the All-Coast at Albany, the college regionals at Pullman, Wash., April 15-16, the Northwest at Portland April 30 and May 1 and the national collegiate telephonic matches the latter part of April.

★ Also tournament bound are several junior league squads from Eugene and Springfield. The entire V.F.W. boys' league from the Eugene Recreation is entered in the Northwest at Portland and will roll April 30. Two Junior Bowlerette teams, the Deans and the Sens, will bowl in the same tourney at Interstate Bowl April 23 along with the Honey Bears quintet from Springfield. One team from the Junior High circuit and the Champs from the Boys' Pegler league also will make the trip from Springfield.

On March 26 at the Eugene Recreation the junior keggers will engage in the National Mail-O-Gram tournament. Local juniors will be competing with squads from all over the nation and their entry fee of \$5 is being paid by the Eugene junior bowling program.

★ When the men's city tournament got underway Saturday at Timber Bowl it marked the first time since 1948 that the tournament has not been divided into classes. In that year the Class A group was formed, along with the Commercial Class B. In 1952 a third class was added, Booster Class C.

This year's tournament schedule book, compiled by Myron Henzler, Rex McCready and Charles Harvey, contains a complete record of the association's tournaments dating back to the first tourney in 1938 when the association was organized.

In that year 21 teams engaged in the tourney along with 34 doubles entries and 68 singles. In 1942 this number swelled to 70 teams and in 1943-44 the tourney was postponed. Last year the tourney reached its all-time high when 154 teams competed in the three classes—45 in Class A, 89 in Class B and 20 in Class C.

Louie Bellissimo's intra-mural leagues, in action at Erb Memorial, held their annual championship roll-off last Tuesday and for the 2nd year in a row the underdog Delta Tau Delta squad copped the crown. Len Oversholser paced the winners to their 2,802 pin total with 234 and 589. ATO's were 2nd with 2,649, Phi Kappa Alpha 3rd at 2,628 and Nestor Hall 4th with 2,255.



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New Rules Start Test

TAMPA, Fla. (AP)—It's up to the umpires now to determine just how strictly baseball's two new, hotly-disputed rules will be observed in the National League.

League President Warren C. Giles, in a conference here Wednesday, told his umpires not to be "too strict" in the applying the new measures—the one calling for pitchers to throw the ball within 20 seconds and the other making a catcher stay in a small box until the ball is thrown.

Just how strict is "too strict" Giles didn't say, but he emphasized that he wants the umpires to be "realistic" about the rules. Giles said it won't be necessary for the umpires to use a stopwatch to time the 20 seconds because "we timed lots of pitchers last season and found they averaged 14 seconds in delivering the ball."

"I also don't think we need to be too strict about requiring the catchers to keep their feet within the new 43-inch box, unless an umpire believes an attempt is being made to issue an intentional base on balls," said Giles. Both pitchers and catchers have been complaining about the rule in spring training, saying that it will lead to many wild pitchers.

College TV Group Waits for Big 10

CHICAGO (AP)—The Big Ten is expected to decide Monday whether to go along with the 1955 National Collegiate Athletic Assn. football television program or take steps to televise its own games independently.

Defiance of the NCAA plan would bring possible expulsion of the Big Ten from the organization.

The conference's television committee Wednesday studied the NCAA program that was drawn up at a meeting in New York Monday and Tuesday announced by the NCAA Monday.

The Big Ten has been steadfast in demands for free negotiations for TV football sponsors and a regional setup that would provide for appearance of a team twice, once away and once at home.

It was reliably reported that the NCAA plan does not conform exactly to what the Big Ten has sought. Whether it comes close enough for acceptance is the important issue that will be settled Monday in a joint meeting of faculty representatives and athletic directors.

In the meantime, the Big Ten is keeping an official silence.

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What great excitement there is! Birds are flying everywhere.

Suddenly they all light in the yard and begin searching for worms. Then just as suddenly they all take off as at a danger signal. Chirping, twittering and scolding and scolding they are like a group of children on a school picnic. They are happy to be back and now comes the job of finding suitable nesting areas and defending these premises from all comers.

The large family of woodpeckers will probably be the noisiest of the lot. Tapping on a dry tree trunk, they will be sending out their messages to others of their kind. Then in not so rhythmic patterns they will be boring into the hard dry wood for a grub or beetle. Ever so often they

Ted Tappe Impresses Chicago Manager

MESA, Ariz. (AP)—Manager Stan Hack of the Chicago Cubs indicates he is becoming more impressed with the talents of Ted Tappe, a left-handed swinging outfielder from the Texas League.

Tappe, no relation to catcher Elvin Tappe, has been smashing balls over the right field fence with regularity.

Tappe hit 27 home runs for Tulsa last year and has no fear of major league pitching. "The plate's the same size up here, isn't it?" comments Tappe, a former Washington State College athlete.

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