

Skits and Scratches

By Fred Zimmerman
Capital Journal Sports Editor

If one bases conclusions on the amount of experience of the players involved, then the Lebanon Warriors should be heard from next season, or more particularly so the following year. For of the squad of 10 players who extend itself to the limit in the recent tournament, six are sophomores and have two years of scholastic competition ahead. Three are seniors and the other is a junior. Coach "Swede" Mullikin said this was the year for his Newberg quint if they were to annex a state title. They didn't make the grade, even though they were strong enough to blast Salem's chances and then put a scare into the Pelicans in the semi-finals. Five of the Tigers who met Hood River in the consolation tilt Saturday night are seniors.

What about the champion Marshfield squad? Coach Bill Borchers loses just two men—Dick Mobley and Bill O'Neal. Don Bruce, an important cog in the Pirate machine, has another year. Borchers put a good team on the floor at Eugene—one that showed the effects of coaching by an ex-Webfoot. Once in possession of the ball they wasted little time in moving down the floor. They will be dangerous next year. Klamath Falls will be hit hard by graduation since eight of the runners-up have completed their competition. Eugene loses seven and Coach Harold Hauk will need five replacements for Dick Allison, Roger Dasch, Dick Hendrie, Bill Hill and Dick Mase. Returning will be Hugh Bellinger, Dave Chamberlain, Carlos Houck, Jack Miller, Ralph Morgali and Waldo Unruh. The "B" string that went through the season undefeated should provide a nice batch of recruits.

"How come Newberg didn't rate higher than Salem when it came to passing around the trophies?" several followers of the court game have inquired. It does seem a bit paradoxical that the Vikings, who were nosed by Newberg should wrap up the fourth place trophy while the Tigers, even though they took part in the scrap for third position, scarcely rated. The basic reason rests in the number of games a team wins or loses. The Vikings lost but a single contest out of four played, while Newberg suffered its second defeat at the hands of Hood River. A quint that is twice beaten is considered entirely out of the running.

"Couldn't have been improved upon," commented Vernon Gilmore, boys' physical director for the Salem schools, as he answered a question as to his impression of the tournament. "It was an outstanding show in all departments. I mean no reflections against Willamette; they simply didn't have the accommodations to care for the crowds." Gilmore praised the manner in which the Eugene tournament was organized and handled and the accommodations provided the teams. "There was no need for the teams to fight their way through a crowd in order to reach the dressing rooms, and once there, they were not bothered by hangers on." Gilmore believes the ticket prices were too high and expects the board of control to come down a bit next year.

And now it's baseball, softball and track. Walt Erickson, who concludes his brief engagement as a collegiate coach next June, takes his Bearcats out to George Alexander's big house at the end of State street next Saturday afternoon for their initial skirmish. A repeat performance is scheduled for the following Saturday. Up to this week there was little chance to get outside and see what could be accomplished. Pitching seems to be the big question mark. Harold Hauk will probably give his boys a week's rest before turning out for diamond practice.

Oklahoma Sooners Will Meet Beaver 5 Friday

Kansas City, March 18 (AP)—The Big Six conference champion University of Oklahoma Sooners, a solid and methodical team from the last substitute player up, will meet the Oregon State Beavers in the second game of the western regional N.C.A.A. playoff Friday night. Coach Bruce Drake's Sooners were forced to burn little energy in defeating a cold St. Louis university billion quintet, Missouri Valley conference champions, 47 to 41, last night in a tussle for the fifth district spot in the four-team, two-night regional playoffs.

St. Louis kept pace with the Sooners for the first ten minutes, but the Big Six club spurted from a 13-13 tie to a 29-18 lead by halftime and then coasted to victory. Terrell Tucker, who averaged 13.7 points per game in leading the Big Six conference in scoring tallied 15 points, 12 in the first half, to pace the Oklahoma attack. Bob Bergstrom and Paul Valenti, assistant coaches at Oregon State who scouted the Oklahoma team, spoke highly of the Sooners. "Oklahoma is a good basketball team, especially defensively," Bergstrom said. "And Tucker is one of the best big men I've seen in a long time. They'll be plenty rugged for us Friday night."

