

Hunting & Fishing Southern Oregon

By MEL REES

Any hopes of a good winter steelhead season on the Rogue went by the boards last week when the river reached a near-flood stage. If we do get any more heavy rains or if the weather turns cold and stops the runoff we could still fish the last week of the current season which closes February 15—but the "if" is pretty large.

By the first of the week the Illinois was still in the "brown" stage; one fork was clear, another was chalky but Deer creek was red-brown. The Illinois season extends to the end of the month so it will no doubt furnish some good fishing.

The Applegate was lowering and clearing with any luck at all, should fish this week end.

SMITH TOO HIGH

The Smith was still high and chalky by Monday of this week. Some fish were taken on Sunday using cluster eggs and fishing the pockets and eddies. The color wasn't too bad but the river was about 1 1/2 feet too high. In the case of the Smith, high water stops the fishing for it lacks the long, still holes of our other rivers and when it is high it is almost impossible to get the bait to work along the bottom—generally it just whistles by. If enough lead is used to "sock" it down where the fish lie—it is one continual hang-up.

Last reports from the Winchuck and the Chetco were that both streams were too high to fish at all and raining some in the coast inasmuch as it was still raining some in the coast mountains by Sunday night. It is anybody's guess when they will clear.

RUMOR RUNS WILD

It has always been a mystery how rumors of fishing get started and more of a mystery how they snowball into the most fantastic proportions. Take the Applegate about a week ago for instance.

On Monday morning a fisherman dropped into a small sportshop in the Grants Pass area and was greeted with the information that the fishing on the Applegate the day before was nothing short of terrific. The rumors at this point, tumbled over each other with a tale of a man making two casts and landing two fish, of motorists stopping to watch one man land his fish then being blessed with nine fish altogether which he caught at the assembled watchers (some with no licenses). Then there was the hole where eight people limited—in this means 16 fish!

By this time in the telling our fisherman was in a dither to get to no place but the Applegate—and quick. He didn't catch his two fish in two casts or twenty-two—in fact he didn't catch any. He decided that maybe the run was gone so went up and down the river seeking fishermen and information. Many said that they had fished the stream the day before but

Chuck Franklin Rewriting Book

University of Oregon, Eugene—Charlie Franklin, a talented magician on and off the basketball court, has practically rewritten the Oregon career scoring records with eight games left to play in his third season of competition with the Webfoots.

Franklin, who dabbles with magic tricks as a hobby, plus doing some tricks with a basketball in his opposition find tough to follow, has already rolled up 647 points in two and a half years. This is better than the 644 points Roger Wiley rolled up in four seasons and also broke the three-year mark of 565 points Wiley set in 1947-48-49.

The talented Webfoot forward has also broken two other Oregon career marks in conference play with 209 field goals and 229 free throws. The old marks of 190 and 185 were also held by Wiley.

The fifth Wiley record Franklin has erased is the number of free throws in all games. Wiley had collected 268 in three seasons and Franklin has already sunk 305 with eight games to go. Franklin now ranks tenth in the all-time PCC scoring and has an excellent chance of passing several other stars before the season is over. Red Rocha (OSC) had 634 and Franklin passed him Monday night. Dean Parsons (W) is next with 652 and Willie (UCLA) with 655 are next targets and should be passed easily this week end.

hadn't caught any fish and hadn't seen any caught—in spite of the fact that they had fished the very holes where all this action was supposed to have taken place.

After many stops up and down the river, he ran across a fish and game biologist. He checked that this man had learned the fishermen up and down the river on the previous day and had seen only one fish!

SATANIC DELIGHT

Now the original teller hadn't actually seen the fish or the fishermen—he had been told. The question is who takes satanic delight in starting a story like this or is it not started at all but just sort of grows—beginning with just a wee bit of a "stretch" until it is all out of proportion.

I have known fishermen who thought it was a disgrace to let anyone think that they hadn't caught the limit—so they always caught the limit, that is they said they did whether or not. I have also known individuals who never caught any steelhead less than 10 pounds—period.

