

Leahy Favors Platoon Rule for Top Football

By FRANK LEAHY
Head Football Coach
University of Notre Dame

Coming up for prime consideration at the American Football Coaches Convention in New York on January 11 to 14 will be the free substitution rule. This ruling which has brought about the so-called "platoon system" has undoubtedly been the most discussed piece of legislation in football history. Definitely the ruling allows room for much argument on both sides, and our thoughts favoring such a plan are as follows:

Most important is the fact that free substitution allows for a much happier squad, as more men get to take part in each game. Naturally, a boy who works exceptionally hard all week on the practice field is entitled to any little enjoyment he might derive out of the Saturday game, and the only thing they ask is to have an opportunity to play. Equally as important is the fact that the number of injuries are considerably reduced, as men are not as susceptible to injury when they have ample opportunity to rest during a game.

The lover of good hard football is the biggest beneficiary as the calibre of the game is greatly increased by the presence of specialists. At Notre Dame we have not completely employed the two platoon system, but we do exploit the free substitution rule as far as our personnel will allow us.

I know of no other way in which a coach has the opportunity to work his sophomore players into crucial games without taking undue risk. A man can go in on defense in an important game and the events of the game unfold in such a manner that he immediately adapts himself to the situation.

Whereas on offense a player must remember all the plays and assignments, and this is sometimes difficult for a lad who is inclined to be a bit nervous in his first appearance before 50 or 60 thousand people.

With this in mind we worked four outstanding sophomores into our first string defensive lineup in 1949 and the game experience received by Jim Mutscheller, Bob Tonneff, Paul Burns, and John Jetibon should

definitely class them as "veterans" when the 1950 season rolls around.

The presence on our team of such strong and capable lads as Leon Hart, Jim Martin, Fred Wallner, Larry Coutre, and Bill Gay would have made it imprudent for us to completely employ the two platoon system, but we sincerely believe that in the combination of the two we were able to field a team that gave our fans a much higher grade of collegiate football than they would have seen with the same eleven men performing for sixty minutes.

There is no group in America that is trying harder to please the football fans than is the American Football Coaches Association, and you may be assured that whatever decision is reached by this group it will have been made after much careful deliberation with the betterment of the game for all concerned in mind.

Szasz and Weaver Repeat Mat Show

A repeat of last week's main event performance between Al Szasz and Buck Weaver will feature Tuesday night's professional grappling production at the armory.

The first preliminary at 8:30 will bring together Dale Kizer and Glen Dutton. The second bout will pit Maurice LaChapelle against Jack Lipscomb.



Nice Work Although the whole Ohio State football team volunteered for this assignment, Coach Wes Fesler thought he better handle it himself so his lads could concentrate on their impending Rose Bowl date with the California Bears. Fesler clutches his football and holds his breath as Mermaid Esther Williams bestows a good luck kiss on him. The Buckeyes had taken a day off from practice to visit Hollywood film studios. (Acme Telephoto)

American League Record Favors Yankee Keystone

By MILTON RICHMAN
(United Press Sports Writer)

New York, Dec. 27 (AP) — Shortstop Phil Rizzuto and Second Baseman Gerry Coleman of the New York Yankees received the official stamp today as the American league's classiest keystone combination of 1949.

Official fielding averages disclosed that while Rizzuto and Coleman received considerable competition for the defensive distinction, no combine was able to top them.

Coleman handled 625 chances and committed only 12 errors for a .981 percentage, tops of all second basemen, but was closely contested by Bobby Doerr of the Boston Red Sox and Joe Gordon of Cleveland, each of whom fashioned a .980 mark.

Rizzuto registered high mark for the shortstops, .971, while accepting 792 chances and making 23 errors, and just nosed out agile Eddie Joost of Philadelphia, who showed a .969 percentage. Coleman and Rizzuto, however, were the only Yankee players to lead their positions in fielding.

