

Yankees' Elston Howard gets American MVP award

TEANECK, N.J. (UPI)—"This is the greatest day of my life," Elston Howard said today, "but the most valuable player on our ball club wasn't even in the lineup — Mickey Mantle."

Howard sat at a card table in the dining room of his new home, boxes and crates piled around the walls, paneling yet unfinished, and his 4-year-old daughter, Karen, hugging his leg.

The 33-year-old New York Yankee catcher had just been informed of his 100-point victory in the American League's Most Valuable Player balloting.

"A lot of people kept saying I was going to win it but I really didn't think about it until the other morning I woke up

at 5 o'clock and started thinking what an honor it would be," Howard said.

"I thought maybe (Al) Kaline (of Detroit) or Whitey (Ford of the Yankees) might get it," he said, "but I really think Mick is the most valuable to us anyway."

Mantle was sidelined most of the 1963 season with knee and leg injuries and underwent surgery last month to correct it.

Elston Jr., 8, was creating a commotion in the basement, the door bell sounded, then the telephone rang.

"This is a madhouse," chuckled Howard. "We just moved in six days ago and I've been doing everything from planting shrubbery to building a rock garden."

A LOOK AT SPORTS

Bend, Prineville narrow favorites

by Web Ruble
Bulletin Sports Editor

It's all or nothing now for Central Oregon prep football squads as the four local members of the Intermountain Conference face traditional arch-rival foes in their 10th and final week of action.

Two tough traditionals are on the docket for season finales this weekend.

Saturday at Bruin Field it's Redmond vs. Bend for the Lava Bears' Homecoming. If there ever is a "traditional" it is the Bend-Redmond clash.

Quite frankly, the whole thing shapes up to be a real head-knocker. They (Bend-Redmond tiffs) all have been in the past few years.

By-Gone Era

Through one era in Central Oregon grid history, the Redmond game was annually a walk-away for the Lava Bears. It came to a halt in 1954 when Redmond edged the Bears for the first Panther victory over Bend in 31 years.

From that point on, the trend has reversed itself. Since 1954, especially the last few annus, Redmond has had the upper hand. Three out of the last five years, the Panthers have whipped the Bears. Two of these three were by Redmond teams with only so-so records. In the process, Redmond has wrecked two Bend Homecomings.

And things point to the same possibility this year.

Here are a few points to take into consideration:

- 1) It's a traditional. Hence: throw out all previous scores of the season... throw away the record book. It's one of those emotion-packed tilts wherein anything can happen and most of the time does.

Homecoming, Too

- 2) It's a Bend Homecoming, and Redmond can rise to the occasion for the Bend game more than for any other. 1959 was the first year that the Bend-Redmond tiff was the last game of the season for both clubs.

It also was the first year that Bend and Redmond found themselves in the same loop, the Intermountain Conference. Since then it has been rather a dismal episode for the Lava Bears.

- 3) One might get the impression that the Lava Bears do not attach the same importance to the game as do the Cats. Many local fans have suggested that the Panthers have found the annual "Civil War" much more significant than Bend has.

Be these opinions as they may... the alleged "jinx" is only as good as the players on both squads make it. Up Redmond way, the coaches don't feel the same way about it as some Bend fans do. They're taking no jinx for granted, and you're not going to fool them... they believe Bend will be "up" for this mainly involves the Panther offense.

Lacked Offense

Whereas the Panthers lacked offensive punch at the season's outset, the Cats now can move the ball well when the opportunity is there. The Cats proved to be a pleasant surprise to Redmond fans when they whipped larger Prineville, 13-0.

- 6) Bend's defense is good, especially in the line. It has shown improvement with every ball game except, perhaps, in the Dallas tussle.

- 7) Bend's offense has been blow-hot - blow-cold all season, though improving overall towards the end.

- 8) Bend has the better season record with five wins and three losses, but Redmond has done

better against common opponents in its last two outings.

