

Holiday Basketball Fare Provides Four Principal Tourneys

By JOHN GRIFFIN
United Press International
College basketball ignores that famous sticker reading "do not open until Christmas" by opening the holiday tournament season tonight with four major carnivals and NCAA champion Kentucky as the featured team.

Most of the other big hoop fiestas won't start until a week from tonight, but unbeaten Kentucky is picked to win its own invitational tourney starting tonight in Lexington, Ky., Northwestern's favorite in the Blue Grass tournament at Louisville, Auburn is the choice in the Birmingham, Ala., classic, and Georgia is the pick in The Citadel invitational.

Here's how tonight's first-round games line up:
Kentucky Invitational: Kentucky, ranked No. 3 nationally, favored over Ohio State and seventh-ranked West Virginia, the defending champion, over defense conscious Oklahoma State.

Blue Grass Tourney: Northwestern picked over Louisville and North Carolina over Notre Dame.

Birmingham Classic: Auburn, riding a 14-game winning streak, is a slight favorite over Wyoming's Skyline Conference champions, and Texas A&M is picked over Alabama.

Citadel Invitational: Sophomore Georgia picked over the host Citadel team and Florida State over Miami (Fla.).

If these games run to form, they would produce a long-awaited meeting between Kentucky, last year's NCAA tournament champion, and West Virginia, last year's regular season champion, in the Kentucky finale.

A Notre Dame upset of North Carolina tonight could give the Irish a chance to gain revenge against Northwestern, which beat them, 68-63, Dec. 8.

That this could be the season for surprises was tipped Thursday night when Virginia, fresh from a conquest of West Virginia, suffered an 83-76 loss on its home court to Wake Forest.

Virginia went into the final minute of this one with a 76-75 lead and then stunned the crowd by failing to score as Wake Forest ripped in eight straight points to take the game. Georgie Ritchie scored 27 points to lead the winning Deacons while Paul Atkins tallied 25 for Virginia.

Bradley, Seton Hall, and Marquette were among other teams scoring top victories

AMATEUR ATHLETE. Jacksonville, Fla. - (UPI) - Florida sports writers have named halfback Bob Anderson of Army as amateur athlete of the year. Anderson, of Cocoa, Fla., was picked for his performance in Army's 22-6 victory over Navy.

Yanks Win Davis Cup Encounters

Perth, Australia - (UPI) - Alex Olmedo and Hamilton Richardson ripped through their opening matches with comparative ease to give the United States Davis cup tennis team a 2-0 lead over Italy today in the inter-zone final.

Olmedo, a 22-year-old student at Southern California, spotted Nicola Pietrangeli the first set and then bounced back with a vengeance to win the opening match of the best-of-five series, 5-7, 10-8, 6-0, 6-1. **One Victory Needed**
A small crowd of about 2,500 then watched Richardson a Cup veteran from Louisiana who now resides in Arlington, Va., cut Orlando Sirola down to size by winning his match in straight sets, 6-4, 6-2, 7-5.

The Yanks need only one more victory in the three remaining matches to gain a berth opposite Australia in the challenge round at Brisbane, Dec. 29-31. They can clinch the series in Saturday's doubles match when Richardson and Olmedo will team up against the same Italian pair they handled so easily in the initial firing.

Barnes Takes Over Officially at UCLA

Los Angeles - (UPI) - Bill Barnes, a disciple of the late Henry (Red) Sanders, today officially took over as head football coach at UCLA after a season as acting coach.

Following Sanders' death last August, his first assistant, George Dickerson, was appointed head coach. But Dickerson fell victim to nervous exhaustion and Barnes stepped in to run the team.

UCLA ended the season with a record of three wins, six losses and one tie. But under Barnes the Bruins lost to conference champion California by only two points, defeated 1957 co-champion Oregon, and tied Southern California.

Barnes' appointment was announced by athletic director Wilbur Johns who declined to reveal terms of his contract but said it was for more than one year.

Dickerson, recently released from the UCLA medical center after extended treatment, will remain in the school's athletic department but doctors advised him to give up his coaching duties.

Strong Challenge
"I deeply appreciate the confidence UCLA has placed in me," Barnes said when notified of his appointment. "I look forward to what is obviously a strong challenge to return the Bruins to the top among capable and consistent winning football teams."

We took our lumps this past season but we are looking forward to fielding teams to meet the toughest schedule ever attempted by UCLA.
In addition to the death of Sanders the school had seven of its seniors limited to five games by conference edict and under the circumstances

MEDFORD TRIBUNE SPORTS

Tornado Collides With SE Axemen Tonight, Saturday

Medford high's starting line-up for tonight's basketball engagement with South Eugene will be named from among six men, Coach Frank Roelandt indicated after yesterday's drill.

The Black Tornado squad of 13 players left this morning for Eugene and will play the

Axemen on Saturday evening as well as tonight.
Roelandt listed the six men as George Koch, Jerry Anderson, Lowell Dean, Jerry Shults, Booth Deakins and Ken Durkee. Anderson, Dean and Shults are the lettermen in the group.

Other Players
Other players on the travel crew are Pete Rasmussen, John Frohnmayer, John Harvey, Dick Allen, Henry Olson, Calvin Dean and Ray Konopasek. Jim Miller is the manager making the trip.

If Hank Kuchera of the Eugene club starts the same gang this week end that he did against Albany on Tuesday, Sandy Nosler, Danny O'Connell, Dave Wetzell, Nick Carter and Wally Larsen will make up the crew.

With Durkee, 5-8, the only man under 6 feet among the six named by Coach Roelandt, Medford will have the edge in overall height but Eugene has the tallest man in 6-4 Wetzell.

