

# Stanford, Oregon State, UCLA Emerge As Coast's Top Powers

By United Press International

Stanford, Oregon State and UCLA today gave the coast three of the nation's top 13 basketball teams, according to the UPI board of coaches.

The three cage powerhouses, each of whom has lost four games, were ranked 8th, 10th and 13th in this week's poll. Stanford (3-1) leads the Bruins (3-2), Washington (4-3) and California (2-2) in a tight Big Six race. The confusion could be eased or heightened this week end when the Cards host USC (1-5) and the Bruins while California calls on Washington for a pair.

Oregon State figures to have little trouble disposing of Portland twice in its week end action.

Latest Big Six scoring figures showed that UCLA's Walt Hazzard not only is probably the league's classiest floor player, but is doing more than his share of scoring, too.

Gordy Martin of USC still leads with 119 points in six games for a 19.8 average, but Hazzard is in second with 94 points in five contests for an 18.8 mark. The UCLA guard is being boomed for All-America honors after scoring 54 points in the Bruins' two wins over Troy.

Rounding out the top five are Washington's Ed Corell (18.6), Stanford's Tom Dose (18.5) and Cal's Dick Smith (15.5).

The West Coast Athletic conference scoring race is hampered by the fact that the top two scorers have only played in two league games apiece.

Steve Gray of St. Mary's hit 52 points for a 26.0 average and Pepperdine's Bob Warlick 35 for a 17.5 mark. Santa Clara's Joe Weiss has averaged 65 points in four contests for a 16.2 average.

In West Coast games Monday night, Fresno State made it seven in a row with a 69-44 romp over Redlands. Maurice Talbot had 21 for the winners. Lewis and Clark dumped Whitman 71-51.

Elsewhere in the nation, top-ranked Cincinnati, held to a two-point lead at halftime, defeated upset-minded Drake, 71-60, Monday night for the Bear cats' 26th consecutive victory. Drake clicked on only 8 of 29 shots in the second half.

Illinois, ranked fourth, hung on for a 104-101 triumph over Indiana in a battle for the Big Ten conference lead, while the No. 6 Georgia Tech Engineers eked out a 50-49

decision over William and Mary.

Cincinnati, which was forced into overtime before beating Drake last Thursday, had visions of a similar outing when the score was tied seven times in the first half before the Cats gained a 40-38 edge at intermission.

Illinois held a 15-point lead, 88-73, with about seven minutes remaining when Indiana caught fire to narrow the gap. The total of 205 points for both teams was tops for the Big Ten conference this season.

All five Illini starters hit in double figures, with Tal Brody scoring a high of 22 points. Tom Bolyard tallied 35 in Indiana's losing effort.

The victory left Illinois with a 5-0 conference record and dropped the Hoosiers from second to fourth place with a 3-2 mark.

Georgia Tech, trailing 23-18 at the half, raised its record to 17-1 only because Dave

Hunter's 50-foot shot for William and Mary at the final buzzer hit the front rim and bounced away.

The Engineers hit on only 26 per cent of their shots, but John Herbert made the most of this inaccuracy with a Tech high of 12 points. Hunter scored 16 points for W&M.

**Ties for Lead**  
Mississippi State tied Georgia Tech for the Southwestern conference lead by swamping Tulane, 91-73, in a league game. The ninth-ranked Staters, held to a 37-37 intermission tie, broke loose in the second half as Leland Mitchell led the way with a game total of 29 points.

Jim Kerwin, the leading scorer in the SEC, paced Tulane with 27 points.

Fifth-ranked Arizona State had no trouble in overpowering New Mexico State, 87-62, but luck ran out on seventh-rated Colorado as it dropped a 52-40 decision to Oklahoma State.

## MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE SPORTS

### Good Judgment Mark of Good Official, Hoop Commissioner Informs Medford Linebackers

Sports Group Names

Dr. Eaton President

"Judgment is the difference between a good official and a bad official," Golden Noble, Medford, told the Medford Linebackers club last week.

Noble, commissioner of basketball referees for this area, discussed some of the problems that confronted officials.

Referees Loren Soderlund and Bill Esselstyn demonstrated interpretation of rules concerning screens and guarding on shots and along with Noble, answered questions.

Soderlund is president of the Rogue Valley Referees association.

Dr. Orval Eaton, optometrist was elected president of the Linebackers club at North's Chuck Wagon.

Noble outlined his job of assigning referees to games and supervising the development of young officials. He said that his aim is to get as many men interested officiating as he can and bringing them up to the level that he goes by the book in talking over games with refs.

Two main concerns of the commissioner, he said, are that arbiters have proper position on the floor and that they interpret rules correctly. Another matter of consideration is the mechanics of the officials. Signals of officials to the timekeepers, he mentioned, need to be executed properly in order not to consume playing time.

