

Sport Graphs

Billy Hulen Says:

Medford Sports
Stay Unaffected
By War in 1942

Medford's first wartime sports year is nearing its end, and looking back over the dozen months we fail to detect any startling affect the conflict had on athletics of a local character.

With the exception of wrestling (and it's a debatable question whether this form of activity can be termed a "sport"), the various brawn and brain enterprises carried on about the same as usual.

Mack Lillard was forced to call off his weekly grapple shows because of the difficulty in obtaining talent, most of the mat gents having gone into war work, where the pay is regular and good, or joined the service.

But in all other major fields schedules were completed and annual events, like the Southern Oregon-Northern California Golf tournament, were held. For a time it was doubtful whether this tourney could be staged, but a large number of Camp White officers and men entered and made it a success.

Despite the rubber situation, which made the transporting of teams rather difficult, the Medford Craterers roared right through their Oregon-California Baseball league slate and the Black Tornado gridwires dived with them. Likewise with the Tiger basketballers.

Practically the only affect the war had on sports here, so far as we can discern, was the drop in attendance. The Baseball Craterers, although winning a pennant, had only a mediocre season at the turnstiles, and the same can be said for the Medford high football team.

Why this was, with the town swollen with defense workers during the summer and early fall and people making more money than ever before, we do not know. It is an established fact, however, that amusements far more better in times of depression than they do when the citizenry is riding high, wide and handsome, with dough burning holes in their pockets.

In the won and lost ledger, Medford's 1942 athletic teams did a magnificent job. The Craterers, as before mentioned, won their baseball league championship, the Medford high track and field squad captured the state title and the high school basketballers copped the district 4 title and placed sixth in the state tournament. Only the football eleven failed to win a crown, but its great late-season victory surge earned the plaudits of all Medford.

Yes, it was a good sports year in this neck of the woods and it would be nice to draw aside the curtains and see another like it for 1943. But we are afraid that can't be done, and for sensible and essential reasons.

All sports will, of necessity, be curtailed during the coming year. Transportation problems will become increasingly acute. The high school teams will probably be able to get gasoline to make short trips, and they won't be affected by manpower losses to the armed forces, as all players are under 18. But there won't be any long jaunts for inter-sectional clashes and secondary teams will almost cease to exist so far as inter-sectional competition is concerned.

It is almost certain that league baseball in this area is out for the duration. Most of the semi-pro players will be in the armed forces by spring, and there is the small matter of transporting teams on "A" cards, which just can't be done.

TULSA AND VOLS MAY PLAY ROUGH

New Orleans, La., Dec. 29.—(U.P.)—It looked today like somebody is going to get bruised a bit—maybe quite a bit—when Tennessee and Tulsa bang up against each other in the Sugar Bowl Friday.

Training camp activities of the clubs have been keyed to the word "rough." Tennessee Coach John Barnhill was expected to ease off a little after seeing his second player reach the sidelines with injuries that could knock him out of the bowl game.

Coach Henry Kinka of the Tulsa Golden Hurricane, preparing to put his flashy passing and punting circus against a Tennessee team with a reputation for the hardest kind of hitting, postponed an open practice session for the second time.

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Georgia Hopes Soar As Frank Sinkwich Returns To Fold

STAR BACK LOOKS GOOD IN WORKOUT; RUNS AND PASSES

Odds Still 2-1 For Bulldogs — Ukes Gloomy Over Injury To Regular Center.

By Leo H. Petersen
United Press Sports Editor
Pasadena, Cal., Dec. 29.—(U.P.) The clouds of gloom which had gathered over Georgia's Rose Bowl training camp vanished today and Bulldog stock began booming because Frankie Sinkwich promises to be his old self come UCLA and New Year's day here in the home of football's annual classic.

There was plenty of apprehension in Georgia's camp over whether Sinkwich even would be able to play until he donned his gridiron togs yesterday and showed that his twisted right ankle was going to be all right so far as his passing and running is concerned.

Although he still favors the injured leg, he looked like the Sinkwich who won almost unanimous All-American honors this season. As Coach Wally Butts and his two assistants sent the Bulldogs through their drill, Frankie was throwing and running like he did until the ringing of ankle injuries hit him the day before the team left Athens, Ga.

