

Pelicans, Grizzlies Meet Tonight

PELICAN BILL

By Bill Cummings

KLAMATH CASABA BOSS FAVORS CENTER JUMP



While the national football rules committee goes into a huddle over the proper length of cleats on gridsters' footwear and a few of the other technical aspects of the game that need brushing up, the experts of collegiate America's No. 2 sport—basketball—are also busy figuring changes, but in the eyes of Dutch French, local hoop mentor, the cage sport needs only one revision.

Dutch is a devotee of the old school of thought when it comes to one wrinkle of the game of basketball. He likes the center jump, and would be perfectly satisfied if the national moguls who run such things would rule it back in.

"You get your prettiest plays off the center jump," says Dutch, "and it creates a break after every score that gives the boys a chance to get their breath."

Dutch admitted that the jump gives the advantage to the team that imports the tallest cagers, but he seemed to believe that's part of the game. Getting the tip-off, with the set plays and scoring advantages it offers, adds a lot from both the players' and spectators' standpoints, according to the Pelican chief.

Dutch has little use for any other changes. He insists that the backboard and basket are already in the right place, despite efforts of some experts to shift them around.

It would be interesting as an experiment to remove the backboard entirely, as some of the most daring rule-changers advocate, but such a change would necessitate a complete revision of the fundamentals of shooting.

Ashland's Grizzlies lost two games to Bend high's Lava Bears by as close a margin as ever is seen in the hoop sport. In the first clash the Lithia City quintet was nosed out 28-26 in an overtime period, but on the second night it took a fluke to beat Skete O'Connell's crew.

With seconds to go the Ashlanders took a look at the scoreboard. It showed 30 to 25, but the scorekeeper had made a mistake. The right score at that crucial point was 30 to 29. So when a Grizzly player was fouled, and handed one free throw, the captain elected to take the ball out—with instant left in the game—the hope of caging a field goal and tying the count. But the game ended 30-29.

Had the fouled Ashlander attempted his shot, the game might have been tied up and the Ashland team enabled to fight it out in an overtime.

One of the most interesting aspects of the Barna-Bellak table tennis exhibitions was

FAST CAGE TEAM HEADS FOR VICTORY OVER LOCALS

Skete O'Connell, Ashland basketball mentor, will bring a determined squad of veteran cagers to the Klamath high school gym at 8 o'clock tonight to give the Pelicans their first encounter in the Southern Oregon hoop conference.

After two photo-finish contests with Bend, in which the Ashlanders were edged out by two points in the first game and by one point in the second, the Grizzlies are pointing for a win over the Klamath team, and according to advance reports from across the mountain figure to give Medford a close run this year for their district title.

The Ashlanders are a rangy, fast aggregation, averaging around the six-foot mark.

The probable Ashland starters will be:

Bob Weaver and Ardis Warren, guards; Jim Smith, center; Charles Jandreau and Bud Provost, forwards.

Other members of the traveling squad will be Stan Davis, Phil Lindsay, Albert Newberry, Earl Warren, Dale Williams and Bob Dunn.

Jandreau is rated one of the best shots on the Ashland team, and Provost, a sophomore, is the top all-around player, being a good defensive man and valuable under the backboard. Smith, Weaver and Warren are fast ball handlers and good defensive players.

Coach Dutch French, after drilling his Pelicans on shooting all week, announced last night his team is able to hit the basket more regularly than during the recent coast barnstorm trip, and believes the Pelicans to be in shape to make it hot for the invaders.

French will start the following quintet:

Crane and Lowe, guards; Erlandson, center; Cooley and Love, forwards.

French announced an alternate team, which may take the floor early in the game if the starters fail to produce, as follows: Cody and Edittier, guards; Rush and Regiano, forwards; Lorenz, center; John Mathis and Arthur Martin, who also probably see action for the locals.

An exhibition by the Pep Pepers will be staged between the halves. Saturday night the Pelicans will meet Grants Pass and Rubenstein's Oregonians will meet the Klamath Basin All-Stars.

Barna's superior agility. He often stepped back as far as 15 feet from the table, where he returned Bellak's smoking drives, often with a remarkable backhand.

Barna's footwork was as much a part of the game as his wristwork. He was all over the floor, his opponent stood his ground close to the base line. The way Barna plays it, table tennis is nearly as demanding on the legs and all-around speed as the outdoor sport.

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The Rubenstein Oregonians, highly-rated Eugene independents, will appear for the second time at Klamath Falls when they meet the Klamath Basin All-Stars Saturday night at the high school gym in a game following the Pelican-Grants Pass contest. They are, left to right, front row: Wally Johansen, Dick Wright, Bobby Anet; back row: Laddie Gale, Ford Danner, Gordon Wright, Dave Silver, Jack Butterworth, another squad member, was absent when the picture was taken.

GRID GAME SPEEDIED BY RULES GROUP

PALM SPRINGS, Calif., Jan. 5 (UP)—The national football rules committee voted Thursday to liberalize forward passing rules, fix shoe cleat specifications for safety and speed up the game by reducing the time allowed for putting the ball into play from 30 to 25 seconds.