McMurtry To Battle Nino Valdes

New York - (UPI) - Machine-gun Pat McMurtry, Irish ex-Marine sergeant, hopes to make tonight's fight with Nino Valdes, the Cuban giant, a "Dempsey-Willard affair."

"I may not get him early, but I hope to chop him down before the final bell," said the speedy heavyweight contender with the brownish crewcut from Tacoma, Wash.

However, big Nino - who claims to be uncrowned king of the heavyweights - is favored at 7-5 for their 10-rounder at Madison Square Garden, source of the national telecast and broadcast by NBC at 7 p.m. (PST).

McMurtry, at least two inches shorter than his 6-foot-3 opponent and about 25 pounds lighter than Nino's usual 214, recalled that Jack Dempsey was out-weighted about 60 pounds by towering Jess Willard in 1919 when the Manassa Mauler wrecked Big Jess for the heavyweight title.

"I'm no Dempsey" Pat admitted with a grin, "but I think I've got the speed and the punch to bring him down."

Actually, Pat looked more like ex-Marine Gene Tunney on Oct. 17, when he gave slugger George Chuvalo, champion of Canada, a lopsided beating at the Garden. That was McMurtry's latest fight and only New York appearance. He was very impressive with his repeater left jab and rapid-fire combinations that had the 9-5 favorite bloody and groggy in the late going.

Whether 34-year-old Valdes could take such a battering from 26-year-old Pat is questionable. Chuvalo was only 21.

Two Men Arrested For Stealing Safe

Portland - (UPI) - County police early today arrested two young men after a safe was reported stolen from the Allied Supply company. Arrested were Ralph Pyburn, 20, and Gene Thompson, 21.

Police said the safe was recovered.

Officers said Pyburn admitted taking part in about 12 other burglaries in this area recently. Thompson had no previous record, officers said.

Writer Anton Chekhov died of tuberculosis July 2, 1904.

Beat This!



WHO WAS WORLD'S HEAVIEST MAN?

Robert Earl Hughes, who died July 10, 1958, at the age of 32, weighed 1,041 pounds! He had a 10 foot, 2 inch waist, measured 40 inches around each upper arm and was 6 feet tall.

TOP THIS! - To any reader submitting contrary proof, Tip Brady will send a signed, wallet-sized diploma. Write to: BEAT THIS, c/o this paper, Box 575, Sausalito, Calif. Enclose self-addressed, stamped envelope.

A Medford Newspaper Syndicate Feature

Crater Nabs Mat Match; Eagles To Meet Glendale

Eagle Point - Strong A-1 Crater crushed A-2 Eagle Point High 53 to 2 last night in a wrestling bout here.

The Comets won 11 of the 12 bouts, nine by falls and two by decisions.
David Shepherd, Eagle Point, earned a draw with Gay D. Jones, Crater, in the 127-pound contest.

Gail Schoppert, Eagle Point, said he did not feel too bad about the lopsided loss. He said he felt that the Eagles are improving and should give a good account of themselves here against Glendale at 2 p.m. Saturday.

An anticipated match between Dick Hertzger, Eagle Point, and Butch Barber, Crater, in the 103 weight did not materialize because of a hand sprain which kept Hertzger out of action.

Wrestling was a paying sport for the first time at Eagle Point with \$10.50 taken in gate receipts. Paul Even-son, Medford High wrestling mentor, was referee. Crater and Eagle Point matmen meet again in January.

RESULTS:
95-Kip Jepson, C. pinned Dale Vaughn, E. first round.
103-Butch Barber, C. pinned Jim Ackerman, E. first round.
112-Dave White, C. pinned Duke Wild, second round.
120-Chuck Warren, C. pinned Warren Postka, E. second round.
127-David Shepherd, E. drew with Gay D. Jones, C. 4-4.
133-John Taberna, C. dec. Ben York, E. 3-0.
138-Bob Bybee, C. pinned Roy Moore, E. third round.
145-Denn Lamp, C. dec. Sid Jackson, E. 3-0.
154-Al Lamp, C. pinned Fred Jossy, E. second round.
165-Rick Burns, C. pinned Bill

BASKETBALL

Thursday College Games
Seton Hall 73, West Kentucky 67
Princeton 70, Rutgers 47
Harvard 60, Tufts 54
Marshall 96, College of Pacific 71
St. Bonaventure 86, Gannon 44
Marquette 70, New York U. 59
Westminster 78, Pittsburgh 66
Boston College 67, Brown 54

South
Geo. Wash. 106, Wash. & Lee 56
Tennessee 67, Davidson 52
Virginia St. 67, Maryland St. 60
Kentucky St. 63, Anderson 56
Eastern Kentucky 64, Loyola 58

Midwest
Wichita 81, Santa Barbara 65
Bradley 85, Nebraska 48
Hardin-Simmons 34, Wash. U. 49
Butler 79, Dartmouth 74

Southwest
Jossy, E. second round.
Missouri 67, Rice 62

West
(Far Western Tourney)
Nevada 82, Southern Oregon 57
Humboldt St. 65, Calif. Aggies 42
San Fran. St. 72, Willamette 61
Sacramento St. 58, Chicago St. 49
Fresno State 55, Idaho 52
Gonzaga 85, North Dakota 60
Pepperdine 74, Wheaton 56
Linfield 68, St. Martin's 56

TAKE TO AIRPLANES

Milwaukee, Wis. - (UPI) - The air-minded Milwaukee Braves will make all road trips next year by plane, except for the short jaunt between Milwaukee and Chicago, which will be made by train. The team will cover 26,104 air miles during the season.

Geese are known to have flown at 29,000 foot altitudes.



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