And while Georgia got the good word on Sinkwich, in the camp of the Bruins, some 30 miles away, the news on injured Bill Armstrong, UCLA's first string center, was not so cheering. The 200-pound center hurt his knee during Saturday's practice drill and while the injury was believed minor at the time it now appears that he will have to make way for Jim Daugherty, last year's regular pivot man.

"No Excuses"
Armstrong, however, will be available for part time duty and Coach Babe Horrell, following a snappy Monday drill, pronounced his team fit.

"If we lose we'll have no excuses," he said. "We might surprise that dose sheet again. We know we're in for a hard game, but we might come through."

Sinkwich's return to active duty kept the odds at 2 to 1 in favor of Georgia. There was a good possibility they would go even higher inasmuch as the opening odds of 3 to 1 didn't start to drop until Frankie injured his ankle at Tournament Park.

Jeff Cravath, University of Southern California coach, watched the Georgians drill yesterday and was amazed.

"Now I know why Georgia is a great football team," he said. "There never has been a better balanced club on the coast. I mean as to height, weight, speed and general ability."

Butts appeared well satisfied. He didn't seem worried over the fact that Sinkwich will be unable to punt because of his ankle.

"Maybe if Frankie is throwing and running we won't have to worry about punting," he said.

The USO Bombers, only undefeated and untied team in the Medford Ice Hockey league, go after their second straight victory in the Medford Ice Arena tonight, with the 91st Infantry Division Snipers providing the opposition. The contest is billed to start at 7:45 sharp.

The powerful Bombers, paced by Clarence (Mark) Marquess, the Ashland high athlete, downed the 91st Gunners, 8 to 1, in their only start. The Snipers, in their lone game, tied the Hospital Clippers, 3 to 3.

Currently deadlocked for first place with the 91st Artillery Gunners, each with two points, the Bombers will take over the undisputed league leadership if they win tonight. However, a victory for the Snipers will send them soaring into the top spot with one win and one tie for three points.

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BAERS TO SCRAP JAPS—Max (center) and brother, Buddy Baer, both of fight fame, are sworn into the U. S. Army Air Force at McClellan Field, Calif., by Capt. T. H. Wirak, Air Force.

Allen Attacks College Cage Game; Wants 12-foot Hoops

By Jack Cuddy
(United Press Staff Correspondent)
New York, Dec. 29.—(U.P.)—We leaned back stoically against a desultory protection of ice cream and black coffee as the pink-skinned professor with the horn-rimmed spectacles rose to the occasion. But our lethargy was blasted as the man behind the rims—Dr. Forrest C. "Phog" Allen of Kansas U.—launched a scathing attack against collegiate basketball and its current misconceptions.

It seemed impossible that the vitriolic words were coming from Dr. Allen, a medium-sized man with crisp brown hair who looks like a YMCA herder. But he was giving off violently much to the surprise of newspaper men gathered at Toots Shor's tavern.

The theme of his verbal onslaught was: "Let's have baskets 12 feet from the floor, and nertz to the NCAA."

Dr. Allen, whose Kansas Jayhawks spoiled Fordham's eschewon 31-30 last night at Madison Square Garden, demanded the 12-foot baskets as the only remedy to remove from the hoop game those extra-tall men of the seven-foot type whom he described as "freaks" and "glandular goons."

"Raise the baskets from their original and ante-dated 10 feet to the modernly required 12," he said, "and those skyscraper players will be swept off the court because they'll be expected to play the game, instead of merely standing beneath the baskets as tall towers of defense."

Dr. Allen emphasized that if the baskets were raised to 12 feet, the current "circus giants" who now stand beneath the 10-foot baskets, "tapping them in and knocking them out," would be as useless as mud pies in Aunt Maggie's marmalade. He said that the "glandular giants" would be forced to play basketball, "which they cannot," and the game would be returned to speedy, normal-sized players.

