

Sport Graphs

Billy Hulen says:

Joe Smolinski Southpaw Champ of Grapple Ring

All sports fans are interested in title-holders, so today we would like to present for your approval the left-handed, reverse English champion of the Medford armory wrestling arena—Joe Smolinski, sometimes called the Polish Pa-looka and other times called worse than that.

Mr. Smolinski, a large, chubby, baby-faced individual, is to wrestling what Tommy Farr is to boxing. He is to the grapple industry what Knox college used to be to football and what UCLA currently is to basketball. Joseph is, to put it bluntly, the goldurndest also-ran of all the gladiators Mack Lillard ever has brought to this village.

It has been so long since Joseph emerged victorious in an armory scuffle that people have begun to lay wagers on how long it will take his opponent of the evening to press Joe's shoulders firmly to the mat. The hair on Joseph's shaggy head is becoming tinged with grey in waiting for the time when he will stride victoriously to the dressing room.

As per our recent promise we delved back through the musty files in search of the glorious date of Joseph's last mat triumph, and just as our weary eyes were about to give out entirely it hit us smack in the face—April 24, 1939! Eight and one-half months ago!

On that evening in the Medford armory Mr. Joseph Smolinski, with the jeers of the multitude ringing in his ears, slumped down one Pete Belcastro twice and made the latter give up under the pain of Boston crab holds. Belcastro had won the first fall with a surfboard, but Joe was not to be denied and came roaring back to defeat the Italian bad man.

Since that red letter eve in the life of Joseph Smolinski he has staggered to the post exactly 11 times in the local grapple emporium. And on not one of those 11 occasions has Joseph got his man. Instead, they have got him, and plenty. In fact, down that long stretch of 11 matches over a period of eight and one-half months, Joseph has managed to obtain only four falls. His opponents, on the other hand, have accumulated 21 tumbles.

And Joseph has not been choosy in the brother wrestlers he loses to. Ten different matmen have pinned him solidly to the carpet; only one, Sgt. Bob Kenaston, having the honor of beating him twice. The others went against Joe just the one time.

Starting on May 1, the date which inaugurated Joseph's sensational 11-brawl losing streak, here is the chronological history of the drive which has crowned our Joe southpaw champion of the local grapple kingdom:

- May 1—lost to Bob Kenaston, no falls to two.
- May 8—lost to Marshall Carter, one fall to two.
- May 15—lost to Pete Belcastro, no falls to two.
- July 31—lost to Dude Chick, no falls to one.
- August 7—lost to Bob Kenaston, no falls to two.
- August 28—lost to Frankie Hale, no falls to two.
- September 11—lost to Billy Venable, one fall to two.
- September 18—lost to Hans Schulz, no falls to two.
- September 25—lost to Dave Levin, one fall to two.
- October 2—lost to Speedy Larence, one fall to two.
- January 8—lost to King Kong Clayton, no falls to two.

Tonight, in the armory, Joseph faces a nice Finnish boy by the name of Zim Zimovich. And he can rest assured that, to a man and woman, fans will be cheering him on to a continuance of the string of consecutive "victories" he has manufactured.

ELWOOD COOKE GAINS FLORIDA TENNIS TITLE

Orlando, Fla., Jan. 15.—(AP)—Elwood Cooke needs only one more Florida state tennis tournament singles championship to claim permanent possession of the meet's trophy.

The Portland, Ore., star, ranked sixth nationally, gained his second leg on the cup yesterday by defeating Henry Pruss of Seattle, Wash., 6-4, 6-1, 6-4, in the finals.

Wayne Sabu, another Pacific coast star, also has two victories to his credit in the local tournament.

Prince, Clayton Battle in Main-Event Grapple Tonight

MASTER MATMEN TO MATCH CLEAN WRESTLE TACTICS

Chick Will Face Montgomery in Center Bout; Smolinski and Finn Meet in Opener

A pair of super-grappling smoothies, Prince Silaki Mehalikis and King Kong Clayton, toe the mark in the one-hour armory main event this evening, winding up an all-star program the first two-thirds of which are expected to furnish satisfaction to the most blood-thirsty local fan.

