

Rogue Valley Golfers Pace PPGA Play At Seattle; Beechler Cards 69 Round

Sue DeVoe Second Behind Lesser in Women's Tourney

Four members of Medford's Rogue Valley Country club were among the leaders after Monday's medal play in the Pacific Northwest Golf association championships at Inglewood and Sand Point Country clubs, Seattle, Wash.

George Beechler, the big Ontario, Ore., mortician who maintains a membership at RVCC, paced the field with a hot four-under-par 69. Phil Getchell, Stanford university and Medford, was knotted for third position with three others. All had 72s. George Harrington, manager of RVCC, was among three who had even par 73s.

Sue DeVoe, Medford, was second low qualifier for women's match play which starts today. She carded a 74. Ahead of her was Pat Lesser, nationally known Seattleite who had a 73. Third in line with a 75 was Carole Jo Kabler, Sutherlin, Oregon Golf association champion.

In men's action Roger Funseth, Spokane, Wash., was in second spot with a 70. Tied with Getchell were Erv Parent, Inglewood; Dick Yost, Walker Cupper from Columbia Edgewater, Portland, and Carl Johnson, Seattle. Harry Givan, Seattle, and a player listed here only as McKenzie were knotted with Harrington.

Departs From Usual
The PPGA's men's competition this year departs from the usual. The entire field was to play another 18 holes today. On Wednesday the low 64 for the first 36 holes continue medal play while the balance of the field turns to match play in the flights. The low 64 play another 18-hole round on Thursday and the low eight for 72 holes will form the championship flight for match play on Friday. Second low eight will be in the first

flight. Two rounds of men's championship and two rounds for Saturday. On Sunday championship matches are set for Friday and first flight brackets play 36 hole finals with 18 hole finals in other flights.

While all of men's play is at Inglewood, women's activity is at Sand Point until the finals when it switches to Inglewood. The best 32 women-qualified for today's championship match round.

Championship flight survivors are idle until Thursday when they play two rounds. Semi-finals are Friday and finals on Saturday for the ladies.

Whitman in 2nd Spot in Coast Batting Race

San Francisco — (U.P.) — With San Francisco's Bob DiPietro and his .371 average derailed for the year because of a broken ankle, the face for the Pacific Coast League's hitting title shaped up today as a duel between George Metkovich of Oakland and Dick Whitman of Portland.

Metkovich, sporting a .344 mark, held a two-point lead over Whitman through Sunday's doubleheaders while Milt Smith of San Diego was just behind the former major leaguers with .339. Smith, a hot third baseman who is ticketed for delivery to Cincinnati next spring, set the pace in hits with 131. Earl Rapp of the Padres and Steve Bilko of Los Angeles remained deadlocked for home run honors having hit 22 apiece.

Rapp was miles ahead in runs batted in with 101 tallies.

SPORTS

White House Studies Means Of Interesting Youngsters In Competing in Athletics

Washington — (U.P.) — White House said today consideration is being given to the formation of a committee to interest youngsters in competitive sports — the subject discussed by President Eisenhower Monday at his meeting with 32 leaders from the sports world.

Vice-President Richard M. Nixon was suggested as the coordinator of such an effort, but Nixon, who was present at the luncheon, said no formal plans were drawn up.

Seeks Greater Interest
Mr. Eisenhower, a baseball and football player in his college days at West Point and now the nation's best-known amateur golfer, told his guests that something should be done to promote greater interest in competitive athletics, both as an aid to the nation's general health and as a weapon against juvenile delinquency.

The President said he found statistics on the physical condition of young Americans "more alarming than I thought."

The luncheon guests appeared enthusiastic about the President's idea and Jack Fleck, who recently scored a major surprise

by winning the U.S. Open golf championship, commented, "You can easily see the importance of this thing, since so many athletes from youth programs become leaders in the military and also in civilian life."

Should Help Kids
Tony Trabert, who recently won the Wimbledon tennis championship in England, said the aim of the drive should be "not to make big stars, but to help little kids coming up."

