

HIGHLIGHTS

By PETE CORNACCHIA

★ A man named Leo Durocher, who married an actress once and has been in several World Series while proving Bishop Sheen's theory, once said that nice guys don't win ball games. Now that's a rather general statement and one we're sure Leo would amend if he knew Eugene's state basketball champions.

While we will respect ability displayed by a talented athlete, we'll admire that individual only if, among other things, he is a nice guy. We've never had more respect or admiration for any team than we have for these champions from Eugene. Coach Henry Kuchera's talented gentlemen are a credit to their school and a tribute to their coaches and parents.

It's a rather hectic scramble for our entire sports staff to get the state tournament finals story and statistics, the all-state story, the individual scoring story, and the action and all-state pictures out to the backshop before our deadline shortly after midnight. So after arising Sunday afternoon we looked at the records and found our Axemen had established 5 more marks in the tournament after setting several during the season. And they also certainly figured in attendance records.

Point production is involved in each of the 5 new tournament records and there's no doubt Mike Moran is mainly responsible. The 6-8 center showed the McArthur Court mob his rickiest stuff "lay-out" but he also showed "em he has an acute habit of putting the ball through the hoop, a premise upon which this bouncing ball game is predicated.

While Eugene displayed well-balanced firepower in shattering the tournament shooting percentage mark with 97 baskets in 202 attempts for 480, Moran set individual game and tournament percentage records as the obvious leader. He made 10 of 12 for .833 against Albany and finished his 4 games with 30 of 52 for .722 as he tallied 104 points for individual scoring honors.

The other 2 game marks involving Eugene were highest score and highest total in the finals, when the Axemen walloped Medford, 72-56.

A crowd record was set every time Eugene played and 3 times the Axemen triumphed before the largest throng ever to attend a state tournament session in Oregon. The first all-time mark tumbled early Wednesday morning when 8,434 watched Kuchera's lads upset Milwaukie. Previous high was the turnout of 8,285 for last year's finals.

Again it was the largest crowd of all time when 9,141 saw Eugene trample Central Catholic in Friday night's semifinals. While several hundred were turned away despite the addition of balconies this year, 11,092 made like sardines for the finals. Total attendance for the 26 games in 5 days was 77,282, compared to last year's previous record of 69,539.

Rebound and freethrows were involved in the other 5 marks established during the 1955 show. Baker's 202 rebounds are tops for complete tournament, while Milwaukie holds the mark for a single game with 65 against Dallas. In freethrows, North Bend's Will Reeve attempted 17 in 1 game to tie a total held by 3 others, missed 12 of those for a record all his own, and missing 18 during the tourney to equal DeWayne Hoffman's 1954 performance for Dallas.

These records and many others, for this tourney and also the all-time marks, will be included in the booklet prepared by Art Litchman and his great staff of statisticians. It'll also have plenty of pictures and the whole tournament story when it comes off the press Tuesday night.

It's a good thing for 50 cents. If you want one, just send the 4 bits to Tournament Summary, McArthur Court, University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon.

You've got your opinion, I've got mine, and the next guy should have his. And for that reason we developed long ago an intense dislike for all-star teams and polls. So the 16 participating coaches name the 5 boys that are the state's finest. As always, several in the group believe that any team in the finals MUST have a player on the all-state team.

Art Meyer of the Albany Democrat-Herald took an informal poll of writers and their all-state club went along with the coaches' lineup except in one case. While the official quintet included Eugene's Mike Moran and Leighton Tuttle, Milwaukie's Ted Miller for the second year, Cleveland's Dick Jolley, and Medford's Larry Cople, the writers liked Albany's Don Stamps in place of Cople. Moran was the only unanimous choice along press row.

Some other notes found in various pockets and shoes before a trip to the cleaners:

Kuchera's teams have won 75 and lost 12, including a current winning streak of 39 in District 6, during his dozen years at Eugene. Oregon's finest basketball team is certain it has the state champion student manager in Bill Reiersgaard, a hard

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Portland Beavers Get 8-1 Triumph

ANAHEIM, Calif. — Ron Jackson and Don Eggett hit home runs for Portland Sunday as the Beavers swamped the Hollywood Stars "B" team 8-1 in a Pacific Coast League exhibition.

