

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

SPORTS

Duke Quint To Defend Dixie Title

By WILLIAM A. SHIRES

Rawleigh, N. C. — (U.P.) — The rangers will rock and All-American selectors will have a field day here next week when six of the nation's finest basketball teams square off in the sixth annual Dixie Classic.

Duke is the defending Classic champion, having defeated Navy's sharpshooters in the finals of last year's three-day holiday season event at the 12,500-seat William Neal Reynolds Coliseum. The Blue Devils are regarded as strong enough to defend that title.

The pre-tournament favorite, however, will be host North Carolina State, the team that is currently ranked fifth nationally. Coach Everett N. Case's high-powered Wolfpack had won every previous Dixie Classic before last year's upset by Wake Forest in an early round.

Hemric Stars
The Classic also will pit Wake Forest, boasting All-American candidate Dickie Hemric, and West Virginia, current leader of the Southern Conference. The Deacons and Mountaineers are fresh from the Birmingham Classic at Birmingham, Ala., where Hemric scored 89 points in two games and was voted the most outstanding player of the tourney.

First-round pairings match North Carolina against Southern California, North Carolina State against Cornell, Wake Forest against Minnesota and Duke against West Virginia.

Southern California, defending Pacific Coast champion, will be making its second appearance in the Dixie Classic. Cornell, defending Ivy League champion, also is making a return appearance.

North Carolina State, boasting its twin-pivot team of Ronnie Shavlik and Cliff Dwyer, is defending Atlantic Coast Conference champion to give the Classic a "World Series of Basketball" atmosphere.

Rogovin Returns To Old Skipper

New York — (U.P.) — Pitcher Saul Rogovin, his eyes aglow like a kid's on Christmas morning, stubbornly insisted today there is a Santa Claus — "and he's my old boss, Paul Richards."

Richards now is also Rogovin's new boss, having purchased the righthander's minor league contract so that he will accompany the Baltimore Orioles south for training next spring.

"If you can't pitch for me, Saul," Richards told Rogovin, "then you'd better forget it."

Last Chance
"Don't worry," Rogovin reassured him, "I know this is my last chance and I'm not going to blow it."

It was under the astute handling of Richards while both were with the White Sox that Rogovin rose to become the American League's most effective pitcher in 1952. He led the league with a 2.78 earned run mark while winning 12 games and losing eight.

But he was plagued by arm trouble in 1953, traded to Cincinnati and then sent to Havana in the International League where he posted an 8-8 record last season.

John Winkler Winner In Motorcycle Trials

Johnny Winkler was first last Sunday in Mount Ashland Motorcycle Club English trials at White City.

Floyd Young took second. Osa Waggoner was third and Chuck Strawn fourth.

Mud and sharp turns, which sent riders sprawling added to the spectator interest in the trials.

SUGAR RAY SIGNS

Detroit — (U.P.) — Sugar Ray Robinson, who two years ago vacated the middleweight boxing crown for a song-and-dance career, today was signed to meet Joe Rindone in a 10-round match at Olympia Jan. 5. Robinson's signing automatically lifts a suspension imposed by the Michigan Boxing Commission and supported by the National Boxing Association and the state of New York. The NBC had slapped Robinson with the suspension earlier this month when he backed out of a Dec. 8 bout with Rindone.

BINGAMAN MAY QUIT

Detroit — (U.P.) — Les Bingham, 315-pound middle guard who anchors Detroit's defensive line, said today he's thinking of retiring after Sunday's title clash against the Cleveland Browns. Bingham, 28, long the No. 1 favorite of Detroit fans, said "It gets harder each week for me to get ready for a game. To me, that's a sign I'm getting too old for football."



TOP ROOKIE — Outfielder Wally Moon of the St. Louis Cardinals won the National League's Rookie of the Year award with 17 out of 24 ballots cast by the special committee of the Baseball Writers of America in New York.

S. Musial Leads All Outfielders In NL on Defense

New York — (U.P.) — Stan Musial of the Cardinals, an old hand at winning batting honors, won a fielding distinction today when official National League averages revealed that he led all outfielders on defense in 1954.

Musial committed only three errors while handling 287 total chances for a .990 percentage. Closest outfielders to him were Frank Thomas of the Pirates with .989 and Gus Bell of the Redlegs with .986.

Ted Kluszewski of Cincinnati led all first basemen for the fourth straight year with .996. Davey Williams of the Giants topped the second basemen with .982. Willie Jones of the Phillies was high man among the third basemen with .988 and Johnny Logan of the Braves led the shortstops with .969.

