

Prep Football Elevens Vie in Quarter-Finals

By UNITED PRESS

This is the time Oregon's high school football teams — from powerful Marshfield down to tiny Glide — have been waiting for. The annual playoffs which will lead to state championships start today.

Four titles will be decided during action in the next couple of weeks. They are A-1, A-2, class B and six-man. The defending champions are Marshfield and South Salem — co-champs in A-1, Vale in A-2, Monroe and Union co-champs in class B and Glide in six-man.

South Salem is the only team not back for a crack at its title in the playoffs. The Corvallis Spartans took the district 5 playoff berth in a close vote over Albany. The big unbeaten A-1 powers are Marshfield, Gresham, Pendleton and Jefferson of Portland.

Afternoon Game

Class A-1 competition got underway this afternoon with Washington of Portland at Pendleton. Tonight Marshfield plays host to Medford. McMinnville

Costa Fights Joey Lopes

New York — (U.P.) — Chunky, baby-faced Carmelo Costa of Brooklyn may clinch a featherweight title shot tonight if he wins impressively over lightweight contender Joey Lopes of Sacramento, Calif., in their return TV-radio 10-rounder at Madison Square Garden.

Costa, fourth-ranking feather contender, won a unanimous decision over Lopes, eight-rated lightweight aspirant, at the Garden on March 18. But each scaled only 130 pounds, which was the contracted maximum for that bout.

However, the contracted maximum for tonight's scrap is 136 pounds. Lopes, a full-fledged light weight, claims he was weakened by paring down to 130 in March and that he will have more stamina and more kick in his punches tonight.

Not until this new weight provision was made did Lopes agree to come in as a substitute tonight against Costa, who originally was slated to fight Flash Elorde of the Philippines. Elorde was unable to get into "sharp" condition in time for tonight's bout.

MIBL Elects Phillips as President

Dick Phillips, of Company A, Medford National Guard unit, was elected president of the Medford Independent Basketball league at a meeting last night.

A former league president, he succeeds Bill Singler.

Don Mintz, treasurer last year, was elected new secretary. Tom Rodgers is the new treasurer.

Eight teams were represented at the session at the YMCA and majority votes set a \$50 fee for participation in the MIBL and a 15-player limit for each team.

Discussion concerned a possible jamboree and the state AAU set up for the year. The MIBL has participated in AAU district playoffs in past seasons. It was reported that the whole state set-up may be altered this year. Various leagues are being queried concerning the proposals.

Regional Tournaments

One state proposal would establish regional tournaments with fewer teams to enter the final tourney. The plan would have the playoffs on week ends

to avert the work conflict that plagues players of many teams. There is talk also of breaking away from the AAU and setting up a state amateur association with its own rules. The state champ could play in national championships if its team in the national tourney conformed to AAU regulations.

Possibilities afforded by the new National Basketball congress were also mentioned to the MIBL group last night.

Teams represented were Company A and Headquarters company of the National Guard, Butte Falls, Phoenix, Prospect, YMCA Moose lodge, Hawkinson Tire and Tread, Eagle Point and Chris Drugs of Jacksonville were mentioned as possible loop participants.

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Minor Leagues Forecasting Better Year

By CARL LUNDQUIST

New York — (U.P.) — Less than half of the teams in the big minor leagues made money in 1955, but with characteristic optimism, virtually all are predicting things will be better next year.

The optimism is not unfounded, either. Because of long-range planning which has involved franchise shifting, more lively promotion, and in some cases shifting to new parks, the minors in 1956 could enjoy their best season since the lush post war years.

In the Pacific Coast League, Seattle, Hollywood, Los Angeles and San Diego operated in the black in 1955, while Portland, San Francisco, Sacramento and Oakland lost money. The Oakland situation was so serious it necessitated transfer of the franchise to Vancouver, B. C.

The American Association had its best year attendance-wise since late in the '40's but paradoxically only two clubs, Denver and Omaha, made money. They were new entries which drew big at the gate to offset apathy elsewhere.

In the International, dean of the big minors, Rochester, Columbus, O., Toronto and Havana had successful years but the situation was bleak at Montreal, Richmond, Va., Buffalo and Syracuse.

When the minor leagues hold their annual meetings late this month in Columbus, O., some clubs may undertake complete reorganization under new ownership, others will seek civic support and still others will attempt to strengthen with new major league affiliations.

The situation by league includes:

Pacific Coast — Most prosperous franchise is Seattle where the standing gag is that the club is healthy because the owner is "sick" — Emil Sick, a prosperous brewery owner and an aggressive promoter. Club makes money even when it finishes in second division and last year with a pennant it drew 342,101 fans, tops in the league.

Los Angeles attendance and profits from own concessions plus percentage of admissions from nearby Hollywood under territorial rights rules. Hollywood, a contender as top affiliate of Pittsburgh Pirates, has broken even or made money in recent years despite small 11,000-seat park and indemnity payments to Los Angeles.

San Diego operated "completely in the black" and expects to do better next year under new ownership by a tuna cannery and home run hero Ralph Kiner as new general manager.