The rules committee adjourned a three-day meeting with an announcement of changes in game regulations.

"The major change was to reduce still further the penalty when a forward pass touches or is touched by an ineligible player who is behind his line of scrimmage," the committee said.

"In the future this penalty will be merely the loss of a down. This change was made to encourage a more liberal point of short forward passes behind the line of scrimmage. However, if the passer, after he has faked back and been trapped, intentionally throws the ball into an ineligible player who is on or behind the line of scrimmage in order to save yardage, the penalty will be the same as for an intentionally grounded pass, namely, fifteen yards and the loss of a down."

The same penalty, it was explained, will be enforced when an ineligible player beyond the scrimmage line touches or is touched by a forward pass.

Placing the ball in play five seconds earlier was advocated to make the game go faster.

"In the case of a free ball kicked, or kicked at," the committee said, "the responsibility for determining whether the kicking was intentional was again placed on the officials."

Penalty for roughing a passer will in the future be enforced from the place of the previous down. In the past, when a pass was completed or intercepted the penalty was enforced from the point of the foul, making it necessary for the offended team to refuse the penalty at times, it was said.

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Axe Out for Basin League's Top Fives

BASIN STANDINGS	W	L	Pct.
Weyerhaeuser	2	0	1.000
First National	2	0	1.000
Glengier's	2	0	1.000
Molatore's	1	1	.500
Safeway	1	1	.500
K. of C.	0	2	.000
Lost River	0	2	.000
Webb Kennett	0	2	.000

and lost one contest, and each defeated Lost River and lost to Weyerhaeuser. The Cafemen, however, made the best showing of the two clubs, and will be favored to take the Grocers into camp. Coach Tom Pante of Molatore's will depend on the Alelio brothers, Lou and Jim, and Bill McDonald for his scoring punch. The Safeways will rely on Bud Gray and Bud Fisher.

Final clash of the night will see two cellar teams, Knights of Columbus and Webb Kennett, do battle in an affair that the Knights should win handily. The Kennetts have been unimpressive in two starts while the KC contingent has lost two close ones to top ranking teams, First National and Glengier's Grocery.

Michaelson and Sanders, two of the league's highest scorers, give the Knights a strong attack that should net them several victories before the season is over.

Schedule of games for the next two weeks follows:

Thursday, January 11—First National vs. Molatore's; Safeway vs. Glengier's.

Friday, January 12—Lost River Friday's opener. Both have won vs. Webb Kennett; Weyerhaeuser vs. Knights of Columbus.

Thursday, January 18—First National vs. Safeway; Weyerhaeuser vs. Glengier's.

Friday, January 19—Molatore's vs. Webb Kennett; Lost River vs. Knights of Columbus.

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Rubes Defeat Oregon Quint

EUGENE, Jan. 5 (UP)—A lusterous and ragged University of Oregon basketball team dropped a 48-36 decision to Rubenstein's Oregonians, local independent squad, here last night in the Web-foot's final practice contest of the season.

It was the All-Star's first victory in three starts against the university basketballers.

Sparkplug of the winners' offense was Laddie Gale, all-American forward of last year's Web-foot quintet, who scored 14 points, 13 of them in the first half. Red McNeely led the university scoring with 12. Wally Johansen, also a member of the Webfoot team last season, tallied 11 for the winners.

Coach Howard Hobson's university hoppers repeatedly missed easy shots and the play at the backboard was decidedly inferior to that of their opponents.

The All-Stars took the lead midway in the first half and were never headed. Score at the intermission was 33 to 24.

National vs. Safeway; Weyerhaeuser vs. Glengier's.

Friday, January 19—Molatore's vs. Webb Kennett; Lost River vs. Knights of Columbus.

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Barna Posts Win Over Paddle Mate

In the feature match of the Barna-Bellak table tennis exhibition last night at the armory, Barna trounced his traveling partner, Lasso Bellak, in four games, 25-23, 21-18, 11-21, 21-17.

Barna, playing a calm defensive game, took advantage of Bellak's errors to click off the win. Bellak was continually on the offensive but netted time and again or was passed by a lightning thrust of his opponent's darting backhand.

Overshadowing the perfection of their play, in the crowd's estimation, was the pair's act of trick shots. Putting three balls in play, hitting the pellet with their feet, and blowing the ball across the net were included in the display.

In the preliminary elimination matches between the top four local paddlers, Frank Michaelson survived as night's champion. Michaelson, playing a slugging, smashing game, drove out a win over Charles Reister, city titleholder, by the count of 21-17, 21-14, 21-17, while Millard Pedigo stormed Wilber Petty's chopping defense for a 21-19, 21-16, 21-10 victory.

Pedigo continued his driving pace in his match with Michaelson, but grew erratic and fell before the more heady battle put up by the latter. Scores were 21-18, 21-17, 20-22 and 21-18.

In what was billed as a match but turned into a rout, Viktor Barna toyed with Pedigo to capture the first game 21-2 and then eased up to collect a 21-15 edge in the second fracas and settle the issue.

Bellak matched his left-handed slants with Michaelson's drive in the other bout of the evening and paddled the lean red-head with a 21-8, 23-21 lacing.

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