

Huskies Could Clinch Title By Beating Oregon Tonight

(By The Associated Press)
 Needing a single victory to top their third straight Northern Division basketball pennant and only four wins away from a perfect season, the Washington Huskies face the Oregon Ducks Friday night in the opener of a crucial two-game Pacific Coast Conference series.

The Huskies, rated as the nation's No. 3 team, clinched a tie for the Northern championship last week. A win Friday night will put them over the hump.

Oregon, the only Northern team with a faint chance of tie-

ing the Huskies for the title, comes to town with a record of five straight wins and an ambition to end Washington's victory skid at 12. Coach Bill Brocher, believing a strong defense is the only way to stop the Bob Houbregs-paced Huskies, has drilled the Ducks almost exclusively in such tactics through the week.

The league's two tall-end clubs—Oregon State and Washington State—clash at Pullman in another series.

Oregon State could move within half a game of third-place Idaho by sweeping the two-game series. Washington State, which has only one win in the division this year, will have its last chance to get out of the cellar. A pair of victories over the Beavers this week-end and a victory over Idaho next Tuesday would boost the Cougars into fourth place.

Lewiston Signs Four Veterans; Wasley Included

Lewiston Idaho (AP)—Three players who once wore Spokane uniforms and a former Tri-City first baseman were signed by the Lewiston Broncos Thursday for the 1953 Western International League baseball season.

Manager Bill Brenner announced the signing of Ken Richardson, who played third base for Spokane in 1949 and 1951 and part of last season for Yakima, outfielder Mel Wasley, who led Spokane hitting with a .336 average in 1952, and infielder Larry Barton, manager at Visalia of the California league last season.

The fourth player was Clint Cameron, Tri-City first baseman in 1950 and 1951.

Brenner also announced the Broncos have a verbal agreement with Grand Forks, N. D., of the Class C Northern Baseball League. Under the agreement, the Broncos will send at least six players to Grand Forks in the 1953 season. At the end of the season, Grand Forks will send any six players on its roster at the minimum purchase price of \$200.

Set-up Changed For Inverness Golf Tourney

Toledo, O. (AP)—Under a new set-up, PGA champion Jim Turnesa and 29 other top golf pros will compete this year in the Inverness Invitational tournament.

Since 1935, this \$18,000 affair has been a best ball tourney, with players paired in teams of two. This season, the field has been enlarged from 12 to 30 and the play will be 72-hole medal.

The tournament will be held June 18-21.

Those to be invited will be: Turnesa, 1952 PGA winner; the winners of the 1953 National Open, the 1953 masters, and the 1953 Western Open; the top 10 members of the Ryder Cup team, and 10 top men in the Vardon Trophy standings.

FAN FARE



NIT Having Trouble Lining Up Top Basketball Talent

New York, (AP)—The National Invitation Basketball Tournament, which lost greatly desired Seattle to the NCAA, may lose equally sought after St. Louis to the classrooms.

St. Louis tremendously popular with the New York fans, virtually wrote its own invitation to the NIT last night by swamping New York University, 98-78, at Madison Square Garden. But St. Louis Coach Eddie Hickey said he was doubtful that a bid could be accepted.

"We've missed an awful lot of school on this road trip," Hickey said. The team has been away from St. Louis since last Friday and won't get home until Sunday.

"It will be up to the university authorities," the coach continued, "and they may think another trip back here would be too much."

Hickey admitted he would like to come to the NIT.

"After all," he said, "New York is Billikins' second home." St. Louis won the NIT in 1947 and has played in it three times since then, including last year.

The NIT, which opens March 7, has corralled four of its needed dozen teams—unbeaten Seton Hall, ranked No. 1 nationally in the Associated Press poll; fourth-ranking LaSalle; ninth-ranking Western Kentucky; and Manhattan College of New York, No. 13 in the poll.

Manhattan came in yesterday just after Seattle, which had received an invitation, cast its lot with the NCAA. Seattle is hoping for a chance to play the University of Washington in the Western NCAA Regional Tournament, but it will have to get by a first round game with Idaho State to stay in the running.

St. Louis is unranked nation-

ally and has only a 13-9 record.

"I think we have played one of the toughest schedules in the country," Hickey said. "We lost our Sugar Bowl title to Louisiana State, which has been beaten only once. We lost twice to once defeated Washington at Seattle in close games. And Brigham Young beat us and they're leading their conference."

Hickey pointed out the Billikins still have a chance in the Missouri Valley Conference race which St. Louis won last year.

The Bills, with a 4-4 conference record, have two league games left—both at home against Oklahoma A&M and Tulsa.

"If we should win," Hickey said, "we should be obligated to play in the NCAA."

Hickey was asked what would happen if St. Louis should tie for the conference title.

William and Mary featured competition elsewhere in the na-

tion Thursday night. The Indians upset Duke, 85-82, in an overtime Southern Conference tilt. The score was tied 78-78 at the end of the regulation game. In the overtime the Indians didn't get a field goal, but made seven free throws to snap Duke's nine-game winning streak.

Ernie Beck tallied only 11 points but Penn beat Syracuse, 71-67, after which Villanova crushed Siena, 67-48, in a twin bill at the Palestra in Philadelphia.

