

SPORTS

PAIRINGS MADE FOR 'B' SCHOOL HOOP TOURNNEY

Drawings for the Jackson-Josephine county "B" school tournament, to be played Thursday, Friday and Saturday on the Medford high school floor, were announced today.

Thursday at 8:30 p. m., Eagle Point will meet Rogue River with Butte Falls and Talent clashing at 4:30 p. m. Thursday night Central Point meets Prospect at 7:30 and Jacksonville plays Kerby at 8:30.

Friday, at 7:30 p. m., the winners of the Central Point-Prospect and Jacksonville-Kerby games play in the first semi-final contest with winners of the Eagle Point-Rogue River and Butte Falls-Talent games meeting in the other semi-final contest at 8:30 p. m.

Saturday night the losers will

play for third place at 7:30 with the championships slated for 8:30.

First place winners will then meet the champions of the Klamath-Lake counties tournament on March 2, at a site yet to be named. Winner of this game will then be crowned champion of district 5 and must meet district 6 finalist March 9 at a location to be chosen later. The victor of this contest will then enter the state tournament at Salem.

Music will be provided for Friday night's games by the combined bands of Eagle Point and Gold Hill high schools, under direction of Steve Whipple. Saturday night Harry L. Meyers will conduct combined bands of Phoenix, Talent and Central Point.

STARS OF ROSE BOWL OBTAIN COMMISSIONS

Los Angeles, Feb. 21—(U.P.)—Eight University of Southern California football players, including stars of the Trojans' 25-to-0 Rose Bowl victory over Tennessee, today held naval and marine corps commissions.

Tarpaulins serve as roof and end-walls of portable aircraft hangars quickly erected by American units at advanced or captured airfields.

OREGON QUINTET BEATS IDAHO BY 56 TO 45 SCORE

Eugene, Feb. 21—(U.P.)—The University of Oregon basketball team rambled to a 56-45 victory over the University of Idaho Vandals here last night and by virtue of the triumph regained the top berth in the northern division standings.

The Ducks now lead the Oregon State Beavers by a half-game margin and top the Washington State third place team by a full game. Another victory over the Vandals in a second battle here tonight would hoist the Oregon crew another half-game over their idle rivals.

Last night's battle was a tight affair for exactly eight minutes but after that the Ducks hit their stride and rolled to an easy victory.

When Hays scored for Oregon to make it 11-9, that was the end of any tightness to the ball game as the Ducks threw their mile-a-minute offense into high gear and rolled up a 34-12 lead with two minutes to go in the first half. Idaho counted seven in those two minutes and the midpoint count was 34-19.

The closest visiting Vandals got in the second half was 50-42 near the end of the game as the Oregon team, using reserves freshly held their opponents at safe distance throughout.

Mask In Final Match Here



The Gray Mask, shown above with his famous half crab on an unlucky opponent, will meet Harold (Blood and Guts) Davidson in the main event at Medford Armory tomorrow night. It will probably be the Mask's final appearance here and is expected to be a bitter contest, since Davidson has vowed to also wear a mask, despite protests by the hooded rascal. Also on the card are Pete Belcastro vs. Gust Johnson and Georges Dusette vs. Jack Kiser.

PROSPECTS FOR MAJOR LEAGUES APPEAR BRIGHT

Washington, Feb. 21—(U.P.)—Baseball's 1945 prospects appeared brighter today after a conference between the major league presidents and War Mobilization Director James F. Byrnes yesterday brought forth no new obstacles for the sport.

Ford Frick of the American league and Will Harridge of the National league were optimistic after the hour-long conference on "manpower" and said that they were all set to complete plans for the opening of the season in April.

Frick and Harridge were to see one other government official today to wind up their trip here. They would not reveal his name, but it was believed that he was Col. J. Monroe Johnson, head of the office of defense transportation.

"Manpower was discussed in rather broad terms," Frick said. "Transportation and night games were not."

He said the discussion had been "profitable" and that Byrnes was "cordial and kindly."

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BY



Harry Chipman
Mail Tribune Sports Editor

Medford high's unbeaten basketball crew will be the target of Grants Pass, Klamath Falls and Ashland when the four teams square off in the district tournament at Ashland Friday and Saturday. Medford has already walloped each of these quintets four times but still has to play them in the tournament to decide which is the best team to represent the district in the state meet at Salem next month.

There should be no doubt in the minds of fans or players which has the best club but still the Tornados must come out again in an effort to prove it. The law of averages should give one of the three other teams a victory over Medford in five games. If such should happen at the district tournament, Medford would have to stay home from the state meet while a team which had been beaten by Medford four consecutive times would make the northern trip.

Journey Favored
Supt. of Schools Theo. J. Norby of Ashland hit this point in

a conversation regarding the folly of a tournament the other day. Norby said one club might be a league team but would get the "jitters" and not be able to play in tournament competition. The tournament team might not be able to hold its own in league play but would be "hot" in a tournament. This department cannot agree with Norby's point, for in either case the team would not be a real champion and would not deserve a trip north.

On the other hand, Norby agreed that tournament play should be ruled out with conference standings deciding the district winner. But he added that he is all for the tourney this year, since Ashland still has a remote chance of winning.

Simpson Votes 'No'
Last season, when Ashland and Klamath Falls wound up the season in a tie for first place. Al Simpson, then Ashland coach, was the only man who voted against the tournament when the four coaches met to discuss plans. Now Simpson, at Medford, again was the only coach favoring abolishment of the tourney.

Marble Cook, Klamath Falls mentor, favors tournament play, claiming it keeps interest going in the league for teams not having a chance to win the league crown. Of course we can see Cook's viewpoint this season, since his club wound up in second place and now gets one last chance to upset the apple cart and earn the coveted northern jaunt.

League Play Recommended
Oregon state high school activities association recommends that tournament play to select district winners be abolished wherever league standings can be used. There is not a district in the state this year which could more logically use league standings to select a winner than district three. There are but five of the 16 districts in the state now using tournament play and some of them do not use a regular conference schedule.

If the tournament is again voted in next year basketball fans are liable to see a Southern Oregon conference different from that now known. If conference play doesn't mean anything but glory, why not book some upstate teams instead of playing each other four times down here and then playing a fifth time to see who has the best ball club?

BASKETBALL

- By United Press
- Wright Field O., 42, 20th Century Fox 34.
 - Fuller 49ers 41, Santa Ana Air Base 34.
 - Texas Tech 53, Hardin Simmons 14.
 - Oregon 56, Idaho 45.
 - Bowling Green 64, Great Lakes Naval 59.
 - Valparaiso 70, Western Michigan 59.
 - Marshall College 83, West Virginia Tech 49.
 - Vanderbilt 50, Thayer General Hospital 38.
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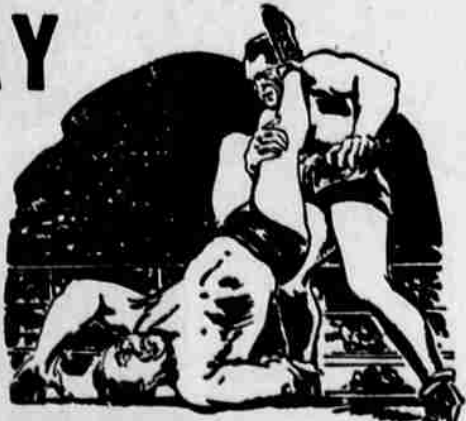
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