That's it... you figure it out. Obviously it's a tossup. But I'll put myself out on a limb and say Bend by 1.

Buffs Face Pokes

Before Bend and Redmond go at it on Saturday, however, Madras will trek to Prineville to do battle with grudge opponents... the Crook County Cowboys.

This one shapes up to be a one just as much as they are. (It would be foolish to assume otherwise... and quite frankly it appears that Bend is "ready" for this one, perhaps more so than in the past few years.)

Run Hard

- 4) Redmond has perhaps the two hardest running backs in Central Oregon. They are Dennis Moore, a 144 pound half-back, and Mike Roach, a 172 pound fullback. Both runners have demonstrated in the last two or three ball games that they can get the job done. Both are scrappers, fighting for that extra yard that may mean the difference between a first down or a lost ball.

- 5) Redmond, generally, is the most improved local ball club since the beginning of the season. This improvement wasn't apparent until the Panthers bounced back from a humiliating defeat at the hands of the La Grande Tigers, 19-6.

The last two tilts have seen Coach Doc Savage's charges improve immensely. Redmond has played sound defense all season. This latter improvement real donnybrook, as well. Unfortunately, the loser of this one will wind up in the IC cellar. Neither team really deserves it... both the Cowboys and the White Buffaloes have lost some close ones.

Both have single wins. Madras won its season opener by dumping visiting La Grande 7-0. Prineville edged Mac Hi of Milton - Freewater at mid-season, 14-12.

Prineville lost a heart-breaker to Bend last week 8-6. The Pokes lacked some offensive punch when they really needed it. They had four downs to move the ball four yards to paydirt and couldn't do it.

Spirit Dormant?

At mid-season Madras exploded for two quick touchdowns against Bend (14-0), but saw its lead melt before the enraged Lava Bears who won it going away, 32-14. The Buffs were "up" for that one and lost it. They never completely regained their spirit afterwards.

It shapes up to be a contest between Prineville's rugged defense and Madras' scout - scout offense. Coach Frank Good's Buffs have a double punch. Alvis Smith and Rod Smith can move the ball on the ground, and Doug Stewart has done Central Oregon's best pass - receiving this year.

Coach Bud Dowling's Pokes on the other hand, have a tremendous charger in fullback Phil Powell and a defensive line that at times looms as immovable as the China wall.

It'll be interesting... it's another traditional. Though morale could be low at both schools, it probably won't be. Both will scramble to stay out of the cellar.

Prineville by 6.

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EXPLOSIVE COWBOYS—Two of Coach Bud Dowling's Prineville Pokes could be more than just a little trouble for the Madras Buffs this weekend. They are quarterback Greg Vernon, 17, above, a 5-11 160-pounder, and George Brick, 66, a 5-4 165-pound guard who has been a veritable "fireball" in the Cowboys' forward wall all season. Brick turned in a top performance against Bend last Saturday. The Madras-Prineville tiff will be the season finale for both clubs.

Boston Celtics appear unbeatable as they whip Cincinnati for 7th straight

By United Press International

It's too early to throw in the towel on the Eastern Division race of the National Basketball Association, but Boston does look unbeatable.

The fast-moving Boston Celtics scored 139 points to Cincinnati's 121 Wednesday night as the New York Yankees of professional basketball surged to their seventh win without a defeat.

The Royals, pre-season hopefuls for cracking the Celtic legend, are barely over the .500 mark in the Eastern Division's second spot with a 6-5 record.

Six Straight Wins

The St. Louis Hawks have a streak of six consecutive victories that put them in front of Western Division teams. The Hawks, led by Bob Pettit's 32 points, came from behind to knock over the Baltimore Bullets 112-110.

The Los Angeles Lakers also won their game by two points, 111-109, over the New York Knicks. In another NBA contest Wednesday night, the Detroit Pistons shifted its starting

lineup and produced a 119-101 victory over the Philadelphia 76ers.

The Knicks travel to San Francisco to play the Warriors in the only scheduled league game tonight.

