

# SPORTS

## WAGNER SEEKS TO REPLENISH PRIDE FOR FOUL DEFEAT

Promoter Mack Lillard has arranged another stellar wrestling card for Medford armory tomorrow night when he presents "Gorgeous" George Wagner, adonis of the grappling ring, against Gust Johnson, Pacific coast junior heavyweight champion, in the one hour main event.

Wagner's pride took a deep dive last week when he lost to Jack Klier on a foul and he has vowed to vent his ire on Johnson to maintain his place in main event ranks hereabouts. Should Johnson catch Wagner in his surboard hold, however, it would be curtains for the self-styled toast of the coast.

Terrible Tony Ross, who is rapidly building up a reputation as a feared matman in the Medford ring, will face Ernie Piluso in the middle bout, slated for four ten-minute rounds or two out of three falls. Piluso is known for his ability to cope with mat manias and might spoil Ross' bid for top matches.

Opening bout, down for three ten-minute rounds or two out of three tumbles, brings together a pair of veteran roughnecks when Bulldog Jackson goes to the post against Harold (Blood and Guts) Davidson. They go to the mat at 8:30 promptly.

## TENNESSEE BOWL TEAM PRACTICES

Pasadena, Tenn., Dec. 20.—(U.P.)—The University of Tennessee Volunteers were scheduled to arrive today to begin smoothing out the rough spots for their Rose Bowl gridiron "classic" January 1 with the University of Southern California Trojans.

Upon arrival Coach John Barnhill was to parade his squad for the benefit of the news photographers and fans who have received little real news on Tennessee to date.

Coach Jeff Cravath's Trojans were in their second week of practice, spending a lot of time on the fundamentals.

Record Attendance For Major Sports During Past Year

Chicago, Dec. 20.—(U.P.)—Considering the limitations of wartime sports, 1944 was one of the most phenomenal attendance years in the history of American athletics.

A United Press survey of 1944 athletics showed today that six of the nation's leading sports—football, basketball, baseball, hockey, softball and horse racing—attracted an average 15 per cent more fans during 1944 than in 1943.

Approximately 239,568,390 spectators watched the following sports during the 1943-44 season: Softball, Major League baseball, professional football, National League hockey, basketball, and college football (70 colleges reporting).

That total is the largest ever recorded for those sports during wartime and marked an increase of 26,812,061 over the total set in 1943.

FIGHTS LAST NIGHT

By United Press  
New York (Broadway arena)—Phil Terranova, 127½, New York, knocked out Leo Francis, 136, Cristobal, C. Z., (2).

## SHRINE PREPARES FOR 20TH ANNUAL EAST-WEST GAME

By Hal Wood  
United Press Correspondent  
San Francisco, Dec. 20.—(U.P.)—Grid stars of the nation converge on San Francisco today and tomorrow as the Shrine prepares for its 20th annual East-West extravaganza in Kezar stadium.

With the eastern squad, headed by Coaches Andy Kerr, Colgate, and Bernie Bierman and Dr. George Hauser, Minnesota, due to arrive in town tomorrow, the West announced that it had completed signing of players for its squad with the exception of two players.

Unless the West, which is headed by Coaches Babe Hollingbery, ex-Washington State, and Homer Norton, Texas A. & M., is able to land a name star or two—such as Glenn Dobbs, of 2nd Air Force—the East is destined to enter the game as a betting favorite.

Signing of Les Horvath, Ohio State's player of the year, gave a big boost to the eastern stock. Best bet for stardom on the West appears to be Bob Kennedy, the former USC ace who was a standout in the Shrine tilt two years ago.

The West announced the signing of two more players to bring their roster to within two of the limit. One was Laverne Merritt, a hard-hitting fullback of the Alameda Coast Guard, who was named on the second All-Coast United Press service team.

The other was little-heralded F. J. Roberts, a 200-pound guard who performed with the San Francisco Coast Guard Pilots.

While the East has been an overwhelming favorite on other occasions—such as in the last year's contest—the West holds the edge in victories, with 10 compared with six for the East. Three games, including the 1944 tilt ended in ties.

## TOUGH FIELD IN RACE HANDICAP

Arcadia, Cal., Dec. 20.—(U.P.)—One of the toughest fields ever nominated for the \$100,000 Santa Anita handicap faces the entries in this season's classic according to the list of 96 nominations announced today. The mile and a quarter event will be run March 3.

On the list, the second largest in the 10-year history of the event were 58 winners of established stakes in North America the past season.

Happy Issue, fresh from winning the Hollywood Gold Cup and breaking the track record for a mile and one-quarter, was included in the impressive array of winners nominated.

Charles S. Howard led with the most entries, listing five of his Seabiscuit colts and one the Porter colt along with Lou-Bre and Porter's Cap. Col. C. V. Whitney named four of his home-breds from Kentucky.