Shirtestop Alvin Dark of the Giants, with 36 errors, made more miscues than any other player in the league.

Bill Sarni of the Cards led the catchers with .996 and Bob Purkey of the Pirates was the top fielding pitcher, handling 56 chances without a bobble.

Milwaukee was the team leader in fielding with .981, followed by Brooklyn with .978.

Speed Skaters Lack Funds for Trip to Russia

Jamestown, N. Y. — (U.P.) — The best Christmas present the U.S. speed skating team could get is a trip to Moscow and the world championship races.

Unless Santa Claus comes through with travel expenses, the team will have to miss the competition for the second straight year. That means a direct challenge from Russia will go unanswered.

As of now, the Amateur Skating Union of the United States lacks sufficient funds to send a four-man team behind the Iron Curtain for the races, Feb. 19-20. Richard P. Shearman, the team's manager, laments that all efforts to raise money have failed.

Intimation
"I can't understand it," the furniture company executive said today. "This is the richest country in the world, and we can't find \$2,500 to send the boys over."

Shearman said the Russians, intimated that "we were afraid of them because our rich country couldn't send a team."

While the team would be representing the country officially, the government has no provision for financing the venture. Nor does the Amateur Skating Union have such a fund. Therefore, the team is dependent on the generosity of the public.

Golf Teams Selected For International Tiff

La Jolla, Calif. — (U.P.) — The International Golf Association has announced the teams that will represent the United States and Canada in the fourth annual international PGA team matches to be played here Jan. 18-19.

Heading the U.S. team is U.S. Open champion Ed Furgol. With him are Chick Harbert, national PGA champion, Bob Toski, Jack Burke Jr., Marty Furgol, Jerry Barber and Cary Middlecoff. Stan Leonard of Vancouver heads the Canadian team. Others are Pat Fletcher, Henry Martell, William Kerr, Al Balding, Jules Huot and Gordon Brydson.

DIAPERS STOLEN

Chicago — (U.P.) — Burglars stole 23,616 diapers Tuesday from the Germ Proof Diaper Service.

Close To Vest Tactics Failed For Clevelanders

By EARL WRIGHT

United Press Sports Writer
It will be interesting to see whether Coach Paul Brown changes tactics when his Cleveland Browns meet Coach Buddy Parker's Detroit Lions Sunday for the National Football league championship.

After the Browns dropped the final regular season game to the Lions, 14-10, on a last-minute pass last Sunday, Brown admitted Detroit's gamble with a spray of passes in the snowy weather beat his conservative game.

"We played it close to the vest. Maybe things would have been different if we had opened up," Brown said. "But we got ahead and tried to stay with it."

Not Normal
Actually, Brown did what most coaches probably would have done under the circumstances. He had his Brownies play to protect a lead on a snowy field in sub-freezing weather that made normal play nearly impossible.

But Detroit isn't a "normal" team. It is the only team, with the exception of the 1951 Los Angeles Rams club, that ever has been able to beat Cleveland's offensive and defensive units into submission with a title at stake.

Cleveland always has a high-scoring outfit but essentially it is a conservative team that has built a reputation for seldom playing a poor game on its strong defensive unit.

But Detroit also has a strong defensive unit. And since Parker began coaching the Lions in 1951, they have been beaten only by offensive-minded clubs that set out simply to outscore them.

Selvy's Record Threatened by Robin Freeman

New York — (U.P.) — Robin Freeman, mainstay of Ohio State's powerful basketball team, was challenging Frank Selvy's year-old record today with a spectacular scoring average of 40.3 points a game.

Selvy, former Furman sharpshooter now playing with the Milwaukee Hawks in the National Basketball association, set an all-time mark of 41.7 points a game last season. But the NCAA Service Bureau pointed out that Selvy's average was 33.5 after only four games. As a result, Freeman is credited with making the fastest start in the history of the statistics.

In four games, Freeman, a 5-foot, 11-inch, 158-pound guard, has tallied 61 field goals and 39 free throws for 161 points. Darrell Floyd of Furman ranks second with a 31.5 average followed by John Mahoney of William & Mary with 31.2 and Chet Forte of Columbia with 31.

Harold Johnson Whips Marshall

Detroit — (U.P.) — Harold Johnson of Philadelphia had his sights set on a second title match with light heavyweight champion Archie Moore today after an easy 10-round decision over little known Marty Marshall of Detroit Wednesday night.

Johnson who was knocked out in the 14th round earlier this year when he tried to take the title from Moore, merely toyed with Marshall in the nationally televised fight.

