



BEND AN EAR

By RALPH CONWAY
The Bend Bulletin Sports Editor

Since coming to Bend we've been impressed by the lack of confidence and insecurity of the high school athletic department.

Maybe they've been sat on too hard in the past. Maybe it's an occupational disease of some sort. Maybe they have had reason to worry. Maybe they haven't been sure they have been doing what they should for the kids.

We don't claim to have the answers. We think the root of the problem is in football, though. The team wasn't doing so well for a while there. People weren't coming out to see a losing team.

Consternation reigned after the team's sloppy loss to Albany. The newspaper was approached to write sports news a certain way for a week in hopes of jacking up the team, where the fault supposedly lay. Needless to say, we didn't go along with it. We don't go in for propaganda.

But that isn't so important. The important thing is that the athletic department staff members were so concerned over the loss, not just concerned, but shaking in their boots.

Are their jobs at stake? To some extent, we think. If so, or if the coaches think so we think it is a mistake. At least it is a mistake if coaching jobs depend so much on producing winning teams. What is a few losses or a down year now and then? Why all the fuss?

We think it is partly because the financial condition of the athletic department is too dependent on

football receipts. Other sports suffer under the present system if football is down and a strained situation develops.

Some other source of revenue should be found to support student activities, including football. We aren't too familiar with school finance but we're sure something could be done. For example, the ridiculously low \$3 student fee could be raised. No one would be hurt much. The school would be helped and in turn the students.

Some of the strain would be off the athletic department. They could do a better job.

Their minds would be diverted from a push to win games and get rigged publicity to help. Instead they could be at ease to teach a man to man love of the game and a desire to excel in it as in the rest of life.

We think the boys would feel the change and better football and more won games would result.

Fuentes Tangles With Graham

LOS ANGELES (UP)—Ramon Fuentes, a tireless young corner, faces veteran Billy Graham in a 10-round bout at Olympic Stadium tonight with the winner expected to ask a shot at newly crowned welterweight king Johnny Saxton.

Fuentes, 29, is the third ranked welter contender despite the fact he has only 32 fights—30 of them victories—to his credit. Graham is climbing through the ropes for the 14th time in a career which started in 1941, 11 years before Fuentes first fight.

Fuentes is rated a solid favorite to wear the clever, 32-year-old Graham down and take a decision. He has scored workman-like wins over such as Art Aragon, Danny Womber, and Carmine Fiore in winning his last eight straight.

Graham, long near the top of the welter list, is not ranked among the 10 top contenders for the first time in many years. An appendectomy has prevented him from participating in more than two fights in 1954.

The non-televized encounter is expected to attract 7500 fans and a gross of about \$20,000.

CANNING CONTEST SET
Special to The Bulletin
REDMOND — Redmond grange will be host to the annual Pomona canning contest Friday, Oct. 29 at 8 a.m. Women of county granges will enter canned goods for judging at that time. Chairman for the event is Mrs. Rex Hanshaw, Bend.

Johnson May Sue Buyers of Athletic Team

By BOB COLL

United Press Sports Writer
PHILADELPHIA (UP)—The befuddled new "owners" of the Philadelphia Athletics, impatiently awaiting American League approval of their purchase of the team, faced further frustration today as Chicago realtor Arnold Johnson claimed they "wronged" him and threatened suit for substantial damages.

But local trucking executive Arthur Gallagher branded the court threat "unwarranted" and said the Mack family never gave any firm commitments to sell the club Johnson.

Gallagher and seven moneyed associates had four million dollars on the line last weekend to keep the A's in the town that has been their home for their entire 54-year history.

Their move came at a time when most of the sporting world had been reading obituaries about American League baseball in Philadelphia after the league club owners voted overwhelmingly to approve sale of the club to Johnson and let him carry out his avowed purpose of moving it to Kansas City.

Hires Attorneys
The franchise drive staged by Johnson and his associates, he said cost him "many thousands in expenses and fees," and he announced retention of a Philadelphia law firm to study the advisability of suing the Philadelphia group that swung the deal to keep the A's in their present location.

"I feel that I have been wronged by the Philadelphia group who so suddenly appeared on the scene, and I purpose to get my legal remedy," he said.

The realtor emphasized he would not direct any legal action at Connie Mack or his sons, Roy and Earle, who owned most of the stock in the team.

He also stressed his legal action would not be aimed at the American League or any of the club owners.

Charges Contract Breach
Johnson said that if he entered into litigation with the Philadelphia group, he would sue "not only for the cash damages sustained by me, but also on the grounds that this group joined together to induce a breach of contract which I made in good faith for the purchase of the A's."

But Gallagher denied the claim that there was a "contract" between the Mack family and Johnson.

"I am sure that neither Roy nor Earle would have broken any agreement between the Macks and Mr. Johnson for any sale of the Athletics, and I have no reason to believe there was any final agreement," said Gallagher.