We've got to take the freaks out of college basketball, he continued, because they are ruining the game that Dr. Naismith invented. He declared that "when Dr. Naismith hung his peach baskets 10 feet from the floor a half century ago, he didn't mean that this height would prevail down through the ages. He fixed this height merely because it was comfortable in the low-ceilinged YMCA at Springfield, Mass."

Conditions have changed since then, Dr. Allen—director of physical education and basketball coach at Kansas—pointed out.

Dr. Allen snorted that the proposed height change would have been made already were it not for the "stupid backwardness" of the National Collegiate Athletic Association and the lethargy of college coaches.

"The NCAA," he said, "is a money-hungry organization that fattens off the bones of college basketball, and college basketball coaches are the most backward band of mentors in all athletics. This is a deadly combination which stifles any progress in college basketball, and forces the dissatisfied college coaches to look toward the high school coaches for any improvement that may be made in the game."

Fight Results

By United Press
New York — Johnny Greco, 136½, Canada, outpointed Gene Johnson, 141, New York (8); Herb Bryndon, 141½, Newark, N. J., outpointed Mickey La Ross, 138, New York (6).

BASEBALLER TO ARMY
McAllen, Tex., Dec. 29.—(U.P.)—Terry Moore, who starred for several years in the St. Louis Cardinals' center field, gave up baseball for the duration today and announced he would leave Jan. 7 for the Panama Canal zone to join the army.

OHIOAN MAY STAR FOR 'BAMA TIDE

Miami, Fla., Dec. 29.—(U.P.)—Ohio, which provided Georgia with Frankie Sinkwich, may see another native son bring football fame to a southern university New Year's day, when Alabama meets Boston college in the Orange bowl game.

Sophomore Johnny Shady, a 167-pound halfback from Shady-side, O., spent his freshman year at Ohio State, but said he didn't get much encouragement or financial backing so he went to Alabama.

August hasn't seen a lot of action this season, acting as relief mostly for the Tide's great Russ Mosley, but during his limited appearances, he completed 16 out of 26 passes for 247 yards, gained 214 yards on 52 running plays and averaged 39.6 yards on 20 punts.

CORNELL MAIDEN FENCING QUEEN

New York, Dec. 29.—(U.P.)—The annual Christmas Intercollegiate Fencing association tournament title belonged to Grace Acel of Cornell college today.

Miss Acel won 14 out of 16 matches while second-place Mary Piccinini of Hunter college took 13 out of 16 yesterday in the New York university gymnasium. Grace Uthoff of Hunter finished third with 12 out of 16. Miss Uthoff won 10 touches to 28 for Kathleen Cerra of Brooklyn who also won 12 out of 16.

Jane Bryant of William and Mary college finished eighth, winning only two out of her six final matches.

CASTLEBERRY IS BIG TECH THREAT

Dallas, Tex., Dec. 29.—(U.P.)—Clint Castleberry, Georgia Tech's freshman firecracker, was the center of attention today as the Ramblin' Wreck and Texas university, its Cotton Bowl opponent, began secret practice for their New Year's day game.

Bill Alexander, Tech's veteran coach, admitted that Castleberry was his chief hope of outscoring the opposition. Both teams held their first workout here yesterday.

And Dana X. Bible, the stubby, genial pilot of the Texans, picked Castleberry as the man the Longhorns must stop if they hope to win their first start in this post-season gridiron classic.

RED SOX WILL TRAIN IN NEARBY VILLAGE

Boston, Dec. 29.—(U.P.)—The Boston Red Sox will hold spring training at the Tufts college indoor diamond and cage in Medford, Mass., beginning March 15 and continuing for "a period of two to three weeks," it was announced tonight.

WEST PLANS "T" ATTACK FOR EAST IN SHRINE GAME

Other Half Of Squad To Use Single Wing—East Has Secret Practices.

By Robert S. Prescott
United Press Correspondent
San Francisco, Dec. 29.—(U.P.)—The Western All-Stars today belatedly began installation of a T-formation football attack for the Shrine's east-west charity gridiron game here New Year's Day.

With only three days left to tutor the west's best collegiate players in the intricate formation, Assistant Coach Don Faurot, of Missouri, admitted he had his "work cut out" for him, but predicted:

"The T-formation will make our outfit click."

