

Reveals Criticism Sports at Minimum

Demand Made by Public, Military Continuation of Wartime Sports

BY TED MEIER
NEW YORK, Dec. 23 (AP)—A minimum of wartime sports during the annual year-end poll of Associated Press directors of the 80-odd editors from every section of the country, participants stressed the demand by the public and armed forces for the continuation of sports in contrast to a year ago when rumors were rife sports might be stopped for the duration.

The resultant jump in attendance at race tracks (more than a billion dollars) indicated to many of the experts the huge size of the expected postwar sports boom.

"The principal effect (of 1944 on sports) was the passing of the crises," Hal Cressman, of the Norrisstown, Pa., Times-Herald, said in summing up. "This time last year everyone, including the major leagues, was concerned whether or not the sports show would go on for the duration."

"There was talk about the big leagues folding up by July 4. Now, I believe, there is little doubt that sports will be continued and survive through the world's conflict. Chief reason for this is that fact that 12,000,000 are now in service and while the demand for manpower in industry and the armed forces is still grave, enough men are being discharged from the services to take up the slack and assure continuance of the program."

Francis J. Powers of the Chicago Daily News asserted, "America is more sports-minded than ever, as a result of war, with physical fitness through competition urged as the base of future universal training."

The army joined the navy in appreciation of competitive sports as evidenced by the army's numerous air force football teams. Al Ney of the Dubuque, Iowa, Telegraph-Herald pointed out, too, that the services are using sports to condition soldiers for combat duty as well as rehabilitate the wounded and mentally sick after battle.

Secondary effects of the war was the lowering of the quality of competition in all sports as most of the youngsters were called into service and the rush to organize new professional football leagues.

WEST COAST TOO HOT, SAYS BALL PLAYER
ATLANTA, Dec. 23 (AP)—Jo Jo White, Cincinnati Reds' outfielder sold to Sacramento of the Pacific Coast league, says he may forgo play next year to continue work with a Detroit company.

White, here on a visit, said "I don't think I fancy playing out there (west coast). It's too hot." Now 36, he once played with Seattle for several years.

Long May It Wave



Connie Mack Wants Just One More Pennant

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 23 (AP)—Connie Mack is 82 today and his one great ambition is to win one more pennant with his Philadelphia Athletics, "maybe in 1945."

It is the first time in 44 years that the veteran baseball manager has been absent from Philadelphia on his birthday. He wired his greetings to fans there:

"Your splendid support makes me all the more determined to give you a team you will be proud of. I am in hopes this can be accomplished in the near future."

Mr. and Mrs. Mack planned a quiet day at the hotel here where they are spending the winter. He will meet with his family and southern California friends in a Christmas Eve party tomorrow night.

FIGHTS LAST NIGHT
By The Associated Press
NEW YORK—Harold Green, 149, Brooklyn, outpointed Rocky Graziano, 154, New York, 10.
BOSTON—Ray "Sugar" Robinson, 148, New York, TKO George Martin, 153, Boston, 7.

Gorgeous George Wallops Piluso in Headline Event

Gorgeous George Wagner, the self-styled "toast of the coast," suffered indignities from burly Ernie Piluso last night at the Klamath bleep bin, but managed to take the necessary two out of three falls to win the main event on the crunch card to the enragement of the fans.

Gorgeous, gaudily attired in an American beauty colored robe with light green lining, nearly blinded the cash customers with his sartorial splendor before the clamor even started. As the two gladiators parted in the middle of the ring to go to their corners after having received instructions from Referee Wally Moss, Ernie daintily offered the body beautiful what is commonly known as a "fish" instead of the firm, manly handclasp George desired. This enraged the dapper dandy no end and he came storming out of his corner with blood in his eye.

After two rounds had been completed without a tumble, Ernie grabbed the first flop with a somersault followed by a body press. Wagner proceeded to make use of the rough stuff in the next round by hooking Piluso's leg over the ropes and sawing back and forth gleefully. Referee Wally Moss finally broke it up, but Gorgeous was not to be denied and pounced on Ernie to take the fall with a step-over toe hold.

With the count a flop apiece, Ernie pasted the "toast of the coast" all over the ring and ultimately through the ropes to the chagrin of Gorgeous. Ernie seized his chance to take the final frame and match with another toe hold.

Ernie wanted to continue the affair with a good old fres-for-all, but George wouldn't play and left the ring with the loud demand for local gendarmes to "Clear the track for the great Wagner!"

In the semi-windup Gloomy Gust Johnson put the skids to "Blood and Guts" Davidson, but just after Dave had made a sucker of his dead-pat opponent throughout most of the scuffle.

No fall was gained in the first two cantos, but Gust applied a surfboard to Davidson in the third set-to, to win the round and the match when "Blood and Guts" was unable to answer the bell. Johnson displayed fine sportsmanship by assisting Dave to gain his bearings and the two boys parted bosom buddies.

Bulldog Jackson and Tony Ross butted biceps to a draw in the opener to the old refrain of "The Waltz You Saved For Me."