BULLETIN Sports

The Bend Bulletin, Thursday, October 21, 1954

Saxton Upsets Kid Gavilan To Win Welterweight Title

By JACK CUDDY

United Press Sports Writer
PHILADELPHIA (UP)—Johnny Saxton of New York, a brand-new welterweight champion, sought to avoid a traffic jail sentence today while deposed Kid Gavilan of Cuba sought justice as the victim of a Philadelphia decision.

Brawny, 24-year-old Saxton, who learned to box in a New York orphanage, wrested the 147-pound crown from 28-year-old Gavilan Wednesday night before 7,909 in Convention Hall. But he faced a 15-day jail sentence, starting today in New York for ignoring a dozen traffic tickets. He was slated to appear in a New York court today before starting his incarceration.

Johnny, who specialized Wednesday night in "bulling tactics," won a unanimous 15-round decision after a bout so dull that Chairman Frank Wiener of the Pennsylvania Athletic Commission called it "a stinking fight."

Result An Upset
It was an upset result, for Johnny had been a 7-5 underdog entering the ring. Although the fans booted the bout in nearly every round, they cheered the decision. They were openly pro-Saxton, who is managed by Frank (Blinky) Palermo of Philadelphia. However, writers at the ringside were overwhelmingly in favor of Gavilan.

Angel Lopez, manager of the tear-stained Gavilan, screamed "They're a bunch of thieves! We were robbed! We'll never fight here again after this Philadelphia decision!"

Gavilan said, "They cheated me. I won 10 of the 15 rounds. But I knew that if it went the limit here I would lose my title."

Lopez protested bitterly to Wiener, but the commission chairman said: "Regardless of how bad the fight was, I think the decision was just."

Keed's Sparkle Seen Lacking
Gavilan's admirers thought he had won but they admitted the former Cuban speed merchant lacked his usual sparkle. It may have been because of inactivity during the past seven months or it may have been weight-making. He scaled an unusually low 145½ pounds after paring down from a reported 156. Saxton was sleek and strong at 146½.

But Johnny used his strength chiefly for bulling his opponent about the ring, muffling him in clinches and wrestling with him. Nevertheless, Gavilan had enough speed, savvy and stamina to land the more punches and with greater accuracy.

There were no knockdowns and no cuts during the dull performance but Saxton was badly hurt near the end of the 15th round. In that closing session Gavilan staggered him with a right uppercut and then battered him from rope to rope as the fight ended.

Ring Officials Scores
The three ring officials, all of Philadelphia, favored Saxton on rounds as follows: Referee Pete Linfield won last year's game 21 to 7.

PALO ALTO, Calif. (UP)—Coach Chuck Taylor of Stanford sent his battered "Big Red Machine" through its third straight scrimmage yesterday in an effort to have it ready for the Washington game Saturday.

Taylor said he will probably start Dick Jones at end in place of ailing Steve Docter. He previously announced he will use Ray Krickeberg to replace guard Matt Armitage, who ended his collegiate football career with a broken leg this week.

Byrne to Flight San Diego Man

PORTLAND (UP)—Heavyweight Jimmy Byrne, who has scored nine straight knockouts, faces Kirby Seals of San Diego at the Armory here tonight in a scheduled 10-round bout.

The Portland slugger, who has been fighting locally, plans bouts in the Bay area, on the eastern television circuit and perhaps a fight later with Pat McMurtry of Tacoma, recognized in Washington as the Northwest heavyweight king. He is favored to get by Seals.

Movies Show Ruling Correct

PORTLAND (UP)—The fans rooting for Oregon who rose up in anger when an apparent Oregon touchdown was ruled no good in last Saturday's football game with Southern California can relax.

Movies of the game show the official was right and the Oregon fans wrong. George Shaw had shot a 17-yard pass to end Phil McHugh who took it in the end zone early in the game with Oregon trailing 7-0. But it was ruled McHugh had stepped out of bounds and the fans howled.

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McLarney Says Errors 'Honest'

PORTLAND, Ore. (UP)—Art McLarney, University of Portland basketball coach, said today the violation of NCAA rules for which the school is to be reprimanded was an honest error.

The executive council of the National Collegiate Athletic Association yesterday voted to reprimand the Portland school for trying out 11 prospective basketball players on the campus April 10 and 11 of this year. Three other schools also were cited with rule violations.

McLarney said he was unaware of the rule forbidding the tryouts and had openly discussed the incident prior to the reprimand. Ed Fiene, athletic director, said the school regretted the incident and had already taken steps to see there was not a recurrence.

Fiene said official notice of the reprimand had not been received by the school. Portland has been a member of the NCAA since 1942.

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Bearcats Meet Linfield Next

SALEM (UP)—Saturday night's football game at McCulloch stadium here between Willamette University and Linfield will be a feature of the fourth annual W. U. parents' weekend.

The 8 p. m. contest will be the 29th Northwest conference clash between the two old rivals from Salem and McMinnville. Willamette has won 24 and Linfield four, with one tie.

Linfield won last year's game 21 to 7.

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