**No Other Way**  
Noble remarked that he never questions the judgment of referees if they are in the right position on top of a play. He said further that he instructs the arbiters to call everything they see, if it is in the rule book, to be consistent. "I don't think there is any other way," the commissioner remarked. He spoke of the meetings held every two weeks to go over "beefs" and to iron out some of the inconsistencies but pointed out that officials living at Kla-

math Falls had not been to the meetings.

Noble reported hearing conversations charging referees with picking on a player. He said that he had known of only one such instance in 20 years of officiating. He brought out that mentioning coaches by name or players by name or number at referees meetings is taboo.

The offensive man in basketball has been given the right of way in basketball, according to the commissioner, and expressed the feeling that consideration should be given to the defensive man.

In response to a query, Noble agreed that rules should be relaxed.

"Referees are sincere or they wouldn't be out there," Noble contended. "They are doing the job the best they can."

In discussing the problem involved in trying to rotate officials, Noble brought out that of some 80 names submitted, only 15 were acceptable to coaches to handle Southern Oregon conference games. Of these 15 were approved by Medford but five live here and can't work games in Medford, leaving seven to pick from.

Crater approved 13, Grants Pass 14, Klamath Falls 11 and Ashland 10. But, five are out from tills at Grants Pass and four from Klamath by their residence. Four of those oked by Ashland and four picked by Crater live at Klamath Falls and those schools want referees living in the Rogue valley because of the mileage pay involved in bringing officials from Klamath.

Three officials each are approved by one conference school but not by others so can't be assigned to big school games.

The number of referees available for Medford games has since been increased to eight.

Noble said that closeness of the Southern Oregon race this year has given him no chance to run in any single new officials for trial.

Esselstyn spoke of the problem of officials in that patterns of play change from game to game. He reported the contention of John Bunn, national authority on refereeing, that officials are to call the game for the players rather than for the coaches or planners. He also told of the job of officials in getting players to play the game the way they are supposed to play it.

Esselstyn disagreed with the idea of an official not being permitted to referee games in his home town. Arbiters call games by instinct, he maintained.

County Judge Earl Miller and County Commissioners Ed Taylor and Don Faber were at the meeting. Outgoing Linebacker President Bud Parsons reiterated previously expressed Linebacker support of fairgrounds ball park development as previously projected by the county court.

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**IN PORTLAND SHOW**—Shown above is "Crazy," SK runabout owned and raced by Howard Lage, Medford. It will be among nearly 300 boats shown Feb. 15-24 in the Portland Boat, Trailer and Sport show in Memorial Coliseum. Lage was in the money in 10 of 12 races, from Hattie, B.C., to Oakland, Calif., last season. He was injured in one race and his engine quit in the other.

## Nicklaus Subdues Player In Playoff

By HAL WOOD  
UPI Sports Writer

Palm Springs, Calif. — (UPI)—Jack Nicklaus and other members of golf's "big five" left the California gold rush today heading for Arizona in the hope of striking another bonanza.

The National Open king subdued Gary Player with such ease in the playoff for the Palm Springs Gold Classic championship Monday that he automatically takes on the mantle of favorite to win the Phoenix Open starting Thursday.

With five tournaments under their belts, the touring professionals have watched members of the "big five" win four of them. Arnold Palmer won at Los Angeles, Player at San Diego, Billy Casper the Crosby at Pebble Beach, and then Nicklaus here. The only title to escape them was the San Francisco Lucky International, won by veteran Jackie Burke.

The other member of the "big five," Gene Littler, hasn't won yet. But he finished off the Palm Springs event by shooting the lowest round of the tourney, a 64 — and appears ready to step into title competition in Arizona.

**Pocket The Purse**  
The five men, in addition to winning four or five titles, have captured \$54,023 of the \$210,000 in purses offered.

With nearly 100 pros on the winter tour, that leaves slim pickings for the rest of the crew.

Nicklaus, who at one time had decided to skip Palm Springs, because of bursitis in his hip, had been having a rough year for him on the tour before he hit the jackpot here.

He had blown a five stroke lead on Sunday during the fifth round of the tournament. He had been fading his tee shots so badly that he even asked advice from his wife — who doesn't play golf.

But when he got into the playoff Monday against Player, everything was precision. He birdied the first hole with a 10-foot putt and never looked back. He out-drove Player by as much as 50 yards on many holes.

**Just Coasts In**  
When Gary blew out of contention by taking a triple-bogey seven on the 12th hole

## Trout Fishing Opens Saturday

New regulations permitting year around trout fishing at Emigrant lake in Jackson county and Lake Selmac in Josephine county go into effect Saturday.