Nixon also addressed that athletic programs of schools be reviewed to see whether more children could participate. Along the same lines, Dr. Hans Draus of New York university said that lack of physical fitness could lead to heart trouble, mental illness, and other problems.

Archie Moore, light-heavyweight champion, also spoke briefly and the glib boxer impressed Mr. Eisenhower that the President suggested Moore "ought to be elected to Congress."

CARDS OPEN CAMP

Lake Forest, Ill. — (U.P.) — The Chicago Cardinals opened their 1955 training camp here Monday with five quarterbacks on hand along with Coach Ray Richards and his staff.

Trabert Set To Go After Net Crown

Atlanta — (U.P.) — Top-seeded Tony Trabert set out after his second National Clay Courts singles title today against unheralded Willis Irvin of Augusta, Ga.

It was the first appearance for the Cincinnati star who swept to victory in the Wimbledon tournament and who is ranked No. 2 in the nation. He was expected to have little trouble with Irvin.

Won in 1951

Trabert last won the Clay Courts championship in 1951. He lost out in the finals last year to Bernard (Tut) Bartzan of San Angelo, Tex., who was seeded fourth for this year's competition.

Also taking the court for the first time today was second-seeded Ham Richardson, recent winner of the Swedish International tourney with a smashing final round defeat of Australia's Mervyn Rose. Richardson, of Baton Rouge, La., was to oppose Sheridan Snyder of New York City.

Grant Veteran

A Trabert victory could pave the way for the top match of the day from a sentimental view. Trabert will meet the winner of the Bitsy Grant-Frank Herd match. Grant, of Atlanta, is expected to get by Herd, of Columbus, Ga., but will be giving away 16 years or more to Trabert.

The small but spring-legged Grant, for whom the tournament stadium was named, won the Clay Courts title three times in the thirties and was renowned for his ability to run an opponent ragged with return shots.

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Tuesday, July 12, 1955

MEDFORD (OREGON) MAIL TRIBUNE—NINE

Bruno Banducci Handed Unconditional Release; Was Last of Original 49ers

By SCOTT BAILLIE
United Press Sports Writer
Atherton, Calif. — (U.P.) — Bruno Banducci, the last of the original San Francisco Forty Niners, quietly waited today for another football team to make him an offer in the wake of his release by his old ball club.

President Tony Morabito dismissed the veteran guard yesterday when they were unable to agree on a contract which would have been Banducci returning to the Forty Niners for his tenth season.

At the same time, Morabito got approval from National Football

League Commissioner Bert Bell to declare "Bandooch" a free agent so he could make a deal for himself.

Under the usual NFL rules, teams have to put their dissatisfied players on a waiver list no matter how long they have played in the league. There is no 10-year rule as in major league baseball.

To Make No Move

"It was nice of them to make me a free agent but I'm not going to contact any other team," Banducci said softly. "They'll see in the papers that I'm available and I figure if they want me I'll hear about it."

Banducci played with the Philadelphia Eagles for two seasons before 1944 when he joined the Forty Niners, a new team in the archrival All America Conference. He said he did feel upset over being cut loose after nine seasons.

"Maybe it's because I haven't had time to sit down and think about it yet," black-haired Banducci went on. "Morabito and I were about \$1,000 apart and finally he just told me 'good luck' and we parted on the best of terms."

Banducci as a car salesman in the vicinity of his suburban San Francisco home said "we'll still pay the rent all right."

But he added that he figures he will clear about \$3,000 less if he doesn't play football this year. He has three children aged 12, 10 years and eight months.

Two More Seasons

"At 33 I still feel pretty good and think I could play about two more seasons," Banducci said.

"But you can't blame the coaches for starting to overlook you when they have new young kids up there with everything

ahead of them." Banducci, a great offensive guard in the Forty Niner annals, captained the team last year and in 1953. He played with the Eagles in 1944 and 1945 after entering the pro ranks from Stanford where he was a tackle with the Indians Rose Bowl team of 1940.

Lawrence T. (Buck) Shaw, who now is associated with the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo., was let out at the end of last season by Morabito after running the team since its inception. The new coach is Norman (Red) Strader.

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