

The Fifth Quarter

Sports by Mike Oths

Sportswriting is a fun thing to do for a hobby, but I wonder what it would be like to devote a career to such an avocation? I ask this question because it has recently occurred to me that there are a lot of people out there who take sports very seriously. It's important here that you make the distinction between being a serious sports fan, and taking sports seriously. The serious sports fan (I plead guilty) reads the Sporting News, scans the sports pages, watches all manner of televised games, and is generally a bore to those not so afflicted. The person who takes sports seriously is the person who takes things personally.

The latter category includes a lot of the people who write letters to the sports page. A good example is the typical letter to the "Oregonian," commenting about columnist Steve Dun. There have been floods of letters which go far beyond "fair comment" on his journalism, and end up as personal attacks. These letters range from the people who take it personally when Oregon (or Oregon State) receives more coverage than the other, to the people who think Ralph Miller should be immune from criticism, to people who insist that columnists root for Americans in international competition. In any event, the letters turn into "let's ship him to Panama by slow boat" campaigns.

It isn't surprising to me that people express their opinions. I am amazed, however, by the seeming obsession of some people over games that others play. There are still people writing to the newspaper debating the Navy Decker-Zola Budd collision in the Olympics. The people who write seem to take personal affront at the entire episode (Notice that in such instances many letter writers refer to the participants by first names). They will continue to beat this very dead horse as long as anyone will half listen. Their letters conjure up images of distraught "lans" (used in its most derogatory sense) whose lives remain empty voids because Mary Decker does not have a gold medal to market.

The curious contradiction is that in my experience most serious sports fans don't take sports seriously. Again, I'm distinguishing people who "live and die with their team" (club fans who were club fans last year come quickly to mind) from those who take it personally. The letter writers who end their scripts with "cancel my subscription" — maybe I'll remove it when I move to Russia" generally display an ignorance of their subject matter. They launch into personal criticism because they lack the ability to deal intelligently with the subject. Back to the original point — wouldn't it be difficult to make the distinction if you had to cover sports for a living? Maybe not, but you'd still have to deal with the people who take it seriously. Hell hath no fury like a Hometown High fan scorned.

Did anybody catch the Joe Avanzano show this Sunday (Cable Channel 12 Educational TV, Sunday nights at 11 o'clock)? I see that he has abandoned the interview interview format of last year. Now, they run the films with commentary from the radio guys. It's nice to be able to hear Darrell Aune, one of the best in the business. I can't help feeling that the format is just the way Joe likes it, however. No more tough questions or second-guessing of coaching moves. Not that coaches' highlight shows have ever won awards for objectivity anyway.

THE CRYSTAL (?) BALL

We're back for another week of fearless NFL predicting. David Sykes has jumped out to the early lead, with a percentage of 796 on a sizing 11-14. Mike Oths, Brent Edgers, Craig Kitching and Dale Holland all posted marks of 9.5 for a percentage of 643. There is no truth to the rumor that David threatened to stop running the column if he didn't win. This week's guest selector is that well known football expert, Mr. Tom McEligort. As the chart shows, Tom is not afraid to back the tide in his selections.

TEAM	W	L	T	P	W	L	T	P	W	L	T	P
Chicago	8	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	8	0	0	0
Indianapolis	8	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	8	0	0	0
Green Bay	8	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	8	0	0	0
Dallas	8	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	8	0	0	0
Atlanta	8	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	8	0	0	0
Kansas City	8	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	8	0	0	0
LA Rams	8	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	8	0	0	0
Cincinnati	8	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	8	0	0	0
Minnesota	8	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	8	0	0	0
San Diego	8	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	8	0	0	0
LA Raiders	8	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	8	0	0	0
San Francisco	8	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	8	0	0	0

Ione volleyball team falls to Long Creek

By ASHLEY CONKLIN
The Ione volleyball team fell 15-13, 6-15 to the Long Creek Mountaineers on Friday, September 14. Ione did beat their JV team 16-14, however. In the first game the Cardinals took advantage of the Mountaineers' poor serving early. However, Long

Cardinals defeated by Heppner volleyball team

By ASHLEY CONKLIN
Ione's volleyball team traveled to Heppner on Tuesday, September 11, and lost 15-7, 15-5 to the varsity Filles. The Cardinals did beat the JV team 16-14. In the first game, the Cards had

Pendleton golfer makes hole in one

Doug Nelson of Pendleton made a hole in one with an 8-iron on the 177 yd. 10th hole at Wilson's Willow Run golf course in Boardman, Sunday, Sept. 9.

