

Tornado Contends for Oregon A-1 Grid Title Tonight



OUT TO STOP PIRATES—Jim Funston, above, 195-pound junior, has been a defensive standout for the Medford High school football team this fall. The big linebacker turned in a stirring game in the semi-final with Benson last week. Tonight Funston will join with other Tornado teammates in an attempt to stop the potent Marshfield Pirates. Medford meets the defending A-1 champs in the Oregon titular conflict in Multnomah stadium at Portland.

Marshfield Opponent in Titanic Tilt

A pair of gridiron gladiators, who have mowed an unbeaten swath through the ranks of Oregon high schools and thereby stand out above all others, come together tonight, concluding the three-month-long prep campaign in a last ditch, shoot-the-works encounter for the Class A-1 state championship.

The big finale between the massive Marshfield Pirates and the rugged Medford Black Tornado, following 8:15 p.m. kickoff in Multnomah stadium at Portland, is viewed as a "dream game" and a natural. For weeks ago, in the young season, the two were picked to go all the way in the march toward the big school 1956 wrap-up tangle.

Medford-Marshfield rivalry has been intense when the two schools have met in any sport. And the football experts and John Q. Fan, alike, have joined in predicting a torrid, high-pitched tussle and one of the finest games in the 14 years of Oregon prep grid play-off contention.

Pirates Slim Choice

As defending champions and holders of an undefeated record over three years and 34 games; the Pirates of Coos Bay have been accorded the role of slight favorite. But the Big Wind of Southern Oregon has its supporters, too, based on the late September 20-all deadlock with the Buccaneers. The co-champs of 1954 and lone titlists of 1955, now after their third successive crown, had to come from behind to achieve that tie in a non-league, non-district hassle.

Scores against common foes point to an otherwise even combat which may be resolved either by breaks or degree of desire.

Powerful, crushing and explosive ground attacks with the strategic use of aerial thrusts are the forte of both clubs. The Coos Bay club utilizes the T formation with a 194-pound averging line, probably the largest among the leading schools in the state, opening the way for the speedy broken field runners, Roger Johnson and Jim Shanley and big fullback Hardy Spurgeon.

Medford's offense is more versatile, combining the power of the single wing and the wide open action of the T. The attacking Tornado line at an average of around 187, will yield about seven pounds per man to the Marshfield forwards but met the Pirate challenge headon in the previous mix. And the Tornado wall has been tough and mobile through the fall.

In top performing backs the Rogue valley club has an edge in numbers. It has an all-around quarterback in Dick McLaughlin, whose running in late games has been helpful with his signal calling, passing and blocking. The Tornado has scabbies in Gary Riley, Eldon Francis and Gordon Owsley, a booming runner and hard blocker in Bob Gee and a driving ball packer in Loren Christean, who has also broken away on a number of occasions.

In addition to meeting each other during the season, the finalist clubs also each met Grant Pass, Roseburg and Benson of Portland during the season. Marshfield licked GP 20 to 0 and Medford did it 28 to 7. The Tornado polished off Roseburg 40 to 14 while the Pirates took

the Indians 32 to 7. Medford disposed of Benson 34 to 0 and Marshfield did it 33 to 7.

Revised Bracketing

Medford is the District 6 titlist and Marshfield took District 5. In both 1954 and 1955 the two clubs met in state quarter-finals. This year revised bracketing made it possible for

Marshfield, rated No. 1, and Medford, ranked No. 2, to advance to the finals before colliding in state elimination. That is in keeping with their ratings.

In quarter-finals this year Medford trimmed Gresham, last year's runner-up and Marshfield faced Lincoln of Portland. Last week in the semis Medford won

over Benson while the Pirates clipped Pendleton 32 to 14.

The Medford squad, general-led by coach Fred Spiegelberg, went to Portland yesterday. Bus loads of high school bandmen and pep clubbers headed north today. Coach Pete Susick took his Pirate squad to Portland today.

