

SPORTS

Amateur Boxing Champion Living Here; Seeks Polish From Local Ring Trainer

Medford is now home for Jackie Puscas, 1955 Amateur Athletic union national lightweight boxing champion, who is also regarded as Oregon's current No. 1 amateur ringman.

Puscas, 23, popular participant on a number of mitt cards here, moved to Medford at the start of the year from Eugene.

The ex-Marine, who has collected many laurels since beginning his ring career six years ago, has indicated several reasons for moving from the Willamette valley city to this community. A hard hitter he wants to become a good sparrer, too. In Medford he'll have a place to train, which he didn't have in Eugene, and he'll have someone to work with. And he says he likes this Rogue valley metropolis.

Puscas is working out here under the tutelage of Hugh Jennings, a former Minnesota and Northwest amateur champ who is coach and trainer of Medford Police Athletic league boxers. He will train at the PAL club gym over Acme Hardware store and will fight under the PAL banner.

Apprentice Painter

While carrying on his boxing activities, the AAU champ is also learning a non-athletic trade. A lumber mill worker at Eugene, he is now an apprentice painter and is working for J. Fred Baker's Paint and Wallpaper company, 1945 West Main st. Puscas became a father on January 6. It is planned for his wife, Chloe, and new son, Jimmy, to join him on January 21. He is living at 23 Mistletoe st. It's an odd remark coming from a national champion, but Jack says he feels there is room for improvement in his boxing. His heavy slugging offense has been his defense. He can hit but he feels, as do other close followers, that he needs to learn to protect himself.

McLoughlin Cagers Nick 2 CP Clubs

McLoughlin junior high eighth and seventh grade basketball teams squeezed out decisions over Central Point aggregations here yesterday afternoon.

The Bulldog eighth won in overtime 21 to 17 and the seventh was victor 22 to 17.

Central Point led most of the way in the eighth grade conflict and in the seventh grade mix McLoughlin came from behind in the third quarter, holding the Pointers to two tallies for the entire second half.

Score at the end of the regular playing time for the eighth graders was 17-all. Ken Durkee and Lynn Knight collected points in the extra session to get the verdict for the Medford gang. It was reportedly a rough contest.

McLoughlin lagged 4 to 8 at the quarter and 6 to 15 at the half of the seventh grader affair but ran up 10 points to cut the deficit to 16 to 17 in the third panel. A pointer tossed in one bucket for the Bulldogs.

LINE-UPS
McL. Eighth 21
Durkee 4
Hamilton 4
Knight 3
Konopasek 4
Allen 6
Substitutions — For McLoughlin, Bennett; for Central Point, Sharp.

McL. Seventh 22
A. Funston 4
Hamack 4
Hond 2
Quinney 4
Ragsdale 8
Substitutions — For McLoughlin, Minnick; for Central Point, Willard, Twedell.

Boston Tar Baby Dies Penniless

Cambridge, Mass. — (U.P.) — Sam Langford, conqueror of world champions but never one himself, will be buried here Saturday at private ceremonies.

The Boston "Tar Baby" died Thursday in a nursing home here, blind and penniless.

Langford, a native of Weymouth, N. S., traveled the world from 1902 to 1923 pursuing the business he knew best—boxing. Beat Joe Gans

He fought a dozen champions in all classes but during his long years in the ring failed to win a title. He began his fistic career at the age of 17 by whipping lightweight champion Joe Gans in a non-title bout in Boston.

Four years later, weighing only 145 pounds, he lost a close decision to Jack Johnson, who later shunned him when he won the heavyweight crown. Langford also fought such greats as Harry Wills and Steamboat Fred Fulton. In 1906 he went into the ring against Jack Blackburn, who later managed Joe Louis.

Puscas began his workouts last Monday at the PAL gym. Jennings has reported that Puscas is making fine progress. The lightweight champ feels he'll do better when he gets on to the style.

Puscas has had 120 fights since beginning his career in January, 1950, right after his 17th birthday. He's scored 100 victories, 83 by knockouts. Of his 20 setbacks, seven were on a recently completed European tour with a U. S. amateur team. The Yanks learned on the trip that bouts are scored differently in Europe and that the fact that a pugilist is a hard wallop doesn't often count a lot.

Runner Up in 1954

The amateur star was runner up in 1954 for the national AAU featherweight crown. He won the Canadian Diamond Belt lightweight championship in 1952, 1953 and 1954 and for the same years was named Oregon's outstanding AAU fighter, retiring a trophy for that honor. Puscas has also won Seattle and Tacoma tournaments in addition to his Oregon state laurels.

Jack remarked this week that he has no interest in professional boxing.

Sixteen of his fights took place during a two-year period while he was stationed in the Marine Corps at El Toro base in California. A brother, Jim, who started boxing at the same time as Jack, is now in the Army Medical Corps in Korea.

Jennings, under whom Puscas is training, won flyweight, bantamweight, featherweight and lightweight Golden Glove crowns in Minnesota and Northwest Golden Glove flyweights and lightweight togas. He defeated Bill Bray, British Empire bantam champ and a North and South Dakota lightweight finalist. He has trained boxers here for about four years starting at the YMCA. He was an organizer of the Rogue Boxing club, a forerunner of the Medford Police Athletic league.