To our valued customers



Out of today's circular, the following items did not arrive:

Page 1

Arcraft Closet Shelf 2.99 each

Page 5

Dynalene folding calculator 7.99

Page 7

Cameo weather parka 13.99

Page 8

9x12 Cabin tent 99.99

Page 8

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Page 0

No nonsense color 1.77

Page 0

Spalding mens grey warmup tube socks 2.75

Page 0

We sincerely apologize and hope this does not inconvenience you or your valued customers.

OPEN DAILY 9:10-9
SUNDAY 10-5
HEERMISTON PLAZA

Ione Cardinals shut out Mountaineers 40-0



Photo by Wayne Harris

By ASHLEY CONKLIN

The Ione football team traveled to Long Creek on Friday, September 14, and shut out the Mountaineers 40-0. The win evened the Cardinals' record at 1-1.

In the first period Ione scored on a 15 yard pass from quarterback Mark Meyers to Randy McCabe. Meyers threw to Mike Rietmann for the extra points. Ione added two more touchdowns during the second quarter. Meyers threw to McCabe for a 12 yard touchdown while Chris Rea scored the extra points. Then, Rea ran twenty yards, while Meyers threw the extra points to Jeff Ball. The Cards led 24 to nothing at intermission.

Brian Douglas went seven yards in the third stanza for a touchdown and Ball dashed in for the extra points. Meyers closed out the scoring in the fourth period on a seven-yard run, as Douglas added the two, to make the concluding count 40-0.

Mustangs held scoreless at Athena

By TRAVIS HYATT

Costly turnovers in the first half caused the Heppner Mustangs to lose 20-0 to the Weston McEwen Tiger Scouts at Athena last Friday. The Mustangs played excellent defense in the last half, but for second week ended up with a scoreless game.

"We are still having some problems stopping the run consistently although I can see us doing better in the future," said Heppner Coach Craig Kitching.

The score after one period was 7-0. On a three yard run by Paul Bjorklund, Ione ran for 144 yards to a 17 for the Mustangs.

Weston scored 16 points in the second quarter on a couple of touchdown passes by quarterback

Ione wins four-team tourney

By ASHLEY CONKLIN

The Ione volleyball team won the four-team Ranger Tournament at Dufur on Saturday, September 15. The four teams in the tournament were Ione, Dufur, Wasco County, and Lyle of Washington.

The Cardinals took on Wasco County in their first match, and won 15-8, 10-15, 15-10.

Ione took the first game against Wasco County fairly easily. In the second game the Cards were ahead 10-2, but then the Redshirts ran off 13 unanswered points to win the game. However Ione came back and won the third game solidly.

The Cardinals then played Dufur in the championship game. Ione lost the first game to the Rangers. The Cards were behind 9 to 1, but rallied to win the second game, and then went on to win the third game and the tournament.

It was the first ever trophy won by an Ione volleyball team. It also improved the Cardinals' record to 2-3.

Meyers had a good day both on the ground and in the air. He rushed for 83 yards on 12 carries and completed seven of eight passes for 89 yards. McCabe caught four passes for 79 yards and Rea rushed 16 times for 54 yards.

Mountaineer quarterback Shawn Leasy completed seven of 13 passes for 68 yards, but Long Creek gained only 13 yards on 21 carries.

Ione plays the Dufur Rangers at home on Friday, September 21. Game time is 7:30 p.m.

SCORING

Ione 1 2 3 4 T
Long Creek 8 16 8 8 40
Long Creek 0 0 0 0 0

Ione - McCabe 15 pass from Meyers (Rea run).
Ione - McCabe 12 pass from Meyers (Rea run).
Ione - Rea 20 run (Ball pass from Meyers).
Ione - Douglas 7 run (Ball run).
Ione - Meyers 7 run (Douglas run).



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Rushing Ione - Meyers 12-81, Rea 16-36, J. Ball 6-31, Douglas 3-22, Conklin 1-11, Snider 3-112, Long Creek: Woodell 3-12, Carter 5-14, McDaniel 4-1, Johnston 2-0, Weigle 1-1-21, Leasy 6-1-23.

Passing - Ione: Meyers 7-8-89-0, Long Creek: Leasy 7-12-68-2, Woodell 2-4-19-1, B. Brevins 1-1-4-0, McDaniel 0-1-0-0.

Receiving Ione: McCabe 4-78, Rea 1-4, J. Ball 1-3, Rietmann 1-3, Long Creek: McDaniel 3-29, McGuff 3-22, Engblom 2-30, Johnston 2-10.

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