

Phoenix Engages Vale Saturday In A-2 Prep Gridiron Semifinal

PHOENIX — Two veteran schools in Oregon Class A-2 football playoff competition will be adversaries Saturday in the round of four in 1963 championship eliminations.

Phoenix High's Pirates, unbeaten in 10 games this fall, engage the Vale Vikings. The conflict of the two small A school powers will be on the Vale field. Kickoff will be at 12:30 p. m. (PST). Vale is in the Mountain time zone.

The Vikings are in the playoffs for the 11th time in the 12-year history of the A-2 titular contention. This, however, will be their first semifinal appearance in four seasons. Phoenix has reached the semis for the fifth successive year.

There are still seats available on the bus which is being chartered to take Phoenix High football fans to the A-2 state semifinal football game on Saturday. Persons interested are asked to telephone Phoenix High School (535-1442).

Cost of the round trip will be \$12.50 per person. Bus departure time has been moved up to 1 a. m. Saturday to allow for weather conditions and meal stops on the way. The game will be at 12:30 p. m. (PST).

Top-rated aggregations which specialize in single wing offense will be matched in the Saturday embroilment. Phoenix has ranked No. 1 in prep polls through the season. Vale stood second in the final tabulation of two polls. The Vikes are 9-1 for this year.

Second Meeting
Victor will advance to the championship finals next week against Portland's North Catholic or Stiuslaw. Those two clubs could also this Saturday afternoon.

Phoenix and Vale will engage in their second meeting in the semi-finals. They met last in 1959 with Vale winning 41-14. The Vikes return to the semis for the first time since that meeting.

Vale gained the quarterfinals by thumping Burns 46-0 in a Greater Oregon circuit playoff after a fine year in the Snake River Valley Conference of Idaho and Eastern Oregon schools. Only loss suffered by the Vikes this season was a narrow 7-6 to Ontario. Last week Vale tipped Woodburn 28-20 in a playoff starter.

The Pirates, only scored upon once this fall, claim the South Central Oregon mantle with a perfect 7-0 season in the Rogue League and triumph by 39-0 last week over Douglas of the Umpqua Valley loop.

The Vale-Woodburn playoff provides Phoenix with its only comparison with the Vikes. Woodburn defeated Serra Catholic 21-0 in the Capital Conference. Phoenix downed Serra also 21-0 in its season opener in September.

Offenses Differ
Vale and Phoenix single offenses differ in that the Vikes of Coach Arnold Lewis employ a balanced line and the Buccaneers of Coach Jack Woodward run unbalanced. Both clubs also have T formation plays. The Vikings reportedly have not used the T much since early season.

The pass is a spot weapon for both clubs which are essentially ground teams. Reports indicate that, if Vale runs into trouble on the ground, it will pass more and that it does have a fine aerial attack.

Passes and long runs, including those on kickoff and punt returns, have figured much in the Viking scoring. Main ball carriers for the Vikings have been Fullback Bill Ingram and Left Halfback Rod Chester, 160-pounders. Mel Hyland is a 180-wingback and is a great pass receiving threat.

Stats Point Up
Statistics point up the Phoenix offensive and defensive strength and its individual talents. The Pirates have rolled for 2,440 yards on the ground this fall and have picked up 556 yards passing for a net of 3,004 from scrimmage. They have held opponents to 1,306, 556 rushing and 751 passing. First down margin is 135 to 67 for the Bucs. Phoenix, with 54 touchdowns and 34 extras, has 358 points for the fall to one TD and no conversion by the opposition.

Coaches Guests Of Linebackers
All members of the Medford High School football coaching staff will be special guests on Friday at the regular noon luncheon of Medford Linebackers at North's Chuck Wagon.

Movies of the Roseburg-Medford High football team, including the controversial offense, on Medford's extra point try, will be shown.

PIONEERS EIGHTH
KANSAS CITY, Mo (UPI) — Lewis and Clark of Portland ranked in eighth place today in the weekly NIAA football poll.

Central Washington was ranked 10th and Linfield of Oregon 16th.
The leader was Northern Illinois.