I recall a day several years ago when I asked a certain good steelheader how his luck was the day previous. He told me a glowing tale of six fish over ten pounds each! He even invited me to come over to cold locker in his store to see them. I saw them and there wasn't a fish that would weigh 8 pounds, let alone 10, and four of the six fish wouldn't have made the 5 pound mark. This man was a veteran and he knew fish and fish weights—why if he was going to try to kid somebody did he invite me to see them?

SERVE A PURPOSE

There is an old saw which asks if all fishermen are liars or do all liars fish, but I am sure that this holds true in few cases. Most anglers I know will tell the truth about their catches or lack of them but there is always one or two who like to stretch the truth and this gives rise to the really wild tales that get around.

Maybe they serve a purpose at that. When a fellow's fishing hopes are at low ebb and he feels sort of dumpy about it, along comes these glowing rumors and immediately living seems worth while, he grabs his rod and heads for the stream—if he doesn't catch anything he still has been jerked out of his doldrums and spent a day away from the old grind. So in the final analysis, long live the tall tale teller!

Steelheading Getting Better On Rogue River

Portland—The weekly report on fishing conditions prepared by the State Game Commission:

Southwest: South Umpqua fair between Milo and Jackson creek; Millie slow in North Umpqua; lower Umpqua dropping; some steelhead taken near Bunche's bar and lower river on eggs; Smith river fair to good in falls area; some steelhead being taken at Tenmie lake; water clear.

Coquille river only fair. Isthmus slough producing striped bass from boats but poor for bank anglers.

Steelheading improving on Rogue although water still muddy; Applegate and Illinois rivers are clearing and catches good; fresh eggs and spin and glo lures producing best results; stormy conditions would hurt fishing.

Mat Meet Won By McLoughlin

McLoughlin Junior high won the city seventh and eighth grade wrestling tournament early this week by a scant 123 to 117 margin over Hedrick. McLoughlin had six champions and five runners up and Hedrick five titlists and four runners-up.

Finalists with champions listed first and runners up second were:

89—Butch Peyton H. Mike Higgins H. 98—Dave Guches M. Ray Boyle H. 106—Tim Burke M. Mike Pritchard M. 119—John de Place H. Wally Huffman M. 123—Steve Minnici H. Jim Kinney M. 130—Steve Ray M. Jerry Zemlicke M. 136—Norm Olson H. Ron Gandee T. 141—Rany Hale M. 148—Pat Williams H. Chuck McNaair H. 157—Tim Dexter M. Dan Coghlin M. 168—Greg Wolfe M. The tourney was at Hedrick.

Globetrotters, SF Forty Niners To Have Series

San Jose, Calif.—Don't be confused, but the San Francisco Forty Niners of the National Professional Football league open a four-game series tonight with the Harlem Globetrotters of basketball fame.

However, Y. A. Tittle and company will play the flashy Trotters at their own game—and don't sell the pro gridlers short. They've won eight out of nine games on the basketball courts.

The Forty Niner team includes R. C. Owens, Billy Wilson, Joe Arenas, Clyde Conner, Bob St. Clair, Hugh McElheny and Ed Henke. All except Tittle, McElheny and Henke lettered in basketball at college.

After tonight's game, the two teams will play in San Francisco Friday, Oakland on Saturday and Sacramento on Sunday.

Len Gentile Has Close Escape

Oakland, Calif.—Los Angeles Dodger infielder Jim Gentile and his family recuperated from cuts and bruises here today after a miraculous escape from serious injury or death in an auto-truck crash on the East-shore Freeway.

The accident occurred on Wednesday as the 23-year-old Dodger first baseman was taking his wife, Carol, 22, and their three small children for an afternoon drive.

Police said the accident was caused when the rear trailer of a large truck-trailer unit broke loose and swerved into Gentile's car as the two vehicles were running abreast on the six-lane freeway.