The American league's top players defensively were:

- 1B—Billy Goodman, Red Sox, .992.
- 2B—Coleman, Yankees, .981.
- 3B—Floyd Baker, White Sox, .977.
- SS—Rizzuto, Yankees, .971.
- OF—Dale Mitchell, Indians, .994; Walt (Hoot) Evers, Tigers, .993; and Al (Zeke) Zarilla, Red Sox, .985.
- C—Al Evans, Senators, .992.
- P—Mel Parnell, Red Sox, 1.000.

Goodman and Parnell, two Boston youngsters who enjoyed good years all around, also had tough battles before winning the defensive laurels at their individual positions.

Goodman, the slender first sacker who made nine errors while accepting 1,157 chances, beat Jim (Mickey) Vernon of Cleveland by one point in the battle among first basemen. Vernon's mark was .991.

Beaver-Gopher Cage Clash Is Slated Tuesday

Corvallis, Ore., Dec. 27 (AP) — Oregon State college, Pacific Coast conference defending champion, and Minnesota, runner-up for the Big Ten title last winter, clash in an intercollegiate basketball game at Gill Coliseum here tonight. Game time is 8 p.m.

It will be the second meeting this season between the two teams. Minnesota won the first encounter at Minneapolis earlier this month, 59-44.

A total of 28 pitchers fielded their positions flawlessly and wound up with percentages of 1.000, but Parnell, by virtue of handling the most chances without error, rated the nod. The Red Sox southpaw accepted 61 chances.

Among the defensive surprises was Dom DiMaggio of the Red Sox, noted for his fine fielding, who along with Sam Chapman of Philadelphia, shared the most errors for outfielders. Each was charged with 10 miscues.

Cleveland took team honors, committing the fewest errors, 103, and posting the league's top defensive mark, .983. That average equaled the Indians' all-time major league fielding record.

Eight College Cage Teams Start 14th Hoop Tourney

Oklahoma City, Dec. 27 (AP) — A balanced field of eight teams started the ball bouncing in the 14th annual all-college basketball tournament here today.

Oklahoma City university, rated the No. 1 dark horse entry, went up against Baylor in the opening game. Arkansas and Alabama squared off in the second game of the afternoon session.

The night card will feature the Oklahoma Aggies, the defending champions, against a good sophomore club from Vanderbilt. The Missouri valley and southeastern conference stalwarts tip off at 9 p.m., following a Wyoming-Texas clash.

It's just natural for the aggies to be listed as favorites. Coach Hank Iba's boys have won the tournament eight times and are seeking their sixth straight title.

Cavemen Swamp Chesers, 59-32

Grants Pass, Ore., Dec. 27 (AP) — Grants Pass high school swamped Tillamook, 59, to 32, in a basketball game here last night.

The Cavemen ran up a 31 to 13 halftime lead and then coasted to a 50 to 24 third period advantage as Coach Hank Anderson used every Grants Pass player in uniform.

Grants Pass leaves on a three-day barnstorming tour Wednesday, playing at Roseburg that night, Lebanon on Thursday and Corvallis on Friday.

Rudy Pilous, coach of the Louisville Blades of the U.S. Hockey league, never played pro hockey, but is rated one of the best developers of young hockey players.



Pitcher Maker Bryan (Busher) Lewis (left) is the champion pitcher-maker of the Pacific Northwest, without a challenge for the title. His proof is back in town for the winter—Cliff Chambers (center) of the Pittsburgh Pirates and Clarence Marshall of the New York Yankees (right). Both got their start under Lewis, Bellingham high school coach. Chambers had a 13-7 won-lost record this year and Marshall, a rookie, won three and was unbeaten.