SPORTS

MEDFORD, OREGON, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1963

Chances Good for Day To Make Olympic Team, Denver Instructor Says

"With your tremendous drive, energy and desire, I am sure you will have a very good chance to make the team if you do not miss any of the sections." That is a statement in a letter to John S. Day, Rogue valley rancher and outdoorsman, from Willy Schaeffer, University of Denver skiing coach and member of the Nordic sub-committee of the United States Olympic Committee.

Mitchell Challenges In Catches

NEW YORK (UPI) — Bobby Mitchell, the Washington Redskins' fleet flanker who won the National Football League passing catching championship last season, has moved into a challenging position behind front-running Bobby Joe Conrad of the St. Louis Cardinals.

While Conrad maintained the lead with 56 catches that have gained 692 yards, Mitchell moved up to second place with 46 catches that have covered a league high of 1,017 yards, according to statistics released today by the NFL.

Del Shofner of the New York Giants also has caught 48 passes for 857 yards. Terry Barr of the Detroit Lions, fifth among the pass-receivers, is tops in touchdown catches with 10.

There were two changes in this week's statistical leaders. Jimmy Brown of the Cleveland Browns regained the scoring lead from place kicker Jerry Kramer of the Green Bay Packers, and Roosevelt Taylor of the Chicago Bears moved ahead of Dick Lynch of the Giants in pass interceptions.

Overwhelming Margin
Jimmy Brown continued to enjoy an overwhelming lead in rushing; Y. A. Tittle of the Giants remained first in passing, and Yale Lary of the Detroit Lions stayed on top in punting.

Brown scored one touchdown in a losing game against St. Louis and regained the point-making lead with a total of 78. Kramer kicked only one conversion against the Bears and was second with 76 points, while Don Chandler of the Giants ranked third with 74.

Jimmy Brown boosted his rushing total to 1,447 yards and can break his 1958 one-season record of 1,527 by gaining 81 yards against the Dallas Cowboys Sunday.

Brown has a 748-yard lead over Jim Taylor of the Packers, is the workhorse of the league with 204 carries and his 7.1-yard average is tops among NFL ball-carriers.

Tittle leads the passers with 156 completions in 255 throws for a 61.2 percentage, 2,263 yards gained, 27 touchdowns and only four interceptions. Billy Wade of the Bears moved up to second place this week. Charley Johnson of the Cards boasts NFL highs of 172 completions and 2,496 yards gained but also leads in interceptions with 20.

Lary's first-place punting average is 48.9 yards for 35 kicks, compared to a 46.5-yard average on 53 punts by runnerup Tommy Davis of the San Francisco Forty Niners.

Brady Keys of the Pittsburgh Steelers continues to lead in punt returns with an average of 15.2 yards for 13 runbacks and Abe Woodson of the Forty Niners, who ran back a kickoff 99 yards against the Giants, widened his lead in that specialty with an average of 36.4 yards for 23.

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PIRATE GUARD — Ken Tykensen, above, a 160-pounder, is a guard for the Phoenix High School football team which plays at Vale Saturday afternoon in an A-2 state semifinal football game.

Clay Asks Transfer Of Physical

NEW YORK (UPI) — New York City's director of Selective Service said today that Cassius Clay's transfer of physical examination and reported shift of residence to New York need have no effect upon the date of his possible induction by Uncle Sam.

Old Pros Vie In AFL Tussle

HOUSTON (UPI) — Two former National Football League quarterbacks in their mid-30s will be out to prove it's an "old man's" game Sunday in American Football League clash between division leaders San Diego and Houston.

Tobin Rote, 35, and George Blanda, 38, will be guiding the Chargers and Oilers, respectively, in what could be a preview of this year's AFL championship game.

Tobin is having a great year in his first try at the AFL. San Diego Coach Sid Gillman calls him "as fine a quarterback as I've been associated with."

And that includes such signal callers as Norm Van Brocklin, Bob Waterfield, Jackie Kemp, Bill Wade and Frank Ryan.

As Good as Tittle
Gillman adds that he believes Rote is just as good as Y. A. Tittle of the Giants.

Most football fans thought Rote was through when he played out his option for Detroit in 1960. But Rote went on to play Canadian ball and then to the AFL. He led the Canadian loop in passing in 1960 and '61 and now leads the AFL in yards per pass and percentage.

