

SPORTS

RED SOX DEFENSE
TIGHTEST IN LOOP
FIGURES DISCLOSE

Second Baseman Doerr Set
Record For Chances Ac-
cepted Without Error.

New York, Dec. 22—(U.P.)—The Boston Red Sox, whose defensive power was riddled more severely than that of any other club in the league by draft losses, presented the best defensive organization in the American circuit, according to official figures released today.

Paced by Second Baseman Bobby Doerr, who set a new major league record for consecutive chances accepted by a second baseman without error, Joe Cronin's team headed the loop with a club defensive mark of .976, a point ahead of the St. Louis Browns and the Cleveland Indians who tied for second.

In addition to the new major league record, Doerr led the junior circuit's second sackers with a fielding average of .990—only one point behind the American league record set by Oscar Melillo of the St. Louis Browns in 130 games 10 years ago. Doerr played in 155 games and handled 914 chances with only nine errors.

Doerr, who, incidentally, swatted the home run that started the American league's victory in the all-star game, set his consecutive chances record in very convincing fashion. Starting on May 20, the 25-year-old right-hander played flawless defensive ball until the first game of a double-header on July 23—handling 349 chances without a boot. The old record, held by Melillo and set in 1933, was 271.

153 Errors
As a team, the Red Sox handled 6,323 chances during the season with 153 errors. The all-time American league fielding record of .979 was set by the Philadelphia Athletics in 1932.

Trailing Cleveland and St. Louis by another point, the New York Yankees finished fourth in club standing with .974, Chicago and Philadelphia each posted a .973 and trailing with .971 were the Detroit Tigers and the Washington Senators. The league fielding as a whole was two points better than the 1943 mark with 1,306 errors out of 49,259 chances for a percentage of .973.

KERR SAYS EAST
SQUAD IS WORST

San Francisco, Dec. 22—(U.P.)—Coach Andy Kerr reached into his hip pocket for his crying towel today and gloomily described his East Shrine team as "among the worst" he has ever brought here for the annual New Year's Day classic with the West.

"This squad of ours is merely the best we were able to get together under existing conditions," he declared. "Only 12 of the 24 players are seniors. Three are freshmen. The rest have only one or two years of college football behind them."

Kerr said the West had "a big edge" from the standpoint of weight and experience.

Closing time for Sunday Too Late to Classify, 6:30 Saturday afternoon—Please remember

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REDSKINS CALL
ANCIENT BRONKO
TO CRACK BEARS

Hunk Anderson Counting On
Nagurski To Force Wash-
ington To Bunch Defense

By Bob Meyer
United Press Correspondent.

Chicago, Dec. 22—(U.P.)—Bronko Nagurski, an old firehorse, today heard a bell ring, calling him back into action.

"The Bronk" ran through football plays at his familiar old fullback spot in an effort to run out the Chicago Bears backfield and help regain the world's professional grid title from the Washington Redskins Sunday.

Comeback Impresses

Coach Hunk Anderson, impressed with Nagurski's performance against the Chicago Cardinals Nov. 28 when he averaged 5.2 yards a crack in his first fullback appearance in five years, is counting on the Minnesota farmer to draw Washington's line into a tightly-spaced defense, permitting Halfbacks Harry Clark and Dante Magnani to break away around ends.

If he can carry the load, Nagurski will climax one of the greatest comebacks in football history. Bronko set an all-time league record by gaining 3,947 yards from 1930 through 1937 for the Bears. In three previous championship contests, he hammered for 180 yards in 46 attempts.

Pass Or Batter

"If the Redskins draw back to set up a defense against Sid Luckman's passes, the Bronk will batter through," Anderson said. "If they bank up to stop Nagurski, Luckman will start slinging. That's the combination that might win for us."

That was only one-half the picture, however. The Redskins were not sitting around idle or visiting the Washington monument while the Bears were holding their fourth straight week of drills for the all-important game. In fact, Coach Dutch Bergman has a strategic weapon of his own ready for the Bears—a weapon of morale.

Bergman announced today that he'll pull the old college-spirit stuff and secret his squad away from the bustling capitol Thursday in an attempt to give his players more than a nodding acquaintance with one another.

ROSEBURG TRIMS
KLAMATH CAGERS

Roseburg, Ore., Dec. 22—(U.P.)—Roseburg high school defeated Klamath Falls, defending state high school basketball champions, 27-20, here last night in the second of their two-game contest.

The Klamath Falls Pelicans won the opener Monday night, 34-22.

Apparently confident of an easy victory, the Pelicans started last night's game with a second string lineup. The first string, entering the contest midway in the first period, was slow in starting, and the Roseburg Indians piled up a 10-1 lead in that quarter and led at half-time.

Blocking the efforts of the Pelicans to make it a running game in the last two periods, Roseburg slowed the game by stalling and clung to a dwindling but safe margin.