Beavers Ask Inclusion In Sports Center Plans

Portland — (U.P.) — Clay Brown, president of the Portland-owned Portland Beavers of the Pacific Coast league, today proposed that the baseball team be included in plans for the city's new eight-million-dollar sports and recreation center.

In a letter to James Polhemus, chairman of the exposition-recreation commission, Brown said the baseball club would like to be included in plans for the development and proposed a meeting with the commission to discuss the subject.

OSC Athletic Director Ordered to Hospital

Corvallis — (U.P.) — Roy S. "Spec" Keene, athletic director of Oregon State college, was hospitalized yesterday on his doctor's orders.

Dr. N. L. Tartar said he had not completed his diagnosis yet but did not believe Keene's illness was serious. Keene, 60, was recently elected president of the Pacific Coast Athletic Directors association.

DRAFT CALL CUT

Washington — (U.P.) — The Defense Department has announced that the draft call for next February has been cut from 20,000 to 11,000 men.

Ontario, Ore. — (U.P.) — Fred D. Derrick, 48-year-old construction superintendent for the Morrison-Knudsen Co., was killed yesterday when his car went out of control and crashed near the north city limits of Ontario.

Washington School Presents Program

Capacity audiences attended the Christmas program given Tuesday and Wednesday nights at Washington school. This year two identical programs were given with different casts each night. The 14 primary rooms were divided so that one half of the rooms presented the Tuesday program and the other half presented the program Wednesday.

The program represented a family opening Christmas cards. Each room presented a portrayal of each Christmas card scene. A chorus made up of first, second and third grade pupils sang. The first portrayal was a scene from Santa's workshop featuring the parade of the toy soldiers. Then came the decoration of the Christmas tree, a "Winter Wonderland" scene with snowmen and snowflakes, the Skaters Waltz scene, with gaily clad skaters gliding among the snowmen; a scene portraying several children dressed as Candy Canes who gave a choral reading; carollers singing by a lighted street lamp; and the final scene which portrayed the Nativity.

All together, 350 students took part in the pageantry and choruses for the two programs.

Kiwanians Hear of Christmas Story

Climax of the Christmas story is in Calvary, Dr. Raymond E. Balcomb, pastor of First Methodist church, told Medford Kiwanis club members yesterday.

The minister spoke on "The Christmas Story." He brought out that the story is like others in certain respects in that it has an author, a plot and a climax.

Author of the Christmas story is God, Dr. Balcomb said, and the plot is the redemption of the world. The meaning of the whole thing is seen in Calvary, he emphasized.

The regular noon luncheon meeting was at Rogue Valley Country club.

Kiwanians held their annual Christmas party for persons at the county farm home last night. A 30-minute Christmas movie was shown. Pianist Abby Green played a medley of Christmas carols and there was general carol playing. Gifts were presented to patients and staff members at the home with Frank Ferl in his usual role of Santa Claus. About 15 Kiwanians went to the home to conduct the party. Ed Feldman was chairman.

Agriculture Attache In Japan Discharged

Washington — (U.P.) — Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey (D-Minn.) charged today that Agriculture Secretary Ezra T. Benson resorted to "flimsy excuses" to justify his firing of the U. S. agricultural attache in Japan.

Benson ousted the attache, Walf Ladejinsky, who is a Russian-born land reform expert, on grounds he is a security risk and is not technically qualified for the job he holds. The firing has brought a chorus of protests from congressmen, the U. S. ambassador to Japan and the Japanese government.

State Department officials were disturbed by the Agriculture Department's action and some were recommending that Ladejinsky be kept on the department payroll. Indications were, informants said, that Ladejinsky would get a job on an economic unit either in this country or abroad.

Suffocation Claims Two-Year-Old Child

Spokane — (U.P.) — A two-year-old girl died of suffocation yesterday when fire swept through her family home while her mother was next door borrowing a cup of sugar to make Christmas candy for her children.

The victim was Gail Brown, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Brown. Another daughter, Donna, one, was nearly suffocated and received second degree burns.

Mrs. Jane Brown told firemen she had gone next door while the youngsters were taking their afternoon nap. When she returned within a few minutes the inside of the house was in flames. She carried the children out of the house.

Use Mail Tribune Want Ads

Silver Thaw Makes Auto Chains Necessary

Salem — (U.P.) — Silver than with ice forming made chains a must for motorists at Warm Springs junction and at Arlington today, the State Highway Department reported.

Stiff southwest winds were reported at Coquille.

Spots of ice were reported at Government Camp, Timberline, Green Springs, Chemult, Bly and Lakeview.