It will be ladies night again, and for every ringside or balcony ticket purchaser a free one will be given to admit a feminine customer. Promoter Mack Lillard expects a near-capacity crowd to turn out for the new year's second mat carnival.

The rough-house activity will be provided by the first two bouts, in which Joe Smolinski will attempt to stretch his losing streak to 12 straight against Zim Zimovich in the opener, and Cowboy Dude Chick will tangle with Bob Montgomery in the center match. Smolinski and Montgomery are the villains in these two brawls.

Mehalikis, making his first start here last Monday night in three years, defeated Cowboy Dude Chick, and will enter the ring an "even up" choice to down the sensational Negro from Birmingham. Clayton, a great piece of grappling machinery, won from Smolinski on the last program.

The main event is figured to be one of the best exhibitions of straight wrestling witnessed here in many months. Mehalikis and Clayton both are masters of every scientific maneuver in the book and there is certain to be no rough stuff attempted. Both like to win, but they draw the line at getting out of line.

A great amount of interest will be centered on the opening bout between Smolinski and Zimovich, the popular Finnish wrestler. Smolinski has not won a match here in one-half months, during which time he has dropped 11 consecutive verdicts, and clients will be interested to see whether Joe can make it an even dozen.

TROJANS, STANFORD TIED FOR SOUTHERN DIVISION LEADERSHIP

San Francisco, Jan. 15.—(AP)—Southern California's Trojans were off to an auspicious start today in their campaign for the southern division title in the Pacific Coast conference basketball race.

They bowled over University of California, division champion last year, 49 to 36 and 56 to 49, in their two-game series Friday and Saturday nights at Los Angeles, and did the job with the finesse that marked their highly-successful eastern tour.

Stanford, meantime, was routing the University of California at Los Angeles Bruins, 53 to 38 and 40 to 36, in a pair of games at Palo Alto that stretched the U.C.L.A. losing streak to 29 defeats in conference play.

Southern division standings:

So. California	W.	L.	For	Agst.
So. California	2	0	105	83
Stanford	2	0	93	74
California	0	2	85	108
U. C. L. A.	0	2	74	93

696 DISPORT IN SNOW AT CRATER

With enough snow finally on the ground to make skiing fairly good, Crater Lake national park attracted the largest attendance of the 1940 winter season yesterday. Snow depth is still somewhat below normal.

Park visitors yesterday numbered 936 persons in 230 auto mobiles. Of the visitors, 696 went to the park to engage in winter sports, 214 to view the winter sights and 26 to reduce travel distance by using the park as a short-cut in getting to their destinations, ranger records showed.

Attendance for the week Monday to Saturday, inclusive, was 203 persons. Added to Sunday's total, this gave an attendance of 1,139 persons for the entire week through yesterday.

Versatile Prince Mehalikis



Not only is Prince Mehalikis (above) quite a wrestler; he can also beat out a nifty tune on the pipe organ, as he is doing in the above picture. The Prince faces King Kong Clayton in tonight's main event in the Medford armory.

FOUR-GAME ROAD TRIP SLATED FOR LEADING BEAVERS

By the Associated Press
Those tough country gentlemen from Corvallis, with the basketball leadership of the northern division of the Pacific coast conference in their hands, pay a visit to Pullman tomorrow that may have a lot to do with turning a leadership into a championship before it is over.

Early as it is in the conference season, Oregon State has already demonstrated power enough to stop Oregon and Idaho; and the lads who figure things out in advance have already discounted the University of Washington city slickers as serious threats for the title.

Hence, what Washington State does against the Beavers tomorrow night and Wednesday may be more important than it seems for if Washington State can't stop the Oregon State boys, who can?