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Medford-Marshfield High STATE CHAMPIONSHIP FOOTBALL Probable Offensive Line-Ups

MULTNOMAH STADIUM, PORTLAND			FRIDAY, 8:15 P.M.			MARSHFIELD		
Name	Wgt.	Pos.	Name	Wgt.	Pos.	Name	Wgt.	Pos.
Dick Copple	190	LT	185	Jim Johnson	185	LT	185	LT
Tom Hamlin	175	RE	175	Chuck Amsbury	175	RE	175	RE
Larry Granston	209	LT	220	Barry Bullard	220	LT	220	LT
Neil Plumley	218	RT	195	Dale Cardwell	195	RT	195	RT
Bob Apple	170	LG	190	Jerry Tankersley	190	LG	190	LG
Tom Merton	172	RG	202	Dave Bingham	202	RG	202	RG
Dick Swinney	170	C	184	Larry Tankersley	184	C	184	C
Dick McLaughlin	198	QB	170	Clayton Smith	170	QB	170	QB
Gary Riley	170	LH	196	Roger Johnson	196	LH	196	LH
Eldon Francis	160	RH	170	Jack Shanley	170	RH	170	RH
Bob Gee	165	FB	198	Hardy Spurgeon	198	FB	198	FB
(or) Loren Christean	185							

MEDFORD TRIBUNE SPORTS

Yanks Whip Uruguay In Olympic BB

Melbourne (U.P.)—The U.S. Olympic basketball team routed Uruguay 101-38 tonight to gain a berth against Russia in Saturday's championship final.

Earlier in the evening, Russia had qualified for the final with a 56-49 triumph over France. The 1956 championship game thus will provide a return meeting of the Yanks and Russia. The Americans beat the Soviets, 38-25, in 1952. The Yanks also trounced the Russians, 58-55, in a semifinal game Thursday which had little at stake.

The victory was the American team's seventh straight and fourth in which they went over 100 points. The brilliant American victory was a one-sided affair from the first basket, scored by K. C. Jones only three seconds after the tipoff.

Sports Broadcasts

KYJC—Friday, 8 p.m., Medford-Marshfield high football. Saturday, 1:45 p.m., Notre Dame-USC football.

KBES-TV—Friday, 7 p.m., Archie Moore-Floyd Patterson boxing bout, Saturday, 10:15 a.m., Army-Navy football.

KMED—Friday, 7 p.m., Moore-Patterson boxing; 8 p.m., Medford, Marshfield football. Saturday, 11 a.m., Tennessee-Vanderbilt football; 8 p.m., Southern Oregon conference basketball jamboree.

Skeet Hassle This Sunday

Medford Gun club's final tournament of the year is slated Sunday when members compete for championships in skeet.

There will be an open division of 100 birds and 20 gauge and 410 gauge divisions of 60 birds each. Shooting will begin at 10 a.m. Both trophies and merchandise prizes are being offered.

Martin Clogston in the open and 410 and Ray Coleman in the 20 are defending champs.

Two turkey shoots will follow in December to conclude the club's 1956 shooting activity.

Rifle Meet At Ashland

Ashland—Post entries are being accepted up to a maximum of 50 contestants for the 4th annual smallbore rifle tournament of the Ashland Gun club.

The tournament is scheduled for 6 p.m. Saturday and 9 a.m. on Sunday. Competition will be in the basement of the Ashland armory.

The contention is open to all .22 caliber shooters, rim fire and any sights. Current National Rifle Association rules will apply.

There will be separate matches of 20 shots each prone, sitting, kneeling and standing. Individual aggregates and team scores will be figured from the firing in the foregoing competition.

Junior division rivalry is scheduled.

The junior club will operate the lunch concession.

Medford Boy Ties PCC Extra Point Record

Eugene (U.P.)—Jack Morris, Oregon fullback from Medford, has tied the Pacific Coast Conference record for 23 straight points after touchdowns, a recheck of the records showed today. Morris got his 23 conversions in the last 14 games over two seasons.

The record was set by Crip Toomey of California in 1923.

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