Racing Schedule Plan Suggested

The house judiciary committee today recommended that the State Racing commission be authorized to set dates for horse and dog racing meets, but that the meets be held between May 1 and Nov. 1. Fixed race meet dates had been included in a bill which also would increase the state's take on pari-mutuel revenues. The commission would not be allowed to schedule races when state and county fairs are being held.

Holm Works Out With Beaver Nine

Riverside, Cal., March 18 (AP)—Billy Holm, veteran Portland catcher who was forced to forego most of the spring training because of illness, worked out with the Beavers today for the first time this season. He arrived in camp yesterday. Manager Jim Turner nominated Veterans Ad Liska and Roy Helsler to be on the mound for the Beavers in the exhibition game here tomorrow against the Cleveland Indians. The Beavers went through a stiff workout today with emphasis being put on batting.

Indians Remain In Court Running

Portland, Ore., March 18 (AP)—The Portland Indians remained in contention for the professional basketball league playoff title today after a 71-58 triumph over the Bellingham Firecrackers. The latter, which defeated Portland Saturday 57-49, needs but one win to clinch the playoff title. Gail Bishop, Firecracker sharpshooter, potted 25 points for individual honors yesterday.

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Louis' Victim Not Yet Named

New York, March 18 (AP)—Joe Louis will make the 24th defense of his world heavyweight title on June 26 in Yankee stadium but who the party of the second part will be was still a big question today.

Joe's managers, Marshall Miles and John Roxborough, announced plans yesterday for the Brown Bomber's third postwar championship engagement and at the same time emphasized that this will be the only time he will lay the crown on the line this year. They virtually ruled out all other potential challengers except the survivor of the oft-postponed meeting between Bruce Woodcock, the British Empire champion, and Joe Baksi, the Kulpmont, Pa., coal miner, now scheduled for April 15.

Sports circles in England generally agreed that it is doubtful that Woodcock will meet Louis. Both Woodcock and his manager, Tom Hurst, hedged when asked whether Bruce would make himself available if he got past Baksi.

Umpqua Closing Program Ditched

The senate fish and game committees failed to reach agreement Monday after more than an hour's discussion of the bill by Sen. Thomas Parkinson, Roseburg, to close the Umpqua river to commercial fishing for five years.

Parkinson said that unless something is done to protect the stream, "its future will be doomed to both sportsmen and the commercial fishing interests." Sen. William E. Walsh, Coos Bay, suggested closing the river to anglers as well as to commercial fishing, while Sen. Merle Chessman, Astoria, said the bill was unworkable.

Cobbs Decide to Call Off Divorce

Redwood City, Cal., March 18 (AP)—The Ty Cobb divorce suit was called off today. Mrs. Cobb, wife of the former major league hero, gave instructions to her attorney to dismiss the divorce complaint which she filed last week. She said no deposition would be taken from the "Georgia peach." "We are discussing things," she added.

Portland Puckmen Hold Game Lead

Portland, March 18 (AP)—Portland held a one-game lead in the Pacific coast northern division hockey playoffs today after a third period rally last night netted them three goals and a 4-2 decision over Seattle in the opening game of the final best-of-seven playoff.

The two teams tangle again Wednesday night in Seattle with the third game Thursday in Portland.

Canadians Sweep

Portland, March 18 (AP)—Canadians swept all but one title in the finals of the annual Oregon badminton championships here yesterday. The lone trophy to escape the Maple Leafs was the mixed doubles, won by Maxine Cruikshank and James Paul of Seattle.

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State Senate Spares Lives of Sea Lions

The sea lion had a new lease on life today after the senate defeated, 15 to 12, a bill to permit killing of sea lions in all places except in the vicinity of Sea Lion caves in Lane county.

Sponsors said the animal was killing too many fish.

Softballers Plan Big Year

Ten clubs were represented Monday night when initial plans for the 1947 softball season were discussed during a conference held at the YMCA with Charley Baker, president of the loop, presiding. First definite action was the announcement of a single round spring training season scheduled to open April 14.

That Salem will be an active bidder for the 1947 state tournament was indicated when the local organization declared in favor of such a move. President Baker will name a committee to work toward such an objective.