In other games Detroit whipped St. Bonaventure, 84-70; Utah State took Denver, 69-62; New Mexico downed Montana, 70-63; Drake humbled Creighton, 92-78 and Maryland nipped Georgetown (D.C.) 48-48.

Bobby Adams of the Cincinnati Reds led the National League third basemen in assists (328) and total chances (524) for 1952.

ABC Opens Long Stand Tomorrow In Chicago

Chicago (AP)—The World Series of bowling, the American Bowling Congress tournament, will open a record-breaking 93-day stand in Chicago Saturday with an all-time high of 49,000 entries.

Bowlers competing in the ABC's Golden Jubilee meet will represent 1,298 cities in 44 states. A record prize list of \$573,380 is offered.

Topping the 8,180 teams entered is Pfeiffer's of Detroit, formerly E & B, the defending champion with a 1952 winning tally of 3,115.

Chicago's Al Sharkey is back to try to defend his singles crown 758 score from 29,516 other keggers. Among the 23,886 all-events entries will be defending titlist Steve Nagy of Cleveland. He won last year with 2,085. Nagy also will be protecting his doubles crown with partner Johnny Klares of Cleveland as 14,662 two-teams compete.

Mississippi — Corky Gonzalez, 124 1/2; Paul, 15.
 Detroit — Shubert Davidson, 306; Detroit, stopped Bob Johnson, 187; Detroit, 6.
 New York — Tommy Ashberry, 194; New York, stopped Joe Cantavero, 184; Paul River, 6.
 New York (Sussexville Gardens) — Marie Perry, 197; Mexico City, undefeated Freddie Manforto, 144; Brooklyn, 8.
 Newark, N. J. — Samson Pevral, 168; Detroit, knocked out Leroy Coleman, 150; Los Angeles, 10.
 Fresno, Calif. — Sal Pizarro, 164; Los Angeles, knocked out Benny Owen, 151; New York, 5.
 Vancouver, B. C. — Louis Lawrence, 155 1/2; Vancouver, stopped Cleeo Sarna, 153 1/2; Phoenix, Ariz., 14.

Fights Last Night

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SPORTS SLATE

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20
 College basketball: BOCE at OCE, OGC at WBC, Oregon at Washington.
 High school basketball: Willamette Valley League — Mt. Angel at Silverton, Sandy at Escalada, Dallas at Molalla, Canby at Woodburn; Marion county B league — Chemawa at Oatze, Detroit at St. Paul, Corvallis at Jefferson, Sublimity at Deer School; Yamama league — Banks at Amity, Sherwood at Yamhill, Dayton at North Marion, Williamson at Sherland; Capital league — Philomath at Salem Academy, Clatskanie at Sacred Heart.
 Church league basketball: Class C — Knight Memorial vs. First Christian, 7 p.m., YMCA.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21
 College basketball: Linfield at Willamette, BOCE at OCE, OGC at WBC, Oregon at Washington.
 High school basketball: Salem at Eugene.
 Church league basketball: Class B at YMCA — S. Chemawa Navajos vs. First Christian Blacks; S. First Presbyterian vs. St. Mark's Lutheran.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23
 Church league basketball: (See story day of games for times and places.) Class A — First Methodist vs. Leslie Methodist, First EUB vs. Chemawa, Central Lutheran vs. Memorial, First Presbyterian vs. Deer School; Class B — Englewood EUB v. Calvary Baptist, First Christian Blacks vs. St. Mark's Lutheran, First Methodist vs. Knight Memorial; Calvary Baptist vs. First Christian Whites; Class C — Kingswood Bible vs. First Methodist, First EUB vs. Nasarone, First Presbyterian vs. Deer School.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24
 Professional wrestling: Salem arena, card starts at 8:30 p.m. One-night tournament. Participants — Eric Pederson, Al Sessa, Otto Nicolini, Lionel Ballarsson, Bill Fletcher, Buck Weaver, Bronco Lubich.
 High school basketball: Marion county B league — Mt. Angel, Silverton at Sandy, Dallas at Canby, Woodburn at Molalla.
 City league basketball at Leslie: T. Salem Jayvets vs. Marion Motors; S. Warner Motors vs. YMCA; S. D. Battery vs. Salem Auto Parts.
 Church league basketball: (See story day of games for times and places.) Class A — Clayton Baptist vs. Nasarone; Class B — Court Street Christian vs. Liberty Church of Christ; Class C — St. Mark's Fonia vs. First Methodist.

Minnesota, As Expected, Votes No to Pact

Minneapolis (AP)—The University of Minnesota, as expected, has voted against renewal of the Big Ten-Pacific Coast Conference Rose Bowl football pact.

The university Senate, the school's governing body made up of top level faculty and administration members, Thursday cast a negative vote on the proposal. It was the first Big Ten school to take an official positive stand and reaffirmed the university's position on post-season games.

The Senate's action confirmed an earlier vote of the Senate Committee on Athletics which was 9 to 3 against renewal. Illinois previously has approved a proposed three year extension.

The present Big Ten Bowl contract expires with the Jan. 1, 1954 game in Pasadena.

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