The two Pullman games are the headlines of the week's cage program, although Oregon State gives Idaho two more chances at Moscow Friday and Saturday. Washington, idle nearly two weeks in conference competition, plays host Friday and Saturday to defending champion Oregon at Seattle.

The standings:

W.	L.	For	Agst.	
Oregon State	3	0	125	105
Oregon	2	1	121	103
W.S.C.	2	1	126	103
Washington	1	1	74	89
Idaho	0	5	171	217

THREE AAU TILTS TUESDAY EVENING

Three AAU basketball league clashes are slated for Tuesday night. Salvation Army and Southern Pacific meeting in the Medford junior high gym at 7:30. First National Bankers and Lost River Dairy playing an hour later on the same floor and the Little Sons facing Lewis Super Service on the SOCE maple in Ashland at 7:30.

Saturday night, the Little Sons grabbed a thrilling 42 to 38 win from the First National Bank in a preliminary to the SOCE-Klamath All-Star game in Ashland. Bob Wilson scored 12 points for the Bankers.

Use Mail Tribune want ads.

BORCHER MAY GET PROMOTION DUE TO WEBFOOT SHAKEUP

Eugene, Ore., Jan. 15.—(AP)—Coach Howard Hobson of the title-defending Oregon Webfoots prepared today to make over his lineup because of what he considered its poor exhibition against Oregon State last Friday.

Hobson said that Vic Townsend, hustling guard who made 14 points against the Orange men, and John Dick, veteran center, would stay put but Red McNeely and Ted Sarpola, forwards, and Matt Pavalunas, guard, would be demoted to the reserve list at least during practice for games this week end with Washington.

Paul Jackson, George Andrews and Toivo Piippo will be tried extensively in Pavalunas' position, Hobson said. Unless Ted Sarpola emerges speedily from his scoring slump he will sit the next few games out while his place is taken by either Hank Anderson or Earl Sandness.

Bill Borchler looked like the most serious menace to McNeely. He played his first varsity game last Friday.

IDAHO VETERAN LEADS BASKETBALL SCORERS

Eugene, Jan. 15.—(AP)—Roy Ramey, veteran University of Idaho forward, clung to the northern division basketball scoring lead today, but his 47 point total was only 10 more than the 37 scored by Paul Lindeman of Washington State in two less games.

Vic Townsend, sparkplug University of Oregon guard, holds down the third position with 31 points. Townsend, incidentally, hasn't been charged with a personal foul in the three games he has played to date.

Berkeley, Cal., Jan. 15.—(AP)—A slight earthquake at 4:22 a. m. today was registered on the University of California seismograph. Dr. Perry Byerly, seismologist, reported.

He said the shock apparently centered about five miles from Berkeley along the Hayward fault. There was no damage.

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OAKLAND TOURNEY WON BY DEMARET, HAEFNER FALTERS

Haefner Hits Ball in Three, Then Dubs Four-Inch Putt; Winner Earns \$2100

By Russ Newland
Oakland, Calif., Jan. 15.—(AP)—Texas Jimmy Demaret, with \$1,200 in his pocket and a new title added to his professional golfing feats, was the toast of the Oakland open tournament today but the man that more people were talking about was the one who not only tried to climb a tree but missed a four inch putt.

Without taking a speck of credit from Demaret, who finished in par equaling figures for the Sequoyah course, a 35-35-70 test, the final round of the 72-hole medal play open was mainly written around the amazing exploits of bulky Clayton Heafner of Linville, N. C.

Last Nine Disastrous
For 63 holes Heafner had paced the field—two strokes ahead of his nearest rival which happened to be Demaret. On the last nine things began to happen. Heafner and Demaret were playing in the threesome. On the 147 yard 12th, the man from North Carolina lofted his ball into the branches of a big tree. When it didn't drop down, its boss started to climb up after it.