The 10 teams involved were Knights of Columbus, Master Bread, Rawlins Realty, Eagles, Mootry's, Campbell's Rock Wool, Golden Pheasant, Papermakers, Salem Navigation, Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Shkor Achieves Biggest Upset

Boston, March 18 (AP)—During Boston's most turbulent night since the Revolutionary "Tea Party," big Johnny Shkor stopped fat Tami Mauriello in the eighth round at the arena last night, precipitating a miniature ring riot and later guerrilla warfare among henchmen of the two heavyweights.

Shkor, a blond giant who was a 3-1 underdog, achieved one of the biggest upsets in New England heavyweight history by giving the bloody-battering that a commission physician ordered the bout stopped before Tami of New York could answer the bell for the eighth round.

Atherton Award
Los Angeles, March 18 (AP)—Donald R. Aries, Washington State college baseball pitcher, today held the 1947 Edwin N. Atherton scholarship, given by the Pacific coast conference in memory of its late commissioner.

Kaintuck Has Close Squeak

New York, March 18 (AP)—It was a sight to see. That is, the virtual collapse of mighty Kentucky against Long Island university in their national invitation basketball tourney game at Madison Square Garden last night.

Regarded as the top collegiate outfit in the United States, the Wildcats from the Bluegrass country blew a 19-point second half lead as LIU put on a thrilling rally that tied the score at 62-all with 25 seconds left.

It is a testimonial to Kentucky's class that two quick baskets by Wah-Wah Jones and Jack Tingle in the remaining 25 seconds gave the Wildcats a 66-62 triumph. Nevertheless for a team like Kentucky to lose a 19-point lead in the second half is tantamount to a collapse.

Gunnarson Hurls Winning Baseball

Fullerton, Calif., March 18 (AP)—The Portland Beavers downed Los Angeles, 6-1, in an exhibition game here yesterday, a n Beaver Manager Jim Turner expressed relief about his left field.

Johnny Lazor, ex-Boston Red Sox player whose defensive ability had been on the uncertain list, turned in a spectacular performance in left field, snaring three fly balls against the boards. Two Los Angeles runners were out each time.

Jack Salvesson, opening on the mound for Portland, allowed seven hits in five innings. Carl Gunnarson, taking over for the last four frames, retired the first eight batters and was touched for only one hit.

Sacramento Turns 5 to Wenatchee

Sacramento, Calif., March 18 (AP)—Five Sacramento Solons were released to the Solons farm, the Wenatchee, Wash., club in the Western International league. Manager Dick Bartell announced.

Sent to Wenatchee were infielder Gene Gaviglio, Hal Rhyne, Jr., Doug Williams, Robert Williams and outfielder Ted Greenhaigh. Sacramento crosses bats with the San Diego Padres here tomorrow.

Bearcat Netmen Report for Work

With four lettermen on hand the Willamette university tennis squad is brushing up for its first meet of the year with College of Puget Sound here April 4.

The lettermen are Bill Bonington, Dale Bates, Dave Bristow and Bill Cook. Prof. Leslie Sparks will coach the squad.

Willamette Track Squad Organizes

Practice on a five day a week basis is the schedule for some 30 aspirants for Willamette university's track and field team, announces Coach Elmer Schaake who met with his men late Monday. Salem high's newly constructed track will be used part of the time.

The Bearcat squad includes 10 lettermen: John Macy, Don Preiss and Ron Runyan, distance; Herb Johnson, Bob Donovan and Ernie Miller, weights; Marv Goodman and Larry McKeel, sprints; Chuck Furno, broad jump and Don Tasker, hurdles.

A triangular meet with Lewis & Clark and Pacific will open the season, April 19.

Mel Hein Added To Dons' Staff

Los Angeles, March 18 (AP)—Mel Hein, 37, leading center of pro football for 15 years, was added to the Los Angeles Dons' coaching staff today as an assistant coach.

General Manager Harry Thayer said he, Coach Dud DeGroot and Hein met in Chicago during the all-America conference meeting last week and reached an agreement. Terms of the contract were undisclosed.

Hein, all-pro center eight times, is now in Schenectady, N. Y., concluding personal business and will report here about May 1.

AMERICAN LEGION WRESTLING
TONIGHT
8:30 — Salem Armory
Main Event Tag Team
Jack Kiser and Frankie Hari vs.
Benny Trudell and Herb Parks
Buck Weaver vs. Grey Mask
Bill Weidner vs. Dory Funk
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