Government Asks All Race Tracks To Close Down

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23 (AP)—The government today asked all horse racing tracks in the country to shut down.

Acting with presidential approval, War Mobilization Director James F. Byrnes urged the track establishments to close their establishments by January 3, 1945.

Winter meets are now in progress at tracks in Florida, California, West Virginia and Louisiana.

HOLLYWOOD, Calif.—Tony Olivera, 121, Oakland, outpointed Luis Castillo, 118, Mexico City, 10.

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Vol Flanker Definitely Out of Game

PASADENA, Calif., Dec. 23 (AP)—One of the 38 Tennessee Volunteers who made the trip for the Rose Bowl game against Southern California will not be in the lineup and another is a question mark, says Coach John Barnhill.

Seventeen-year-old Ray Schlieden, 195-pound freshman end from Pittsburgh, Penn., is definitely out because of severe leg bruises in the game against Kentucky. Another end, Roy Cross, is a doubtful starter because of a broken arm suffered in the scoreless contest with Alabama.

However, Barnhill says Joe Steffy, reserve guard and an excellent place kicker, has recovered from an attack of glandular fever and will be ready to boot a few on New Year's Day.

Barnhill is drilling his ends and backs in all kinds of aerial defenses in preparation for the wanted Trojan passing attack. The Vols will lay off tomorrow and resume practice Christmas Day.

Chicago Swatter Home Run Leader For Second Year

NEW YORK, Dec. 23 (AP)—Bill Nicholson of the Chicago Cubs was just about the most feared man at the plate in the National league last summer and official figures released today tell the reason why.

Although Stan Musial of the Cardinals won his second straight slugging title, figured on the ratio of total bases to at bats, Nicholson was only four points behind at 545. The club swatter gained the added distinction of becoming the first senior circuit player to be RBI and home run leader for two years in succession.

Nicholson, a 30-year-old cloutier from Chestertown, Md., drove home 122 runs and hit 33 homers. Although Augie Galan of the Dodgers drew the most bases on balls, 101, Big Nic was up there close with 92. He bounced into only three double plays, a department led by Ernie Lombardi of the Giants with 23.

10 OSC Shrine Bowl Gridders On Active Duty

CORVALLIS, Dec. 23 (AP)—Of the 18 Oregon State college football players who played in the East-West Shrine game in San Francisco, 10 are in active service in World War II, according to records compiled here at the request of the Shrine committee. The service men are to be honored at this year's game.

The only casualty in the group so far is that Jim Kisselburgh, all-Coast fullback of a few years ago and later an army flier, is now a prisoner of war in Germany.

Huskies Down Ducks, OSC In Cage Bee

By The Associated Press
The first half of the annual Astoria, Ore., northern division basketball jamboree was history today. And if, as the axiom goes, history repeats itself, the University of Washington Huskies will once again rule the collegiate hoopsters in 1944-45.

The Huskies turned in a double win in the one-half games, downing Oregon 31-18 and Oregon State 20-17. Washington State likewise downed the favored OSC quintet by an overwhelming 32-14 score, but lost to Oregon 26-21.

Jorgenson, guard, paced the Washington five with a cumulative 18-point score. Hays and Bartel topped Oregon with nine each. Hansen's 24 were tops for the Cougars, and Bertie led the Beavers with eight.

The same bill will be replayed tonight.

In other games, the University of Oregon medical school plastered another defeat on Willamette university 54-22 with Jim Zimmerman counting 23 points. Fort George Wright hung a slim 43-41 licking on Walla Walla army air base.

Cavemen Rack Up Second Cage Win Over Roseburg

ROSEBURG, Ore., Dec. 23 (AP)—Turning on the heat in the final minutes of the fourth quarter, Grants Pass ran up a 28 to 20 score to beat the Roseburg Indians for the second successive night in a basketball tilt here last night. The battle was close throughout the first three periods, Roseburg leading by only two points at the half and Grants Pass having a one-point margin, 19 to 18, as the game entered the final frame. But the Indians' defense collapsed as the Cavemen speeded their attack in the closing minutes and piled up a safe margin.

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BASKETBALL Results

- By The Associated Press
OREGON PREP
Salem 35, Redmond 22.
University high (Eugene) 47, Albany 30.
Junction City 24, Corvallis 16.
Oregon City 34, Vancouver (Wash.) 30.
Medford 38, North Bend 35.
Grants Pass 26, Roseburg 20.
Milwaukie 32, Gresham 30.
Goldendale (Wash.) 28, Hood River 23.
Eugene 42, Bend 22.
St. Mary's (Eugene) 31, Oakridge 21.
Ft. George Wright 43, Walla Walla Army Air Base 41.
University of Oregon Medical School 54, Willamette 22.
ASTORIA JAMBOREE
Washington 31, Oregon 18.
Washington State 32, Oregon State 14.
Washington 20, Oregon State 17.
Oregon 26, Washington State 21.
SAN FRANCISCO—Charley Catos, 159, Oakland, Calif., outpointed Leroy Wade, 161, San Francisco, 10.



By Leslie Turner



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