Who's Playing in the Bowl Games January 2

New York (AP)—Here's how they will line up for football bowl games on January 2:

- (Won-Lost Records in Parentheses)
- Rose Bowl, Pasadena, Calif.—California (10-0) vs. Ohio State (6-1-2).
- Cotton Bowl, Dallas, Tex.—Rice (9-1) vs. North Carolina (7-3).
- Sugar Bowl, New Orleans, La.—Oklahoma (10-0) vs. Louisiana State (8-2).
- Orange Bowl, Miami, Fla.—Kentucky (9-1), vs. Santa Clara (7-2-1).
- Sun Bowl, El Paso, Tex.—Georgetown (5-4) vs. Texas Western (7-2-1).
- Oleander Bowl, Galveston, Tex.—McMurry (7-2-1) vs. Missouri Valley (8-2).
- Pineapple Bowl, Honolulu—Stanford (6-3-1) vs. University of Hawaii (7-1).
- Gator Bowl, Jacksonville, Fla.—Missouri (7-3) vs. Maryland (7-1).
- Cigar Bowl, Tampa, Fla.—Tallahassee (Fla.) State (7-2) vs. Xavier (O.) (9-1).
- Tangerine Bowl, Orlando, Fla.—Emery and Henry (11-0) vs. St. Vincent (9-0).

Northwest Cagers Face Eight More Pre-Season Games

Just eight more games remain on the Northwest conference pre-season basketball slate. Both Willamette and Whitman have completed their warm-up games and won't see action until the league opens January 6. On that date Willamette will play Linfield at McMinnville while Whitman will move to Forest Grove for its opener with Pacific.

Trophies Awarded Semi-Pro Clubs

Wichita, Kan., Dec. 27 (AP)—The National Baseball congress has awarded trophies to the Golden, Colo., Coors and the Alpine, Tex., Cowboys for outstanding achievements in semi-pro baseball.

Both the Coors and the Cowboys have won three straight state championships. The Bellingham, Wash., Bella received special mention for their play in state and national tournaments.

The 57th fighter wing of Anchorage, Alaska, was rated the No. 1 service team.

Many hockey players feel a bright yellow or orange puck would be easier to follow on the ice than the standard black rubber one now in use.

CapSports

LOCAL ★ UNITED PRESS ★ ASSOCIATED PRESS ★ NEWS AND FEATURES
Salem, Oregon, Tuesday, December 27, 1949—Page 17

Charles Rated Fighter of '49 by The Ring Magazine

By JACK CUDDY
(United Press Sports Writer)

New York, Dec. 27 (AP) — The Ring magazine today named Ezzard Charles "fighter of the year" and top contender for the vacant world heavy weight crown; but it stated also that if Joe Louis came back in 1950, as was likely, Joe would automatically be rated No. 1 contender.

Although Charles of Cincinnati is recognized as champion by the National Boxing Association, the Ring magazine's annual ratings today listed the world title as "vacant."

The copyrighted ratings, released in the February issue of the magazine, ranked ancient Jersey Joe Walcott of Camden, N.J., as the No. 1 opponent for Charles; and listed veteran Lee Oma of Detroit as next best contender. Bruce Woodcock of England and Lee Savold of Paterson, N.J., followed in that order.

Freddie Mills of England, world light heavyweight champion, was given a sock on the chin by being rated below Joey Maxim of Cleveland, No. 1, and Archie Moore of St. Louis, No. 2, among the 175-pounders.

Sugar Ray Robinson, welterweight champion, was named the No. 1 contender for Middleweight Champion Jake LaMotta's crown. And Nat Fleischer, the magazine's editor, stated that Robinson "is undoubtedly the best fighter, pound for pound, in the ring today."

Lack of class among newcomers was reflected when the Ring failed to pick its annual "rookie of the year." However, Welterweight Lester Felton of Detroit was named "the fighter who made the most progress in 1949."

Fleischer explained that Charles was chosen "fighter of the year" because of his Chicago victory over Walcott for the NBA crown, because of his successful title defenses against Gus Lesnevich and Pat Valentino and because he maintained "fine public relations."

Charles' closest rivals for the award were Robinson and Featherweight Champion Willie Pep. "But Robinson had too many postponements," explained Fleischer. "And he was held to a draw by Henry Brimm." Pep failed to meet ex-champ Sandy Saddler in a return title bout.