DETROIT HOCKEY TEAM EYES CANADIENS' LEAD

By United Press  
The Detroit Red Wings were all set today to menace the league-leading Montreal Canadiens in the National Hockey circuit after accomplishing their preliminary objective—passing the Toronto Maple Leafs to take over second place undisputedly.

The Wings came from behind with a four goal spurge in the final period at Boston last night to defeat the Bruins 6 to 3.

## CRAVATH NAMES TROJANS TO WIN ROSE BOWL TILT

By Gene Friedman  
United Press Correspondent  
Los Angeles, Dec. 20.—(U.P.)—The Professional Mourners in the Coaches' "union" will want to suspend him for life but general Jeff Cravath of southern California's Trojans is coming right out anyway and predicting that they'll win their New Year's Day Rose Bowl game with the Tennessee Volunteers.

Maybe it is because he has a heritage to uphold because southern California has won each of its seven previous Rose Bowl tests and maybe it is because he has a deep-seated faith in the 1944 Trojan team which finished its season undefeated though twice tied. "I think that in beating such teams as San Diego Naval and St. Mary's Pre-flight that we overcome squads stronger than any Tennessee defeated" he said. "And that about sizes it up."

Fans who have watched the 1944 Trojan team in operation, have a feeling that Cravath is sending one of the potentially strongest of all southern California squads into the Rose Bowl, one that got better with every game it played.

"T" Formation  
Moulding an offensive from the "T" formation, the backfield has striking power, although hampered at present by injuries and losses through naval transfers.

Captain Jim Hardy, the quarterback who makes the "T" click is regarded as the main-spring of the attack. A real triple threat, he adds to his passing, punting and running ability, a forte for doing the unexpected. He probably is the most unorthodox signal called in the country, seldom doing the conventional. He calls for such plays as pass on first down, a punt on second down or a running play on fourth down and though at times it has backfired, in the main it has paid dividends for the Trojans this year.

## Boxing Troubles In Los Angeles Rings Promised Hearings

Los Angeles, Dec. 20.—(U.P.)—Local ring troubles were promised an airing today when the State Boxing commission meets to hear the story of the Cleo Shans-Mike Delia "no decision" fight thrown out of the Legion stadium ring last Friday night by Referee Abe Roth.

Shans' manager, Pete Reilly, asked for their end of the purse because of his own boy's willingness to put up a fight.

Roth stopped the "contest" for the second time in the seventh round after repeated warnings to Delia who backed away from the hard punching negro.

The second item on the commission program was a complaint by Inspector Lou Winston against Olympic Matchmaker Babe McCoy, who, he charged, used "insulting language" to him at the auditorium two weeks ago.

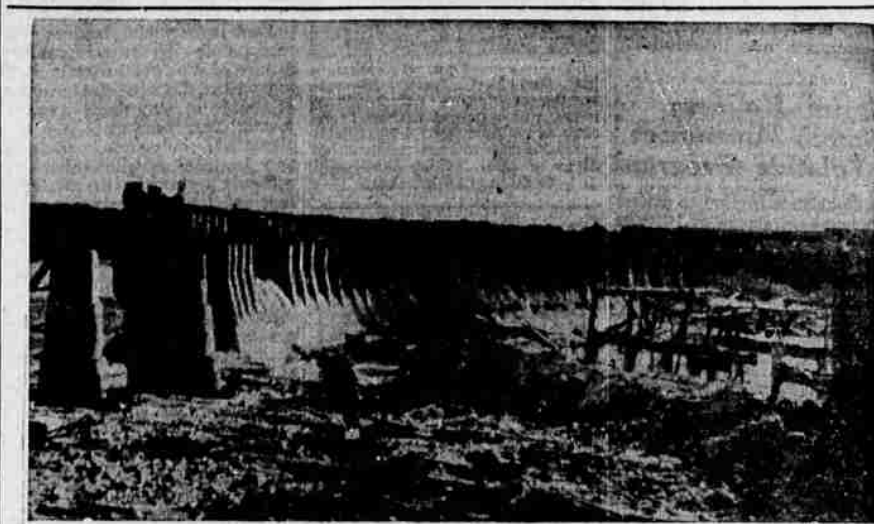
## Camp White Dance Schedule

Service Club No. 2  
All hostesses of the volunteer service corps are invited to attend a formal Christmas dance at Service Club No. 2 Thursday evening. Music for dancing will be furnished by the Rhythmaires band, and refreshments will be served followed by a floor show with Sgt. Don Safford as master of ceremonies.

BUNKER QUILTS WPB  
Washington, Dec. 20.—(U.P.)—Arthur H. Bunker, chief of staff of the war production board, resigned today after more than three years with the agency and its predecessors. In announcing the resignation "with deep regret," WPB Chairman J. A. Krug said that Bunker was quitting because of ill health.



BRITAIN'S BIGGEST BATTLESHIP—This dreadnaught, greatest ever built in England, has just come down the ways as it was launched under the sponsorship of Princess Elizabeth. The big ship went into the water without a name—at least, the name was not revealed at the time of launching! But it will speak for itself.