The pellet plopped to the ground. Heafner whacked it over the green. He stuck a chip shot up to within a worm's length of the cup then casually gave the ball a one handed swipe. To his utter astonishment it missed the hole. The five against Demaret's par 3, put the pair on exactly even terms—sharing the lead with six holes to go.

The top contenders halved the last two holes which left Demaret holding a check for \$1,200 and Heafner one for \$883.33 as the result of a three-way tie for second place.

Boy Breaks Arm
During Heafner's 12th hole tree shinning and putt-missing incidents, a small boy became so excited he fell into a ditch and broke his arm.

Heafner, Horton Smith of Oakpark, Ill., and Ben Hogan of White Plains, N. Y., divided second money with scores of 292.

Dick Metz of Oakpark, Ill., winner of last year's Oakland tournament, followed with 283.

CHAIN SYSTEM OF DETROIT WRECKED BY JUDGE LANDIS

By Tom Siler
Chicago, Jan. 15.—(AP)—Commissioner Kenesaw Mountain Landis, who always has the last word in organized baseball, has spoken again, and as a result the far-flung farm system of the Detroit Tigers is a mere shambles.

Landis, in a voluminous and strongly worded report handed down yesterday, wrecked the intricate "chain-gang" setup of the American league club and warned all baseball executives of even more severe penalties for similar rules infractions in the future.

He charged Detroit and affiliated clubs used "fake agreements," "false certificates of club relationships," "cover-up" deals and similar practices in operation of a farm system.

Free agency was awarded 91 players, valued at close to \$500,000, including pitchers, Lloyd Dietz and Steve Rachunok, infielder Benny McCoy and outfielder Roy Cullenbine of the Detroit club. The other 87 were scattered among 13 minor league clubs.

Bob Hardy, southpaw pitcher

DR. DURNO DISCUSSES PREPAID FEE PLANS AT KIWANIS MEETING

The various forms of "group" or prepaid medical care were described by Dr. Edwin R. Durno, Medford physician and surgeon, in a talk at the weekly luncheon-meeting of the Kiwanis club in the Hotel Medford today.

The merits and deficiencies of the various plans were outlined by Dr. Durno and attention was called to the pioneering of Jackson county physicians and surgeons in organization of their own pre-paid medical service association three years ago.

Other club guests today were C. P. Wessela, Dr. Walter Hoppe, Dr. O. J. Halboth and H. B. Murphy. Robert Bauman, president, presided. Roy R. Harper was program chairman.

Officer Acquitted In Shooting Girl

Mauch Chunk, Pa., Jan. 15.—(AP)—Corp. Benjamin Franklin found vindication today for the fatal shots he fired into the body of 14-year old Joan Stevens in his acquittal on murder

and manslaughter charges resulting from her death. From Mrs. Mayne Stevens, mother of the slain girl, came the comment, "I lost heavily. The commonwealth can now go out and kill other children."

TWO ASHLAND WOMEN HURT IN AUTO CRASH EARLY SUNDAY MORN

Two Ashland residents were injured in an automobile accident on the Pacific highway near the fairground early Sunday morning, Mrs. Della Stevenson, 48, sustaining a severe scalp laceration and Mrs. Olive McDaniels, 48, suffering bruises and shock.

Mrs. Stevenson, after spending several hours in a Medford hospital, was released to return to her home.

According to police reports, the two injured women, Jerry Warren of Ashland and S. J. Overstreet of Medford were occupants of a car involved in a mishap with a vehicle driven by Orrin David Day, 33, of Eagle Point. None of the other persons were injured.

The report said that Day attempted to make a left-hand turn across the highway in front of the other machine, with the result that the Day car was struck on the right rear fender.

Closing time for Too Late to Classify Ads is 1:30 p. m.

BASKETBALL

Correction
In an AAU league basketball game in the Medford senior high school gym Friday night, Gold Hill beat Prospect, 34 to 21, instead of Prospect defeating Gold Hill by that score, as announced Sunday.

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