Carl Scheib and Dick Waibel shared hurling duty for the Beavers and scattered nine hits. Portland collected 12 off a trio of Hollywood hurlers.



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Russell Voted MVP Award At Tourney

KANSAS CITY — Towering Bill Russell Sunday was voted the most valuable player in the National Collegiate Athletic Assn. tourney. But his teammate on the championship San Francisco squad, K. C. Jones, was pegged a ranking hero.

The 6-10 Russell set a new 5-game scoring record of 118 points for the NCAA tourney as he helped carry the Dons, No. 1 ranked in the national Associated Press poll, to a title triumph over defending champion LaSalle 77-63, Saturday night.

Russell, scoring 23 points — 18 in the first half — was voted the most valuable player by some 40 press and radio representatives covering the tournament.

However, San Francisco Coach Phil Woolpert said Jones' "great job of stopping Tom Gola, LaSalle's All-America player, with only 6 field goals, was perhaps the deciding factor in our team's great defensive effort."

Gola scored 16 points. Jones, 6-1, 202-pound guard, scored 24 points, high production figure in the dethroning of LaSalle's heralded Explorers.

Russell said "I played on the greatest team in the world and we defeated the best team we ever played."

The all-tournament team, selected after San Francisco pasted LaSalle and Big Seven champion Colorado beat Big Ten champion Iowa 75-54, included:

Russell and Gola, as unanimous choices; Iowa's Carl Cain; Jones; and Colorado's Jim Ranglos.

Ken Loeffler, LaSalle coach, said "he was naturally disappointed in his team's play, but that "We definitely lost to the better team."

San Francisco, rolling to its 25th straight victory, finished its season with a 28-1 record.

The lone Don loss was a 47-40 setback by UCLA in San Francisco's third game. Just 2 games later San Francisco whipped the Uclans 56-44.

Kraus Medalist In ECC Calcutta

Steve Kraus, shooting 77-70-67, captured medalist honors in the annual spring handicap "Calcutta" golf tournament that closed qualifying rounds at the Eugene Country Club Sunday.

The tourney gets under way Friday, following the announcement of pairings at the regular Calcutta stag tourney and dinner Thursday. Players will be allowed 85 per cent of the difference in handicaps as the strokes fall on the card.

Tied for runner-up medalist honors were Herb Nill, 84-16-68, and Lloyd Mattison, 72-4-68. John Northam, 88-16-70, and Ted Wood, 77-7-70, were next in line and will be among the favorites for the championship won last year by Hilding Norberg.

Padres 10, Stars 8

SAN DIEGO, Calif. — San Diego beat Hollywood 10-8 to sweep a three-game Pacific Coast League exhibition series, after pitcher Bill Thomason's timely single for two runs brought the home team from behind in the sixth inning Sunday.

HOME RUN POWER

Braves Nip Cards On Adcock Homer

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

While everyone is talking about the Cincinnati Reds' murders row, the Milwaukee Braves are quietly going about forming a real muscle machine of their own.

Eddie Mathews, Joe Adcock and newcomer Hank Aaron will strike terror into many a pitcher's heart before the season is over. In fact, clubs that must meet the Redlegs and Braves in successive series will have their work cut out for them.

Both the Braves and Redlegs Sunday via the sudden-death route in the fashion of the old New York Yankees.

The Braves won their third in a row by edging the St. Louis Cardinals 5-4. Adcock broke it up with a home run over the left field fence in the eighth inning. Before that Aaron slapped one over the same wall with a runner aboard.

HOMERS BREAK TIE

The Chicago White Sox got a taste of the raw power generated by the Redlegs. With the score tied in the ninth, the Redlegs came up with four runs to break it wide open. Wally Post hit two home runs for Birdie Tebbetts' club, while Ted Kluszewski and Gus Bell delivered run-scoring hits in the big ninth.

The Boston Red Sox continued to get good pitching—this time from big Frank Sullivan, the bellwether of the staff last year as a sophomore. The Sox polished off the Detroit Tigers 10-3, with Sullivan hurling five innings and giving up just one hit. He has not permitted an earned run in 11 innings on the mound this spring.