Gentile's car was forced over the dividing strip but the player managed to bring it under control before it could collide with cars coming in the opposite direction. An investigating police officer said Gentile's car was virtually demolished.

Miners Ponder Resolutions

Denver—The 61st annual National Western Mining conference opened here today, with eastern financial interests and government officials expected to play a major part.

The heavy representation of executives from the Chase Manhattan Bank of New York, the Battelle Memorial Institute of Canton, Ohio, two U. S. senators and five congressmen gave rise to speculation that a new national mining policy might emerge.

Resolutions calling for the sale of U.S. gold and uranium on the world market were under study as the meeting opened.

Other resolutions may be introduced calling for:—A better price for gold or tariff protection for lead and zinc.

—Milling facilities for the front range of the Rocky Mountains.

—Relief for tungsten miners.

Congressmen expected to attend were Reps. Wayne Aspinall (R-Colo.), Clair Engle (D-Calif.), A. L. Miller (D-Neb.), Walter Rogers (D-Tex.) and Ed Edmondson (D-Okla.).

Senators George W. Malone (R-NeV.) and Albert Gore (D-Tenn.).

Air Line Pilots Postpone Strike

Chicago—A spokesman for the Air Line Pilots Association said today the threatened strike against Western Airlines which had been called for midnight tonight has been postponed.

The ALPA said the strike call had been changed to midnight, Feb. 10 at the request of the National Mediation Board.

Meetings in an attempt to head off the walkout will get underway in the board's Washington offices shortly.

The ALPA spokesman said the strike was postponed on the basis of a request by board member Robert O. Boyd who said he felt there was a chance at an agreement.

SPORTS

Crusaders Stay On Top in Poll

New York—The Wheaton (Ill.) Crusaders, who tackle a major college basketball team Saturday night when they play Bowling Green at Chicago, led the United Press small college ratings today for the fourth straight week.

But the Crusaders 16-1 were only about the length of an Illinois corn cob ahead of another Midwestern school. Steubenville, an Ohio college with a 20-1 record and a 19-game winning streak, was only seven points behind Wheaton.

New York (U.P.)—The United Press small college basketball ratings (first-place votes and won-lost records through Feb. 1 in parentheses):

TEAM	POINTS
1. Wheaton (Ill.) 18 (16-1) 333	
2. Steubenville (O.) 7 (20-1) 326	
3. West Illinois 5 (15-0) 270	
4. Evansville (Ind.) 5 (14-2) 269	
5. Southwest (Mo. St.) 5 (15-0) 262	
6. W. Va. Tech (19-3) 131	
7. Tenn. St. A&I (19-2) 113	
8. Pac. Wash. Luth. (11-2) 103	
9. Texas South. 1 (17-2) 96	
10. Boston University (8-2) 59	
11. St. Peter's (N.J.) 47; 12. Brandeis (Mass.) 39; McNeese (La.) 34; 14. Louisiana Tech. 31; 15. Belmont Abbey (N.C.) 22; 16. South Dakota, 20; 17. (tie), Boston College and Youngstown (Ohio); 17 each; 19. Montana State, 16; 20. (tie), Arkansas State, Mississippi Southern, Grambling (La.) and Anderson (Ind.), 15 each.	

Ex-Champs Fall At Palm Beach

Palm Beach, Fla.—Mrs. Ann Casey Johnstone of Mason City, Iowa, only former tourney winner still undefeated, teed off today in one of the featured pairings in the Palm Beach Women's Amateur golf championship.

Two other former champions, a co-medalist and the star of the Florida winter tour all bowed out Wednesday in the first round.

However, Mrs. Johnstone turned in one of the best showings of the day in a 7 to 6 victory over Mrs. D. C. O'Brien of Richmond, Va.

Her opponent today was upset-minded Marge Burns of Greensboro, N.C., who earlier whipped favored Mary Ann Downey of Baltimore, 5 and 4.

