

BEND AN EAR

By NORM RITTER

Bend's better golfers are pleased to announce the club's acquisition of a "Verticutter" this week—a gadget which they hope will have a decided effect on the way they putt on the club's luxuriant nine-hole course.

It's this luxuriance that makes the course—certainly one of the country's finest nine-holes—one of Central Oregon's beauty spots. But it doesn't do anything for one's game on the greens. (Again, I'm quoting the "better" golfers.)

The Bend golf course greens are thick, heavily-tufted mats that always are relatively slow regardless of how recently and how frequently they are mowed.

It's the job of a verticutter to thin out this heavy growth so thorough mowing will have the desired effect. The principle is the same as the one the barber works on when he takes a pair of thinning shears to the head of one of his more hirsute customers.

But where a man tends to lose his need for thinning shears with age, not so with greens on a golf course. As they grow older, their roots become better established and the grass itself becomes coarser. This produces a cushiony underfooting that is pure comfort to walk on but tough on the man whose every putt counts for something.

What's more, the greens keeper doesn't derive the full benefit from his mower because the blades are riding over too soft a mass to permit close cutting.

Ed Sullivan Sr. stole the play from the verticutter as the topic of conversation at the club last night. He had just posted a gross score of 88, which combined with his 27 handicap to give him a 61—easily the low net score in the spring handicap qualifying round.

Harry Gobelman called from Redmond early Thursday morning to reply to the question posed in this column Wednesday: namely, can anyone remember when—before last week—Redmond won a district track meet from Bend? The RUHS track mentor and athletic director said it was 1947, which would make invalid Claude Cook's statement that Bend hadn't lost in at least 20 years.

The records show Gobelman was wrong. In 1947 it was Bend 72, Redmond 61½. He must have been referring to the Central Oregon meet which the Panthers did take in '47.

Wednesday marks the demise of the old Big Six, the league composed of Bend, Eugene, Springfield, Corvallis, Albany, and Salem in which the Lava Bear teams of yore captured more than

BULLETIN Sports

The Bend Bulletin, Friday, May 21, 1954

15 Area Entrants For State Track Meet

Fifteen athletes from four Central Oregon schools will insure that this area is represented in every event except the broad jump tomorrow when the annual state track field meet for high schools opens at Corvallis.

It was only in the broad jump that neither a Bend, Madras, Redmond, nor Prineville entry was able to qualify in last Saturday's district two meet held in Bend.

Tracksters from the four schools are expected to depart early for the trip over the mountains in order to reach Corvallis in time for the morning preliminaries. The participants and their coaches will travel in private automobiles.

Bend high, the second place team in the district affair, will send five men—the largest of the four contingents. Madras and Prineville are next with four. Redmond, first in last week's meet, qualified three.

Bend is sending Lyle Schossow, the district's only three-event qualifier, as its main hope. Schossow will be entering the half mile, the miles, and the 880-yard relay.

Tourney Shift Seen for B's

CORVALLIS (UP)—A possibility that the Oregon high school class B basketball tournament might shift from Salem to Portland was seen here today.

The Oregon School Activities Association's board of control yesterday voted to leave the matter of moving the tournament to Toigott, secretary-treasurer of the OSAA, and Jack W. Edwards, Portland school superintendent. The board said that it believed the Portland school system could provide better facilities. Lincoln high school was mentioned as a possible site.

Action on a proposal to decide whether the state A hoop tourney should be split into two divisions was put off.

their share of honors. The occasion is the Big Six track and field meet in Springfield—an event which is really a kind of an epilogue to the funeral march since the loop has been as good as dead all year.

Spring Handicap Has 4 Flights, Deadline Set

Entries in the Bend golf club's spring handicap Thursday were divided into four flights and May 30 was set as the deadline for first round play.

A total of 54 golfers qualified for the handicap. The championship, second, and fourth flights are made up of 16 golfers each with eight entries in the sixth flight.

The members of the championship flight were objects of a Calcutta bidding session last night in the club house. The flight has defending champion Bill Hatch, a minus seven golfer, as its low handicap entry, Norman Whitney, a 30 handicapper, is high man.

The first round pairings: (championship flight) Ed Sullivan v. Oscar Glassow; Ollie Bowman v. Don Hampson; Russ Acheson v. John Currie; Bruce Cullison v. Bill Van Allen; Bill Hatch v. Norman Whitney; George Thompson v. Allen Young; Erv Hogan v. Charles Doney; Wilfred Josay v. Dr. Joe Graham.

(Second flight) Dr. R. P. Robinson v. Pat Cushman; Owen Panner v. Fred Cartmill; Bill Naylor v. Mel Munkers; Tom Hutchison v. Einar Selfors; Vance Coyner v. Farley Elliott; Dr. C. J. Rademacher v. Bill Niskanen; Fred Paine v. Keith Shepard; Roy Peoples v. Des Currie.

(Fourth flight) Bob Thomas v. Jack Symons; Kay Thompson v. Don Dyer; R. C. Robinson v. Glenn Gregg; Gil Moty v. Bud Bassett; Stacy Smith v. Bud Stipe; Lloyd Abrams v. Earl Sanders; Len Standler v. Mel Amberg; Dr. Bradford Pesse v. Dr. Harry Mackey.