HOMER BY RHODES

It was like old times in Los Angeles, where the New York Giants continued their mastery over the Cleveland Indians 7-3. Dusty Rhodes poked a pinch home run with one on off Mike Garcia in a five-run seventh inning.

The New York Yankees and Brooklyn Dodgers, who appear to be trying to set a record for overtime exhibitions, played their second extra-inning game in less than 24 hours. The Brooks won this one 9-8 in 10 innings. Rookie Dodger shortstop Chico Fernandez got three hits, including a double in the 10th. He then scored the winning run on a single by Sandy Amoros.

The Pittsburgh Pirates clipped Pedro Ramos, a Cuban right-hander, for two runs in the 13th to outlast the Washington Senators 4-2. Kansas City A's edged Baltimore 3-2.

Salem to Host Pro Grid Squad

NEW YORK — The New York Giants professional football squad will train at Salem, Ore., again this summer, it was announced here Monday.

Bob Dailey, publicity director, said the Giants will begin training on the Willamette University campus July 25. The practice session will last about six weeks. Exhibition games have been scheduled against the Green Bay Packers in Spokane Aug. 14, in Seattle against the San Francisco 49ers Aug. 21, and in Portland's Multnomah stadium Aug. 28 against the Los Angeles Rams.

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Hebert Edged By Middlecoff In Pro Open

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — Jay Hebert, the handsome Louisiana pro who says "it takes guts and a good grip" to be a winning golfer, learned from veteran Cary Middlecoff in the St. Petersburg Open Sunday that it also takes something else — tournament nerves and experience.

Middlecoff calmly worked his way from a five-stroke deficit to a two-stroke victory over Hebert and \$2,200 first prize.

Middlecoff, the Memphis dentist who now plays out of Kiamesha Lake, N.Y., posted a 5-under-par 67 for a 72-hole total of 274. Hebert, who registers out of Woodmere, N.Y., took 74 for 276.

Another veteran of the golf trail, Art Wall Jr., Pocono Manor Pa., made a great stretch drive, shooting the day's best round of 66 zoom up from 11th place into third with 277.

The 32-year-old Hebert, who had both the good grip and guts, held a three-stroke lead going into the final period.

But Sunday Hebert was edgy and uncertain. Middlecoff was cool and methodical.

The Louisiana golfer, who plans only a few of the winter tournaments, missed a two-foot putt on the first hole. He booted five more putts of less than three feet.

By the 10th Middlecoff had caught up with him. At the 15th hole, Middlecoff went ahead with a par 4 when Hebert missed a short putt for a bogey. Middlecoff dropped in a 30-foot putt on the 18th for the winning two-stroke margin.

Finishing in a tie for fourth were Billy Maxwell, Odessa, Tex., and Ed Furgol, St. Louis, with 178s. They collected \$910 each.

Leo Bigatti, Sandusky, Ohio, and John Barnum, Grand Rapids, Mich., were next with 179s and checks for \$690.

Julius Boros, Mid Pines, N.C., Bo Winger, Oklahoma City, and Mike Souhak rounded out the top 10 with 280 cards and \$493 each.

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Red Wings Blank Montreal 6-0

DETROIT — The Detroit Red Wings turned hockey's "Game of the Year" into an avalanche of goals Sunday night to trounce the Montreal Canadiens 6-0, and clinch their seventh straight National Hockey League championship.

A capacity crowd of 13,383 saw the game.

A corps of 70 policemen—more than twice the usual number—was sprinkled throughout the stands to prevent a repetition of last Thursday's ugly riot in Montreal Forum.

Despite the presence of the men in blue, the crowd had some fun, but all of it was harmless. In the second period a live baby octopus was tossed onto the ice; someone else set off a string of firecrackers.

It was small solace to the Canadiens but they left the ice with one honor. Bernie Geoffrion finished as the league's scoring champion with 75 points, one more than teammate Maurice "Rocket" Richard, whose suspension last week touched off one of the most heated controversies the game has ever known.

Richard was not with his team as it suffered its most humiliating defeat of the season.

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