S.F. Dark Spot

San Francisco is the dark spot with \$200,000 in debts and with officials seeking new support, possibly from the Milwaukee Braves. Portland lost \$57,000 but General Manager Joe Ziegler attributed it to bad weather. He thinks shift of team from ancient Vaughn Street park to modern Multnomah Stadium in 1956 will help.

Sacramento lost \$75,000 but made up most of it on the sale of two players to the Cubs and General Manager Charles Graham thinks the gate of 166,672 wasn't bad for a last place club. Vancouver has enthusiasm for its new franchise which Brick Laws brought up from Oakland, and there is optimism for 1956 despite tiny 6,600-seat Capilano Stadium. If the plebiscite ending ban on Sunday sports passes on Dec. 14, it will be a big boost.

SPORTS



SWIVEL HIPS—Los Angeles Rams fullback Paul (Tank) Younger (35) swivel hips around left end for 19 yards before being stopped by Dicky Moegle (behind 80) of the 49ers at the Coliseum in Los Angeles. Ram end Tom Fears (80) attempts to block Moegle. The Rams won, 27-14.

Red Raiders Aim for Loop Tie in Saturday Contest Against OCE at Ashland

Ashland — Al Akins' Southern Oregon college footballers have been working hard this week in preparation for their most important game of the season, to be played against Oregon College of Education Saturday night on the SOC field.

The Red Raiders must defeat the Wolves this week end to gain a tie for the Oregon Collegiate conference championship.

A victory over the defending champions from Monmouth will put Southern Oregon college in a three-way tie for the OCC crown, along with the Wolves, and Eastern Oregon college.

In previous games this season, EOCE downed the Red Raiders 21-20, and OCE beat Eastern Oregon 20-19. If SOC should defeat Oregon college, each of the three teams will have three wins against one loss.

Building Season

If the Raiders should lose the contest, they will sink into third place in the conference, and end up with a season record of three wins and six losses. A win will put the record at four wins, five losses, and a fair average for a building season.

Adding incentive for the SOC team will be the return of old grads for Homecoming. The celebration of which the SOC-OCE contest will be the highlight. The alumni may expect to see a wide-open contest, as the Raiders will be going all-out to scalp the Wolves for the first time in three years.

Other OCC teams meet non-conference foes. Eastern Oregon tangles with Carroll college of Montana at La Grande, Portland State plays host to the Seattle Ramblers and Oregon Tech travels to Longview to meet Lower Columbia JC.

Art Ramponi Awarded Decision Over Hall

Eureka, Calif. — (U.P.) — Art Ramponi, 134-pound Oakland lightweight, won a unanimous, but uninspired, decision over Teddy Hall, 132, Seattle, in the main event 10-rounder last night.

Ramponi's standup boxing gave him a clear edge over Hall. There were no knockdowns. The house grossed \$1562.

In the preliminaries, Hank Casey, 155, Oakland, TKO'd Buzz Brown, 148, Seattle, (4); Carl Brunson, 138, Seattle, dec. Vinnie Hines, 138, San Francisco, (6); and Yoyo Lewis, 146, Seattle, dec. Jim Stevens, 154, Oakland, (4).

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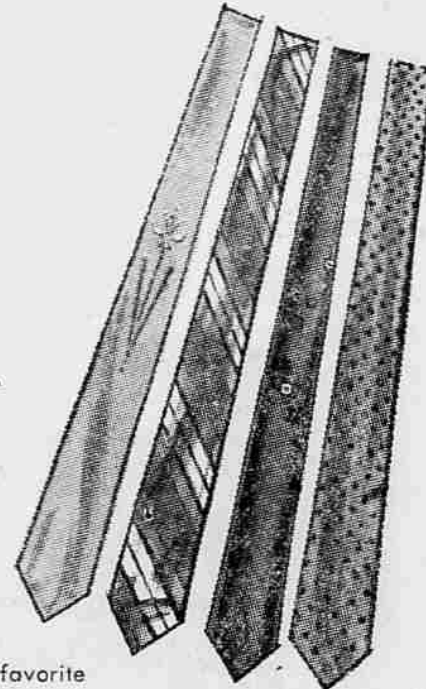
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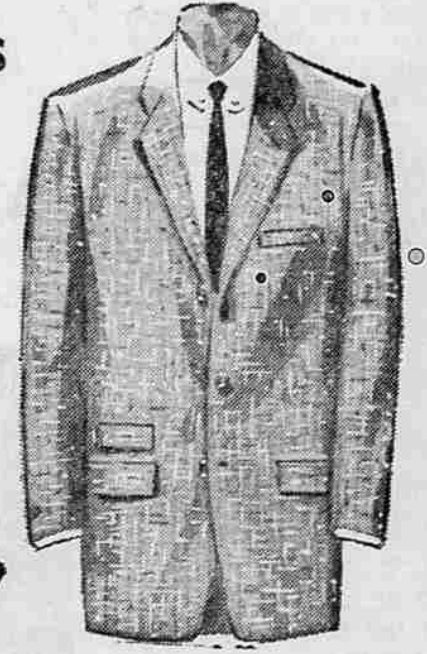
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