Faurot, who won two successive Big Six championships at Missouri with the "T", spent nearly two weeks convincing Head Coach Orin "Babe" Hollingbery—one of the nation's staunchest single-wing advocates at Washington State—that "the T" is made to order for the club we have here.

Babe Agrees

Hollingbery finally agreed to allow Faurot to install the fast-understanding that the western squad would alternate two teams—A "T" team and a single-wing—against the favored eastern squad.

Meanwhile, the eastern squad continued secret practices on the Santa Clara University campus, building its attack around All-American Paul Gervani of Columbia and Bill Daley of Minnesota.

With Head Coach Andy Kerr hospitalized with bronchitis, Dr. George Hauser of Minnesota and "Dud" Degroot of Rochester conducted the practice sessions. Kerr may miss the game at San Francisco's Kezar stadium.

CAVEMEN INVADE J'VILLE TONIGHT

The Jacksonville Redskins, who lost to the Grants Pass Cavermen by a 26 to 25 score earlier in the season, will have another crack at the district 4 quintet tonight, the game starting following a 7:15 preliminary between second teams of the two schools. The clash will be staged at Jacksonville.

Coach Russ Werner of the Redskins said his club would open with Swaryck and Rians at the forwards, Hardy at center and McIntyre and Jonson at the guards. The Cavermen will probably take the floor with D. Martindale and Lathrop at the forwards, R. Martindale at center and Gray and Schrimpf at the guards.

TORONTO FLASH LEADING SCORER

Montreal, Dec. 29.—(U.P.)—Lorne Carr of the Toronto Maple Leafs nudged up alongside teammate Syl Apps to share the top spot in the National Hockey League individual scoring race, official standings revealed today.

Carr, in the third place last week, gained five points during the week. His 31 points came from a total of 15 goals and 16 assists. Apps built up his total from 17 goals and 14 assists.

Bill Cowley of Boston and Toronto's Bill Taylor tied for third with 30 points.

Cage Scores

By United Press
Kansas 31; Fordham 30.
Southern California 48; Long Island U. 40.

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100% PURE CHICKEN
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"Halfway to Shanghai" Coming



Death from the skies involve in the mystery by that title Kent Taylor, Irene Hervey, Charlotte Wynters and J. Edward Bromberg in a fantastic murder "Halfway to Shanghai," billed.

Donald Duck on Craterian Bill



Donald Duck comes to the Craterian Theatre tomorrow for a four-day run in Walt Disney's technicolor cartoon, "Der Fuehrer's Face," which plays as an added treat with "Life Begins at 8:30." The cartoon is the origin of the famous song hit by that title.

West Virginia Star 253 Points Shy Of New Scoring Record

Salem, W. Va., Dec. 29.—(U.P.)—Four years ago, Big John Abramovic was "too awkward" to make the grade in big-time college basketball, but today he stands an excellent chance of becoming the nation's new individual cage scoring champion.

Abramovic, a slick-haired chap who works wonders with a basketball for tiny Salem college, already has staked a claim on one national collegiate scoring title and is gunning for another. At the rate he is going he won't have much trouble making it, barring a report order from the U. S. naval reserve in which he is enlisted.

Abramovic, the towering Croatian turned down by Coach Chick Davies at Duquesne four years ago as "an awkward kid without much coordination," is only 253 points from the national basketball scoring record set by Kenny Griffith of Alderson-Broadus last year.

They call him "Brooms" Abramovic around the hills of West Virginia because his dad manufactures brooms back at Etna, Pa.

In three collegiate seasons this six-foot-two 192-pounder rolled up a grand total of 1,528 points. In six games this year he added another 161 markers.

If he averages 12 points a game in each of Salem's remaining 22 tilts, Brooms will set a new record. He considers 12 points a game pretty poor pickings for an evening's play.

Strip Teaser's Leg Causes New Trouble

Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 29.—(U.P.)—Strip Teaser Margie Hart's legors because she showed too much of them, have gotten her in trouble again, she said today.

This time they gave out from under her when she was going down a flight of steps here and she suffered a broken ankle.

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