Mass in Armory Slated in Ashland

Ashland — To provide ample room for the Catholics of the parish and non-Catholics who wish to attend the first mass of Christmas day, Archbishop Edward D. Howard of the Archdiocese of Oregon has granted special permission to Our Lady of the Mountain Catholic church to hold its midnight mass in the National guard armory, according to an announcement by the Rev. Ernest Jackson of the Ashland parish.

The mass will commence at midnight, Dec. 24, and the public is invited. The traditional Christmas caroling which precedes the mass will begin at 11:30 p.m.

Groups
The men's and women's organizations of the church are assisting the Rev. Ernest Jackson in readying the armory for the mass, and an altar is being constructed. Music for the mass will be sung by the choir under the direction of William Willets accompanied by Mrs. Elaine Berge on the organ.

The celebration of the three masses on Christmas originated from a practice which developed in Rome. According to medieval liturgists, these masses on Christmas refer to Christ as the newly risen Light of truth, the desired Prince of peace and the eternal Son of God.

Applicants Sought By Civil Service

Salem — (U.P.) — The State Civil Service Commission said today it is accepting applications for a field inspector examination.

Two levels are involved in this classification. The minimum qualifications for the lower level call for two years experience involving responsible public contact work and high school graduation. The salary range is \$250 to \$309 a month. Candidates for the higher level must have four years experience involving public contact work. The salary range is \$284 to \$350 a month. The commission is also accepting applications for an examination for plumber with a salary range of \$296 to \$364 a month.

The state department of finance and administration needs an office machine mechanic. And the commission said three levels of food service supervisor are now open for examination.

Court Battle Looms Over Sheppard Child

Cleveland — (U.P.) — A court battle appeared in the offing today over custody of Samuel (Chip) Sheppard Jr., seven-year-old son of murdered Marilyn Sheppard.

The youngster has remained at the home of his uncle, Dr. Stephen A. Sheppard, since his father was arrested and ultimately convicted of the July 4 bludgeon-slaying. Dr. Stephen has two other children, both about the same age as Chip.

Following Dr. Sam's Tuesday conviction of second-degree murder, members of the murdered woman's family have made inquiries into their legal rights to gain custody of the boy. Chip's grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Reese, were reported to have discussed the case with attorneys, preparatory to asking Juvenile Court for custody of the youngster.

Police Show Spirit Of Holiday Season

San Fernando, Calif. — (U.P.) — Local police have been displaying the Christmas spirit.

Instead of placing Traffic Court citations on autos parked overtime they have been giving out Christmas cards reading: "The City of San Fernando and the Police Department, in the spirit of the season, sends you this notice of violation instead of a citation and wishes you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year."

Land in Alaska Opened for Entry

Washington — (U.P.) — Secretary of Interior Douglas McKay today opened 6400 acres of land about 30 miles from Fairbanks, Alaska, to immediate application under the public land laws.

An additional 4000 acres will be subdivided and designated as home sites, cabin sites, and business sites upon order of the area administrator of the Bureau of Land Management at Anchorage.

The land opened for public entry is part of 24,503.53 acres reserved on Dec. 2, 1938, for use by the War Department.

The Army is retaining 530 acres for continued protection and maintenance of some dikes, and the Air Force still has use of about 6400 acres as part of Eielson Air Force Base.

The 4000 acres to be released for subdivision comprise a strip of land two miles wide and four miles long lying along both sides of Richardson highway with 30 miles of Fairbanks and extending to the Salcha Military Reservation.

Rising Temperatures Melt Much of Snow

By UNITED PRESS
Rising temperatures melted away hopes for a white Christmas in many parts of the nation today.

On the first day of winter yesterday temperatures jumped as much as 19 degrees and weather forecasters said it was likely to get warmer today.

The thawing breezes threatened to melt part of the thick snow cover left by a New England snow storm which has been blamed for 17 deaths. Snow covers in other parts of the East were expected to wither even more rapidly.

There were no predictions of heavy snow between now and Saturday for any major part of the country. Forecasters said Christmas probably will be white only in areas where there is already a thick snow blanket on the ground, primarily in the nation's Northeast.

Dead line for Sunday Classified is at noon Saturday.

Central Point Church Program This Evening

Central Point — The annual Christmas program of the Sunday school of the Pilgrim Holiness church will be presented by the children and young people this evening, at 7:45 o'clock. The opening exercises will be a "Welcome" given by Alica West.

The children will present a program of recitation, group singing and exercises. A pageant will be given by the Junior girls class entitled "Heart Gifts."

Following the pageant the young people will present a program of "The English Singers." They will sing Christmas carols while pictures of the Christmas story are shown.

Treats will be given to everyone at the close of the program.



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