BRUINS WITHIN POINT
OF TORONTO PUCKMEN

By United Press

The Boston Bruins moved within one point of the second place Toronto Maple Leafs in the national league hockey race today after their 8 to 5 home victory over the Canadian sextet last night.

Good Skiing in the Alps



Boy Scouts in Switzerland enjoy skiing in the Alps where Christmas is really a "White Christmas." Lessons are given free to students.

Today's Sport Parade

By Jack Cuddy
United Press Staff Correspondent

New York, Dec. 22—(U.P.)—Connie Mack, as erect as a baseball bat and just about as lean, celebrates his 81st birthday today, hoping as always that next year will be a better one for his beloved Athletics, aptly tagged the white elephants of the major leagues.

It is hard to fathom just what would have to happen to bring about such a miracle, but we doubt if any other kind of a sports regeneration would be more universally popular than a pennant-contending team for Old Mr. Baseball.

Once Fearsome

There was a time when his Athletics were the most fearsome team in baseball, when Lefty Robert Moses Grove was smokin' his fast one to Black Mike Cochran, when Muffin-Mouthed Jimmy Foxx and Bucketfoot Al Simmons were crashing home runs by the dozen, when Dynamic Jimmy Dykes was patrolling the infield.

That was from 1929 to 1931, before the depression and unemployment ate into the vitals of America's sport structure. For three straight years the Athletics ruled the roost in the American league and twice captured the world championship.

Fans Grow Bitter
But the City of Brotherly Love grew bitter toward winning baseball and Mack was forced to sell his stars to pay expenses. Richer owners, batted and temptingly and there was an exodus of high-priced diamond talent to the Boston Red Sox, the Chicago White Sox and the Detroit Tigers.

Not having shown any special adeptness with the crystal ball or with the tea leaves, we wouldn't know how Mack's Athletics are going to fare in 1944. It would have to be a wacky baseball year for the Athletics to top Joe McCarthy's Yankees and win the pennant, but if it could happen here it couldn't happen to a nicer guy.

FIGHTS LAST NIGHT

New York — Johnny Colan, 175½, New York, decisioned Buddy Knox, 207, air transport command.

New Bedford, Mass.—Leo Sawicki, 147, Worcester, Mass., knocked out Verne Atkins, 147, New York (6); Jimmie Mulligan, 170, Lowell, Mass., stopped Mickey Greene, 171, Newport, R. I. (2).

Los Angeles — Chuey Figueroa, 133, Los Angeles, 133 (10); Cecil Hudson, San Jose, 146, T.K'd Jackie Byrd, 150, Little

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FRIDAY
DECEMBER 24th
CLOSE AT 6 P. M.

contract if the parole board would approve.

THE GRANGE

Sams Valley Grange held the annual pot-luck supper and Christmas tree party last Saturday night, with a large attendance of members and guests.

Master and Mrs. Howe of Gold Hill Grange were present and Master Howe spoke on the proposed cooperative slaughter and packing house for farmers of Jackson county. George Loftin spoke on cooperative markets and urged his listeners to make an effort to sell their produce among their neighbors and in local markets rather than shipping to outside markets.

The cost of living during this war was compared to conditions during the last world war in a talk by John Peffley and Ben Day explained the experimental work with grains and seeds being carried on by the State college experimental stations near Corvallis and in this valley.

A report on the recreation program for children was given by Mr. Loftin, who stated that basketball games were held at the Sams Valley schoolhouse each Thursday and that new Four-H clubs were being organized. Mr. Loftin is heading a livestock club and Mrs. Loftin a sewing club.

Mrs. Sadie Frink reported that several members were ill, including Brothers Ed Stone and Charles Dugan, Mrs. Spurlin and Mr. Garritt and his son. It was announced that next regular meeting would be Jan. 8 instead of the regular date which would fall on New Year's Day, and that degrees would be conferred at that time. All members of the Grange were invited to attend the joint installation of Grange officers at Central Point Dec. 30 and all new officers were urged to be present for installation.

DIVORCE RECESS
Omaha, Neb., Dec. 22—(U.P.)—Judge Herbert Rhoades, urging a return to the spirit of "peace on earth, good will toward men," announced today he would grant no divorces during the Christmas holidays.

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HOG PRICE PROP
EXTENDED BY WFA

Washington, Dec. 22—(U.P.)—The War Food Administration, in a move to relieve jammed markets, has extended its price support program on hogs to include good and choice animals weighing between 270 and 300 pounds.

Price supports based on \$13.75 a hundred pounds at Chicago have been in effect on hogs weighing from 200 to 270 pounds.

Support prices at other markets as those of lighter weights. It be-
have been slightly lower.
The extended program will
support hogs weighing from 270
to 300 pounds at the same price
Dec. 23.

Use Mail Tribune Want Ads.

THE FOLLOWING YARDS

Will Be Closed
FRIDAY, DEC. 24 and CHRISTMAS DAY
OPEN AGAIN MONDAY, DEC. 27

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