Charles again drew more walks than any player in the league, 162, topping runner-up Eddie Joost of the Athletics by 13. The Red Sox outfielder, who was voted the American league's most valuable player in 1949, struck out 48 times but was nowhere near the leading man in that department, Dick Kokes of the Browns.

Kokes, one of the Brownie stars, fanned 91 times, once more than did Larry Doby of Cleveland.

Among players who appeared in 100 games or more, player-manager Lou Boudreau of Cleveland had the sharpest eyes at the plate, striking out only 10 times. Next best was Boudreau's team-mate, Dale Mitchell with 11 strikeouts.

Eddie Robinson of Washington and Doby were tied for being hit by the most pitched balls, each suffering seven nicks.

The Red Sox led in runs batted in with a total of 833 and grounded into the most double plays, 169.

Skits and Scratches

By FRED ZIMMERMAN, Capital Journal Sports Editor

It isn't probable Willamette university's invitational basketball tournament scheduled to open Wednesday night, will develop into one of state-wide proportions, but the series now being held each March on the University of Oregon campus had its beginning in a similar manner. The impetus of the tourney which Willamette fathered and nurtured until it grew to such proportions that other communities cast greedy eyes this way, was given by Bob Mathews, then Bearcat coach. It, too, was an invitational affair. Coach "Stack" Stackhouse is behind the series that will extend through three nights of competition, involving a half dozen teams, all coached by Willamette university graduates. The games will be staged at a time when sports activities are at a low ebb during the Christmas holidays.

Rotating Cage Tourney

In all probability the state high school basketball tournament will be placed on an alternating basis between Oregon State college and the University of Oregon beginning with 1951. We have it on good authority that the Beaver institution has placed a bid with the board of control, Oregon School Activities association for the 1951 production of the cage classic and we do not expect the OSAA to reject the proposal. Since moving the tournament from Willamette's campus a few seasons back it has been staged in McArthur's commodious court. With the construction of Gill pavilion an accomplished fact, or virtually so, the last obstacle in the way of holding the big show on the O.S.C. campus has been removed.

Housing Facilities?

The question of whether Corvallis can house the players and the hundreds of fans who annually take part in the tournament has been raised frequently whenever it has been suggested that the tourney be alternated between Corvallis and the Lane county metropolis. It is true that Corvallis does not have the hotel accommodations provided in Eugene, but it is scarcely probable that Athletic Director Spec Keene would approve the staging of the games in Gill pavilion if he was not sure of his ground as to housing. In all probability a number of Willamette valley teams involved in the tournament would solve their own housing problems by driving back and forth each night. Many coaches prefer to have their kids in their own beds rather than have them face the distractions that are inevitably a part of a tournament center.

Organization Job Huge

The task of organizing a production as big and complicated as the state basketball tournament is a big one. But it will be nothing new for Spec Keene, Oregon State's athletic director who had his eye teeth cut while serving in a similar capacity at Willamette. If he needs any help, Spec can call on Prof. Leslie Sparks, whose ability in keeping the machinery well oiled during the many seasons the cagers pranced on the State street campus maple board is recognized by all those who had occasion to observe.

It's Official: Williams Named Slugging Champ

New York, Dec. 27 (AP)—Ted Williams, Boston's one-man batting monopoly, today was acknowledged the American league's slugging champion for 1949—winning the title with the same ease he exhibited annually.

Williams' slugging percentage—a percentage based on the percentage of total bases against total times at bat—was .650, a "mere 111 points" higher than the .539 mark turned in by runner-up Vern Stephens, also of the Red Sox.

The chunky Stephens and Williams, however, finished in a dead heat for the runs batted in leadership, each driving home 159 tallies. Only three other players drove in 100 or more runs. They were Vic Wertz of Detroit with 133, Bobby Doerr of Boston, 109, and Sam Chapman of Philadelphia, 108.