Ed Schwartz of the State Game commission at Grants Pass announced the date.

Bag limit will be the same as the regular summer bag limit, he said, 10 fish six inches in length or larger.

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## Lewis & Clark, Pacific Win

By United Press International

Classy Lewis and Clark and Pacific University completed an unusual six-game sweep on an eastern road trip in Northwest Conference basketball Monday night.

Lewis and Clark topped Whitman 71-51 at Walla Walla for its third-road-game victory and Pacific accomplished the same thing with a

58-51 decision over College of Idaho at Caldwell.

The Pioneers now lead the conference with a 7-1 record, while Pacific is close behind at 7-2. Jim Boutin led Lewis and Clark with 20 points.

Ken Alcorn led the Pacific attack with 23 points. Steve Vanocker had 15 for the Coyotes.

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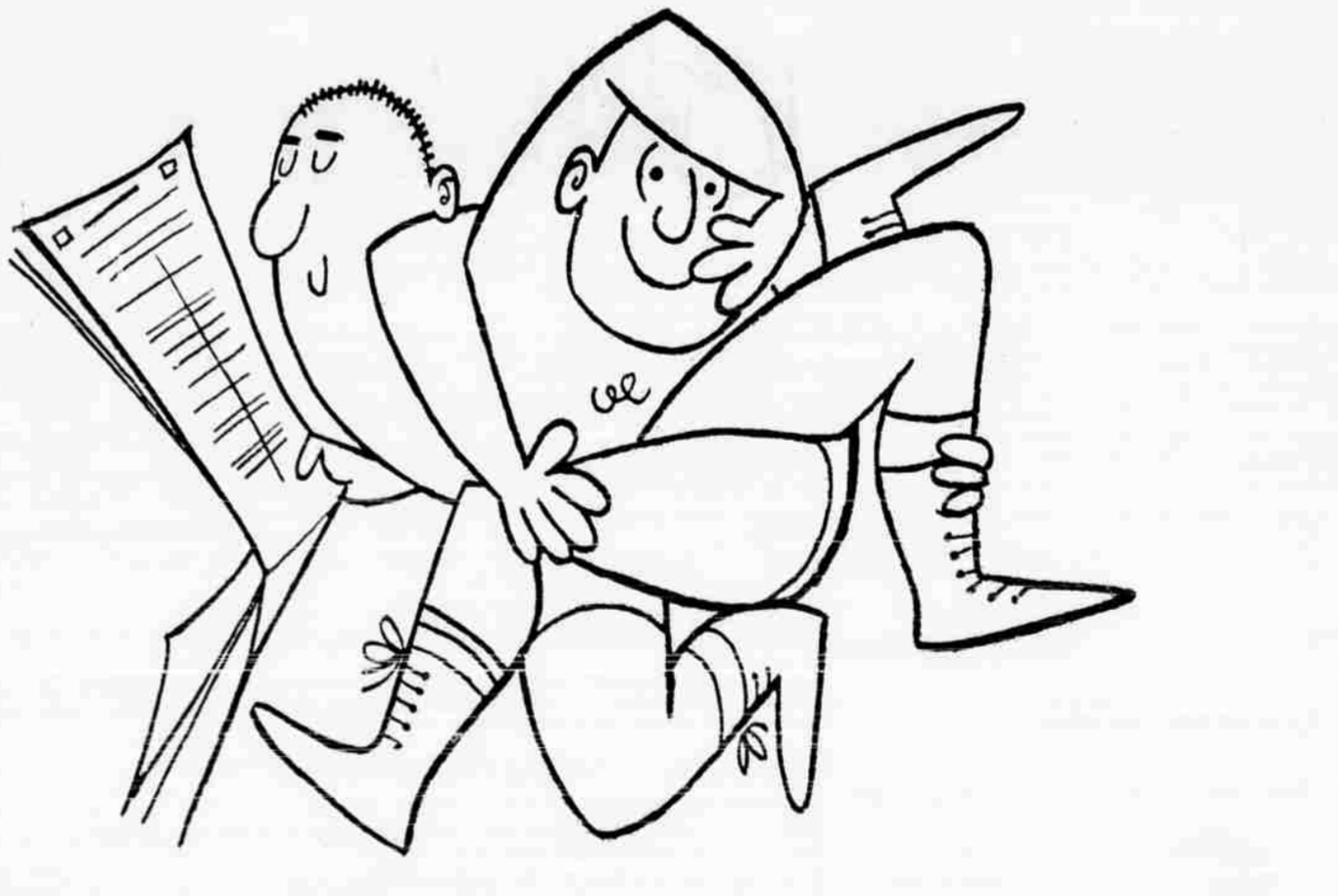
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