Gracie DeMoss of Corvallis, Ore., one of the co-medalists, lost her match Wednesday to Dale Fleming of Tulsa, Okla., in 20 holes.

ROOKS VICTORS—The McMinnville—The Oregon State Rook swimming team defeated the McMinnville Swim club 59-32 Wednesday night.

Florida Counts Freeze Damage

By UNITED PRESS
Florida farmers today counted their heavy losses in the wake of the season's third, and worst, freeze. Heavy rains, meanwhile, drenched the nation's midsection.

Winter vegetable crops which escaped the frosty touch of two earlier freezes were just about destroyed in the cold snap that clung to the sunshine state since Monday night and relaxed its grip late Wednesday.

Unofficial lows of 18 were reported Wednesday morning in farmlands south of Miami, and 24-degree lows occurred in Miami's suburbs. About 75 per cent of 18,000 acres of tomatoes were wiped out, according to Assistant Dade County Agent Nolyan Durre.

A broad thunderstorm belt extended from eastern Oklahoma into Tennessee early today. The weather bureau said that as of midnight almost three-quarters of an inch fell during a six-hour period in Oklahoma City, Okla., and more than that at Chattanooga, Tenn.

The Northwest received scattered showers, but in the Rockies snow fell. Parts of Montana got a two-inch snow covering during a six-hour period, and light snows whipped across the Northern Plains to the Great Lakes.

Washington—The House has passed a bill to suspend for three years import duties on certain coarse wools used in making rugs and carpets.

Toni Sailer Ski Winner

Bad Gastein, Austria—With the United States' chances for victory in the men's events of the world ski championships virtually ruined, attention today was focused on the women's events in which Sally Deaver of Philadelphia drew the favorable No. 3 starting position for the downhill race.

Wallace (Bud) Werner, the 22-year-old soldier from Steamboat Springs, Colo., who was regarded as America's main hope to stop the strong Austrian pair of Toni Sailer and Josl Reider, finished a disappointing fifth in the men's giant slalom Wednesday to fall far behind in the competition for the title of the world's best skier.

Sailer, the Olympic champion who said he would quit the winter circuit to concentrate on his movie career after this tournament, won the giant slalom in a sparkling one minute, 48. seconds with Reider second in 1:52.6.

Kimpton Paces Frosh Hoopmen

University of Oregon, Eugene—Butch Kimpton, the swift sharpshooter from Klamath Falls, continues to lead the Oregon Frosh scoring after 10 games with a total of 135 points, 32 more than Denny Strickland, the ex-Bremerton prep star.

The Ducklings, who have won eight and lost two this season, meet Oregon State's Rooks for the third time this season on Friday in the preliminary game at Corvallis prior to the varsity game between the Beavers and Ducks.

The Rooks eked out a 58-56 victory in the first meeting on the strength of a pair of free throws after the final gun and then the Ducklings evened the count with a 59-48 victory at McArthur court last Friday night.

TO TELECAST GAME

Key West, Fla.—The first annual all-star game sponsored by the Major League Baseball Players association will be televised nationally by the Mutual Broadcasting system next Sunday, starting at 11:40 p.m. EST. Such famed major leaguers as Vic Wertz, Stan Musial, Harvey Kuenn, Bob Turley, Johnny Antonelli and Early Wynn will take part in the nine-inning exhibition.

GIANTS INK PLAYER—The San Francisco Giants have announced the signing of high school star Mike Mitchell of Jersey City, N.J., "for a sizeable bonus."

PUERTO RICAN SIGNED—Kansas City, Mo.—The Kansas City Athletics announced tonight the signing of Roberto Salamo of Ponce, Puerto Rico, a 19-year-old outfielder.

BUTTE FALLS WINS

Butte Falls—Butte Falls grade school defeated Prospect 28 to 13 and 20 to 9, respectively, this week in varsity and junior varsity basketball games. Dannie Rensen topped Butte Falls point-makers with 14.

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