(Sixth flight) Mel Raper v. Mert Waage; Al Gray v. Al Nielsen; Morris Olson v. Bill Healy; Dr. Charles Hinds v. Don Thompson.

Medford Draws Favorite Role

CORVALLIS (UP)—The 28th Oregon high school track and field championships opened here today with the result expected to produce a familiar old story—Medford the winner.

The powerful Black Tornado from Southern Oregon has won nine previous titles and five in the last six years. Most serious challenges were expected from Salem, Grant and Jefferson. Salem qualified 15 men, Medford 14, Grant 12 and Jefferson 10.

Yoncalia was expected to be dethroned as the B champion as it qualified only four men. Knappa and Monroe each qualified nine entries.

Named Sharpshooters

MADRAS — Two members of the Mt. Jefferson Rifle and Pistol club, junior division, have earned the coveted sharpshooter award. James Mehlenbeck, instructor, has announced. Keith Dee and Alvin Stevenson won the shooters awards at a recent meeting of the group which is sponsored by the senior rifle club and John Sloss Post No. 125, American Legion.

AVEMEN LEAD

SALEM (UP)—Eugene high school's golf team fired an aggregate score of 311 yesterday to take the early lead in the state prep golf tourney here. Salem was second with 326 and Corvallis third with 327.

PITCHER OPTIONED

SALEM (UP)—Pitcher Gene Roenspie, who won 19 games for the Salem Senators in the WI league last season, again has been optioned to the team by Sacramento of the Pacific Coast League.

Annual milk supply of the United States contains 1,450,000,000 pounds of nutrients, such as protein, minerals, lactose and fat.

Raschi Determined to Show Yankees Made Big Mistake

By OSCAR FRALEY
United Press Sports Writer

NEW YORK (UP)—Ponderous Vic Raschi won't say it but he is determined today to prove that the New York Yankees made a mistake when they peddled him to the St. Louis Cardinals.

"Big Vic, you'll remember, was part of the two-way surprise of the off-season. After 17 years in the Yankee chain he went to the Cardinals and Country Slaughter, after 16 years in the Redbird organization, went to the Yankees.

The deals weren't connected but they left both men with the same bitter reaction.

Slaughter was outspoken about his disappointment at leaving old, familiar scenes. Raschi, ever the introvert, contemplated the switch with the reserve of a Supreme Court judge and took umbrage only with the parting words of the Yankees.

The inference was that Raschi was one of those guilty of "complacency," a word exhumed by the Yankees to get their pennant-surfeited athletes "on the ball" in an attempt for a sixth consecutive flag.

"As far as that is concerned," Vic pronounced, "I'll stand on my record—and I think it's good enough."

It would seem to be, indeed. As a member of the five-in-a-row club, Raschi over that span won 92 games against only 40 losses. He had a 21-10 mark in 1949; led the American League in percentages with a .724 mark in 1950 on 21 wins and eight losses; had a 21-10 mark in 1951 when he led the league in strikeouts; scored a 16-6 mark in 1952 and had a 13-6 record in 1953.

It stands there in black and white that he tallied off over the last two years. Which may be why the Yankees tried to slash his \$40,000 salary to \$30,000 this season. Vic wouldn't have any of it, and the next thing he knew he was in a Cardinal uniform.

A pronounced introvert who long has kept his own counsel and a man who never joined in the horseplay of the Yankee family, Vic doesn't pop off now. He became a man with an icy exterior when he is asked to compare the Yankees and the Cardinals.

"The Cardinals have a tradition of their own," he says in what, for him, is a long speech. "They, too, have the winning spirit and the winning habit."

Big Vic is civil, but that's all. There is no effort to extend himself to make friends or influence people. He answers questions simply and briefly but doesn't elaborate. At 35, he has molded to a form which has hardened beyond change.

But there is an even more pronounced bulge to his determined jaw this year, a season in which he

UO Track Team Picked to Win

PULLMAN (UP)—The University of Oregon was rated a heavy favorite to capture the Northern Division track championship here tomorrow afternoon.

The Ducks were expected to have winners in seven events.

Washington, expected to win four events, was rated second with Washington State third; Oregon State fourth and the University of Idaho last.

Oregon's Fred Jacobs and Gordon Dahquist were rated tops in the 440 with other Ducks showing the best past records in the 880, mile, javelin, high jump, pole vault and relay.

Washington was given the best chance to take the two mile, discus, shot put and broad jump with Washington State's Bob Gury expected to take the 100 and 200 for WSC's only firsts.

ON INACTIVE LIST

PORTLAND (UP)—The Portland Beavers today placed Pitcher Joe Nicholas on the inactive list to make room on the squad for Jess Flores, hurler recently released by Oakland. Flores was scheduled to pitch against San Francisco tonight.

Baker Put On Probation List

CORVALLIS (UP)—The Oregon School Activities Association's board of control yesterday placed Baker high school on probation for one year because a booster organization sent the Baker basketball team to watch the state tournament and football players to attend college games in the Northwest. The OSAA said warnings had been made.

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