Doerr missed many chances to increase in runs batted in total by hitting into 31 double plays—most of any player in the league.

Coaches Fail in Pro Scout Bid

By HUGH FULLERTON, Jr.

New York, Dec. 27 (AP) — A brief item on an inside page of the sporting news finally reveals that the college baseball coaches failed to persuade the major leagues to rescind Commissioner Chandler's rule against combining coaching and scouting jobs . . . that business, it seems, wasn't on the agenda for the winter meetings and anyway Chandler "indicated he would veto it." . . . The catch is that most college jobs pay so little that the baseball coach either has to help with football or find other part-time employment . . . so the guys who are established as scouts are finding it necessary to quit teaching the youngsters . . . The collegians asked that the ban be modified so that a coach who also is a scout be forbidden to sign any players on his own team . . . Probably they'd go even further, but they still want the chance to make a buck . . . and apparently this indirect "no" is their only reply from organized baseball.

and insisted on milk . . . Paul had to leave the field and trot to the nearest grocery store to buy a pint of milk . . . When Jerry's father returned, his team had scored two touchdowns . . . Paul had had a distaste for milk ever since."

Well Groomed

Sidelight on Notre Dame's football captain-elect, provided by his mother, Mrs. Paul Groom: "When Jerry was four years old, Paul (his father, who sees every Notre Dame game) took Jerry to a football game . . . Jerry refused to drink pop

George Metkovich, the White Sox outfielder, is a full-fledged member of the screen actors guild. With a winter's training, he'll probably outdo the umps in television performances . . . Hugh Stewart, top-flight young tennis player who has entered the U. of Southern California, is keeping away from the basketball court to concentrate on tennis . . . The San Francisco U. basketball team traveled 14,886 miles last season but the U. of Miami footballers will beat that in 1951, when they make an 11,000 mile round trip to Hawaii . . . Edwin T. Anderson, new president of the Detroit Lions, played center on the 11-man Beloit college team that led Notre Dame 3-0 at half time in 1925. That probably was the high spot in Beloit's football record.

In a Franz-y

U. of California's football followers like to tell this one about the 1948 game against Washington . . . after one

Huskie play, a sudden silence fell over the stadium . . . In the midst of it, the voice of Rod Franz, Cal's all-America guard, boomed out: "We've got to tighten up, Boys. They made a yard on that one."

Sportspourri

FOR FAMILY AND FRIENDS SERVE

...only the FINEST

CANADIAN WHISKY

bears this label...

CANADA'S FINEST

HARWOOD'S IS CANADA'S FINEST

Harwood's is the masterpiece of Canada's largest Independent Distillery. To millions, it has become the Canadian Whisky which they can always depend on for quality. Every sip tells the same story of light, mellow, velvety flavor.

Ask for HARWOOD'S today
FIFTHS \$5.05 PINTS \$3.20

Blended Canadian Whisky • 90.4 Proof
Renfield Importers, Ltd., New York

DOLLARS

FOR EMERGENCIES?

CASH LOANS Auto or Personal
\$100 to \$1000 OR MORE

COMPARE OUR RATES

| CASH YOU GET | Monthly Payments | 12 mos. | 18 mos. |
|--------------|------------------|---------|---------|
| \$100 | 19.61 | \$ 9.26 | |
| \$300 | 32.68 | 27.78 | |
| \$500 | 55.36 | 46.30 | |
| \$1000 | | 92.59 | |

Make application GET CASH TODAY

COMMERCIAL CREDIT PLAN
INCORPORATED

Salem Agency: 404 N. Church St. Tel. 34108

CLOSE IT IN!

Make that wintry-cold Porch a pleasant cold weather room. We'll provide the Sash you will need for an inexpensive, easily built porch enclosure. Porch Sash will not only make your Porch warm; it also will keep your other rooms warmer and you will reduce your fuel bill.

Porch Sash
SALEM WOODWORKING CO.
1225 Cross Cabinets - Frames Ph. 3-5953