Blanda is now in his 14th season as a pro. He came to the Oilers in 1960 after being the highest scoring player in Chicago Bear history. He holds many AFL records and is currently third in league passing.

Oregon Seeks First Win Over Staters Since 1958

EUGENE (UPI) — Oregon will be seeking its first victory over Oregon State since 1958 when the traditional rivals meet here Saturday in the final game of the season.

The Beavers won 20-17 last year, 6-2 in 1961 and 15-7 in 1959. The 1960 game ended in a 14-14 tie.

The Ducks have been made a 5-point favorite on the strength of a 6-3 season record and last weekend's come-from-behind 28-22 victory over Indiana.

Oregon State has a 5-4 record after losing by an identical 28-22 score to Southern California last Friday night.

BACK OF YEAR

TACOMA (UPI) — Whitworth's Charlie Reed has been selected football Back of the Year by the National Intercollegiate Athletic Association's Region One coaches.

At Corvallis, Beaver coach Tom Prothro has had guards around his practice field all week and won't discuss the physical condition of his squad.

The Beavers suffered several injuries in the Southern California game and guard Al Funston (ex-Medford High) will miss the Oregon encounter.

Murphy, the hero of the Indiana game. Murphy caught a Berry pass for the winning touchdown with 11 seconds to play.

Funston To Miss
The Webfoots continue to improve physically after taking a beating from Washington in mid-season. The only casualties of the Indiana game were guard Mark Richards, who sprained an ankle, and end and kicker Buck Corey, who has a bruised elbow to go with a bruised back he suffered earlier. Both may play Saturday, however.

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Vern Law Will Try Comeback

PITTSBURGH (UPI) — The comeback trail is a long and rugged one but Vernon Law of the Pittsburgh Pirates feels he can travel it without difficulty.

Law, 33, who was placed on the voluntary retired list Aug. 7 after pitching in 18 games for the Pirates, asked for and received permission from the National League club to report to spring training next March in Fort Myers, Fla.

If the righthander is successful in his comeback try, he will probably be used as a starter. Arm trouble sidelined him much of the 1961 and 1962 campaigns. He had his best year in 1960 when he won 20 games and lost nine during the regular campaign and then won two World Series games for the New York Yankees. For this he received the Cy Young Award.

Last season he sprained his ankle in spring training and spent the first month of the season with the Pirates' Kingston, N.C., farm club in an effort to work himself into condition in a warmer climate. He started 12 games and compiled a 4-5 record before going on the voluntarily retired list.

Ashland High Grizzlies Have 2 Lettermen Back

ASHLAND — Drills for the new basketball season at Ashland High School will gain intensity next week when Coach George Keil plans twice-per-day workouts.

Sessions will be in the afternoon and evening. Keil has only two lettermen from the 1962-63 squad. Two others now out made varsity appearances last season. The mentor describes his charges as an awfully young group with a good number of juniors.

"Whether our young kids will come along I don't know," he said. "If our juniors come along better than they showed last year, then we'll be okeh." Keil added.

Trout, Samuelson
The lettermen are Jeff Trout and Dean Samuelson. John Rhodes was with the varsity in pre-conference games last year. Joe Raynes was with the Grizzlies in the late season, transferring from California. Coaches have been working with some 36 boys. Work has been on defense. Offense was to be worked in at the end of this week. Then the two phases of the game are to be combined.

CELLAR-DWELLERS MEET
COOPERSTOWN, N. Y. (UPI) — The Washington Senators will play the New York Mets in the annual Hall of Fame baseball game here July 27, 1964. The game between the American and National League cellar-dwellers will help mark the 25th anniversary of the Hall of Fame.

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Kart Races On Sunday
Medford Kartways will hold races on Sunday, Nov. 24, with prizes offered as first place prizes instead of trophies. It is hoped to have racers from Yreka and Happy Camp, Calif., Eugene and Roseburg. Races start at noon. Shirley Raney and Dick Florey won 25-lap races on Veterans Day. Florey, who was home on leave from the Army, is now in Korea. Winners in other races were Skip Barker, Jerry Condry, Ted Kerwood and Jack Raney.

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