RUSSIANS REBUILDING DNEIPER DAM—When they lost this dam to the Germans the Red Army demolished it by removing vital parts. Germans later did the actual destruction shown. Now Russians are busy rebuilding it, a job that will take about 18 months.

## 'T' Combatant and 'T' Team Make Up Strange Coincidence

By Jack Cuddy  
(UP Staff Correspondent)  
New York, Dec. 20.—(U.P.)—Giddy goddesses of the gridiron certainly cooked up a goofy coincidence when they arranged for John (Ox) De Grossa to be appointed head football coach at Holy Cross college on the same day that Army's great eleven was proclaimed sports team-of-the-year by a certain press association—not the U. P.

The fickle fates thus made print-companions of the team that stands out as current college champion of the "T" formation, and the coach who looms as nemesis to the "T." Men on copy desks must have found them strange "head"-fellows.

Pilot Da Grossa of the Crusaders at Worcester, Mass., is the guy who thought up and demonstrated the "subterfuged defense" to nullify effectiveness of the "T" attack.

The sensational success of Col. Earl Blaik's army team, in its second season of "T" play, unquestionably will stimulate widespread adoption of the lightning formation among colleges not now using it. But this growth is menaced by Da Grossa's modernly designed defense, which may outmode it.

Instead of having a set defensive formation for each play, the "subterfuged defense" baffles the attack by keeping the formations constantly shifting. Sometimes a five-man line is used, with four men in the secondary and two as safeties. Sometimes it's a 5-3-2-1 defense, a 6-2-2-1, a 7-2-2, or even an 8-3. When the attacking team calls its signals, it never knows what brand of defense it will face, or the exact locations of strength and weakness. Moreover, after the ball is snapped, the defenders are maneuvering in such fashion that the offensive blockers do not know how to fulfill their assignments. It is particularly bewildering when a team tries to run off a pattern of attacking plays with which to create "angles."

Although the "subterfuged defense" works against any formation, it was designed to combat the "T," because Da Grossa knew of no other defense that would do the job effectively. It proved successful last season at Holy Cross. The Crusaders came through unbeaten by any college eleven, although they lost to a couple of service teams. They were tied by Dartmouth and Brown.

Of 6,900 sub-contracts let by shipyards for merchant ship construction, 4,733, or 67.7 per cent, were handled by small business firms, according to the maritime commission.

## KIDDIES INVITED TO FREE MATINEE

The annual children's Christmas matinee sponsored by the George A. Hunt theaters and the Medford Mail Tribune will be held at the Craterian theater at 10 a. m. Saturday, Dec. 23, it was announced today. All kiddies in southern Oregon are invited to attend the snow free charge.

Main feature on the program will be "Buffalo Bill" in technicolor film, with added short features.

## MORE SCARLET FEVER REPORTED DURING WEEK

Four new cases of scarlet fever and two of chickenpox were reported in Jackson county on the weekly communicable disease summary sheet of Dr. A. Erin Merkel, health officer, for the week ended Dec. 15. Both cases of chickenpox are in Medford, while the scarlet fever patients are Trail, one; Oakgrove, two, and Ashland, one.

One case of pneumonia, five of recurrent malaria and two of trench mouth were reported from Camp White. One case of amebic dysentery was listed in Medford.

## ASHLAND YOUTH LISTED AS DEAD

Ashland, Dec. 20.—Official notice of the death in action of Donald Warren, son of Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Warren of Ashland, previously reported missing in action since the sinking of the Lipscomb Bay Nov. 24, 1943, has just been received by parents of the young navy man. The ship was sunk by enemy torpedoes at the engagement for the Gilbert Islands in the Pacific.

Born in Ashland Nov. 23, 1923, Donald was graduated from Ashland high school just before enlisting in the navy in January, 1942. His navy training was taken at San Diego and Madison, Wis., where he completed a radio course, and was sent to Miami, Fla., for aerial gunnery training.

## Annual Christmas Music Program at St. Peters Church

Sunday school and girls' choir of St. Peter's Lutheran church will give the annual Christmas program Sunday evening at 7:30 o'clock in the auditorium of the Lincoln school on North Bartlett and Maple streets. The program has a new arrangement this year. The congregation will be given opportunity to have a part in the program in singing some of the familiar Christmas

carols. The public is cordially invited.  
On Christmas morning at 11 o'clock a Christmas service with holy communion will be held in the chapel on East Main and Portland avenue. The organist, Mrs. Agness Smith, and the girls' choir will furnish special Christmas music. Visitors are always welcome.

HOLLYWOOD CHANGE  
Hollywood, Dec. 20.—(U.P.)—Screen Actress Lynne Roberts, divorced Friday from William E. Englebert, Jr., aircraft company official, was married again today—to Louis Gardella, former chief of the war production board's construction machinery division.

It is estimated that there are 3,000,000 cases of diabetes in the world.

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