Boston scored more than 30 points in each period with Sam Jones topping Celtic scorers with 28 points. Bill Russell grabbed 19 rebounds and helped frustrate Cincinnati's Jerry Lucas in the first period. Lucas eventually scored 20 points, although Oscar Robertson led the Royals with 24.

West Paces Lakers

The Hawks fell 11 points behind the Bullets in Baltimore after leading 60-55 at the half. But John Barnhill stole the ball repeatedly in the final 12 minutes as the Hawks rallied to a six-point lead, 99-93. Terry

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Station protests Owens' refusal to allow TV...

SEATTLE (UPI)—Television Station KIRO - TV Wednesday protested University of Washington Athletic Director and Football Coach Jim Owens' refusal to allow telecasts here of Washington's remaining games against California, UCLA and Washington State.

Station Manager Lincoln W. Miller said Owens' decision "unnecessarily forecloses the sports-minded public from witnessing its own tax-supported athletic team in action."

KIRO-TV, an affiliate of the Columbia Broadcasting System, has requested permission to televise "live" the three remaining games.

CBS has exclusive rights through a contract with the National Collegiate Athletic Association to televise NCAA football games.

Owens, in a letter to the station management, said he rejected the proposal because NCAA policy discourages "television exposure" of a member team in more than one national and one regional telecast per season.

Washington's game with Air Force was televised nationally and the Washington-USC game regionally.

Owens wrote that last year the NCAA approved only six exceptions to the two-telecast policy. One of the exceptions was the Washington - Washington State game in Spokane.

The coach added that the university, by contract, would have to make refunds to stations holding radio and television film rights to Washington football games.

KING radio and KING-TV have a contract with the university for direct radio broadcasts and film rights on Washington games for delayed telecasts. Owens appears as a paid commentator on the KING television and radio shows.

Huskies arrive at Berkeley Fri.

BERKELEY, Calif. (UPI)—The Washington Huskies arrive Friday for their clash Saturday with the California Bears and the weather permits they'll get in a workout before the contest.

Coach Marv Levy said the visitors will drill at Memorial Stadium and his troops will practice at Edwards Field which was so soggy Wednesday the Bears used Haas soccer field for a light workout.

With back, lineman, coach of-the-week Huskies stop at Cal on way to Rose Bowl

SEATTLE (UPI)—Washington's Huskies—sporting the Big Six back of the week, Big Six lineman of the week, and national coach of the week—leave here Friday for Berkeley, Calif., on what they hope is a way stop en route to the Rose Bowl.

Washington earned the most favored for the roses position last week with a resounding 22-7 victory over Southern California, and a win over California's Golden Bears Saturday will put the Huskies one step closer to the coveted New Year's day trip to Pasadena.

Last week's victory over the Trojans not only shot the late-charging Huskies to the top of the Big Six football championship scramble but earned Washington Coach Jim Owens UPI's coach of the week title.

More honors came from the conference. Washington halfback Dave Kopway was named back of the week, and guard Koll Hagen won lineman of the week honors.

Kopway and Hagen are not the only Husky fangs by any manner of means.

Fullback Junior Coffey, who missed the first four games of the season because of a broken foot, is thumping away like olden times. In fact, Coffey has worked himself into the first 10 in Big Six rushing averages in three games, racking up a total of 195 yards in 49 carries. There's also halfback Ron Medved who sports a nifty 5.7 yards per carry average and a host of linemen who eat a keg of nails for breakfast every morning.

But if any one man can be said to make Washington go, the vote would have to go to quarterback Bill Douglas.

The nation has a lot of quarterbacks who have received more publicity than Douglas—

Oregon lineman faces surgery

EUGENE, Ore. (UPI)—Doctors said today Oregon line-backer Tim Casey will undergo knee surgery.

Casey was injured Saturday against San Jose State and will be out for the season. Casey goes to the sidelines with line-backer Don Causey who was put out of action earlier with a pinched shoulder nerve.

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