JACKIE PUSCAS
New Medford Resident

Ben Hogan Shines In Crosby Tuning

Pebble Beach, Calif. — (U.P.) — The annual Pebble Beach Parade of Stars, sometimes called the Bing Crosby National Professional Amateur championship, gets underway here today with some 250 big names competing for the sake of charity and \$15,000 in personal rewards.

Favored to take the event is the team of Ben Hogan, out of retirement temporarily for this event only, and the tourney's namesake and sponsor, the "Groaner" himself, Der Bingle. Hogan, with a borrowed putter, has been playing some of his best golf in years in the warmup rounds—blistering the

Flint, Mich. — (U.P.) — Yama Bama put an "indefinitely postponed" tag on Leffie Walker's state middleweight title hopes Friday night by scoring a technical knockout over the Saginaw boxer here.

OBEDIENCE TRAINING

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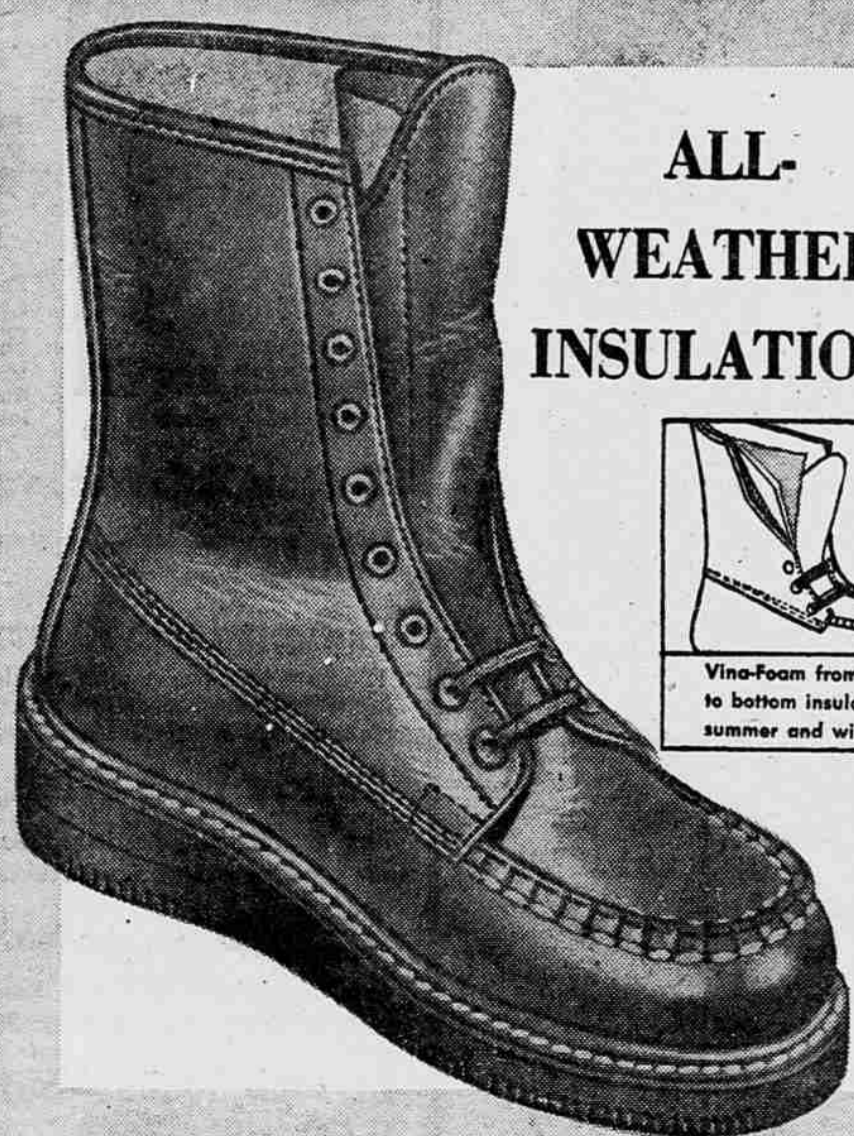
BEGINNERS—7 P.M. to 8 P.M.
ADVANCED NOVICE—8 P.M. to 9 P.M.

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15⁷⁵ 8 inch boots
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Widths D-EE

NEW SHIPMENT OF RUBBER FOOTWEAR

Warriors Widen Bulge to Five

By UNITED PRESS
The Philadelphia Warriors' latest winning streak rose to five games today as the runaway National Basketball association leaders increased their first-place

margin in the Eastern Division to five full games.

The Quaker City hot-shots led all the way Thursday night in scoring a 123-94 triumph over the Rochester Royals at Philadel-

phia. In the only other league action, the Syracuse Chiefs snapped a four game losing streak by beating St. Louis, 93-78, in a battle of tail-enders.

Use Tribune Want Ads

New York — (U.P.) — Chuck Rolles of Cornell, a five-foot-six-inch senior, held a 19-point lead over his nearest rival — Dave Carruthers, six-two soph from Dartmouth—today in the individual point scoring race in the Ivy League.

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