

K-Men Meet Undefeated Medford Over Weekend

Pelicans Primed to Upset Powerful Black Tornado In Two-Game Series

By PAUL HAINES
A squad of 11 Klamath Pelican cagers will leave tomorrow noon for Medford where they will take on the rampaging Black Tornado of Medford in a two-game return series, Friday and Saturday nights.

Coach Marble Cook is planning to carry his full squad, including Jim Palmer, Larry White, Jerry Thorne, Jim Norbeck, Bud Biehn, Joe Zarosinski, Bus Bussman, Dean Mason, Don Noel, Bob Redkey and Bill Alexander. The boys have looked

good in practice all week and are set to offer the Medford five stiffer competition than it has been up against in its last few games.

Cook will use a straight man-for-man defense against the rangy Medford lads with the usual fast break offense. In their two games here earlier in the season, the Tornado used a loose man-for-man combined with a shifting zone that the Pelicans were totally unable to solve. This week Cook has been drilling the K-men in ball handling and accurate passing in an effort to make up for the height domination of their rivals.

The addition of Thorne will aid the Pelicans' cause, as he is just about the only man on the Klamath five tall enough to work under the backboard on rebounds. In their previous clash here, Medford captured nine rebounds out of 10, and if there is one thing sure, it is that a team cannot score unless it has the ball.

In these important frays with the undefeated Tornado, Cook will start his usual five, consisting of Palmer and White at the forward berths, Thorne at the keyhole slot, and Norbeck and Biehn at the backcourt positions. The Pelicans have plenty of spirit and are grimly determined to give the Medford lads a run for their money. The Black Tornado is, of course, favored to cop the bunting on their perfect record alone, but the scrappy Klamath Pelicans are not beyond upsetting the old apparant and providing the major cage upset of the year.



From MIDFIELD

By PAUL HAINES

WHY CHANGE?

We can see no real point in the rule changes proposed for basketball by Howard Hobson, Oregon coach, and Julian Rice, New York cage fan. The suggestion calls for a different method of scoring with field goals scored from beyond a 21-foot arc counting three points and the scoring system adopted, games would run as high as 150 to 200 points scored.

Basketball has been getting along fine for a good many years as it is and we honestly can see no point in making renovations in the game. The idea of the whole thing, as we see it, is to eliminate the great advantage enjoyed by exceptionally tall teams.

As Whitney Martin stated recently, if they want to figuratively saw the tall guys off to eliminate their height advantage, the simplest method would be to raise the baskets to 12 feet, as suggested by Phog Allen, University of Kansas coach.

This, to us, seems far more sensible and would not make a glorified dart game out of basketball with points awarded from where the shot is fired. When you start making the point value in proportion to the difficulty or easiness of the shot, you might as well mark the floor off in squares like a checkerboard, with shots from king's row counting one point and the value of the points increasing with every outward square.

No, we think Hobson had a slight brainstorm on this or dreamed it up in a nightmare resembling Dante's Inferno!

Jug McSpaden Will Try to Beat Jinx In New Orleans Open

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 8 (AP)—In the 1945 journey starting here tomorrow golfer Harold (Jug) McSpaden is again going to try to beat the jinx that has always kept him from winning the New Orleans Open.

McSpaden has been right on the heels of the winner four times since the tournament began in 1938. His toughest blow came in 1940 when Jimmy Demaret beat him by one stroke after two of Jug's tee shots on the 17th went into a lagoon.

Our Boarding House



Jimmy Foxx May Attempt Comeback

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 8 (AP)—Jimmy Foxx, one of the greatest home run hitters of all time, plans a serious comeback effort this year—at the age of 37.

And it may be with the National league Phillies. Within 10 pounds of his best playing weight and imbued with the same enthusiasm he had 20 years ago when he first reported to the Athletics, Foxx stopped off at the Phillies' office yesterday and asked General Manager Herb Pennock whether he'd be interested in him as a good first or third baseman.

They had a long conference, behind locked doors. When it ended, Pennock refused to comment, but Foxx said he wanted a last crack at the majors and declared himself confident that he would be about as good as ever.

"I'm not through," he said. Foxx, with two broken ribs and a torn back muscle suffered in a batting practice accident, was shifted from Boston to the Chicago Cubs to bat only .200 last year. He sat on the bench half the season, then was sent out to manage a Piedmont league club. The Cubs listed him as a coach and scout this year, then released him when he said he wanted to play again.

"My legs are as good as ever now," Foxx said here, "and my ribs and back are completely healed. They have been the reasons why I couldn't swing a bat freely and why many thought I was through."

"When I joined the Cubs, I told Jimmy Wilson I wouldn't be able to help him because of the accident, but we got short-handed and he had to stick me in. I'm really ready only now." The present-day "softball" nitcher, he said, should be just his speed.

CAGE TEAM HELPS VETS

PHOENIXVILLE, Pa., Feb. 8 (AP)—The "biggest morale factor" at the army's huge Valley Forge General hospital for wounded veterans is its top-flight basketball team, a consistent winner, staff physicians agree. Their comments were reported by Forge, hospital publication.

With Major Hoopls



"Grey Mask" Pours It On



Mr. Stoneface is shown above taking a fall from Tough Tony Ross with a half-crab in their great bout last week at the Klamath bicep bin. Tony came back to take a fall and the match was declared a draw. This Friday, Promoter Mack Lillard has rematched these two musclemen by popular demand in the main event. Pete Belcastro will crunch craniums with Joltin' Jack Kiser in the semi-windup and "Blood and Guts" Davidson will twist torsos with "Silent" Rattan, deaf mute grappler, in the curtain-raiser.

Opinion Split on Success Of New Basketball Rules

By JACK HAND
NEW YORK, Feb. 8 (AP)—Opinion was divided today on the success of the experimental basketball game played last night between Columbia and Fordham and in which the value of field and foul goals increased with the distance of the shot.

Oddly enough, Columbia which won the game under the new rules, 73-58, also would have won under the standard regulations by 15 points, 59-44. The effect of the experiment was to add 14 points to the score of each team.

Coach Elmer Ripley of the Lions wasn't too enthusiastic, "the rules were all right," he said. "But give me the old game. Nat Holman, City college mentor, followed the same reasoning but admitted he was "glad to see the defense loosened up a bit."

Ned Irish, acting president of Madison Square Garden, saw possibilities in widening the foul lane from six to 12 feet thus

Shaw Declines Job as UCLA Football Coach

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 8 (AP)—UCLA is still seeking a football coach — but Lawrence (Buck) Shaw has been eliminated from the field.

The former Santa Clara university mentor declined the job yesterday in a message to UCLA Graduate Manager William C. Ackerman. Shaw said business commitments prevented him from considering the post. Shaw had been considered one of the favorites for the job vacated by the resignation of Babe Horrell. Ray Richards, UCLA line coach, and Bert Labrucherie, Los Angeles high school coach, are now rated the leading contenders.

Three World Series Raise Over Million Dollars For Relief

CHICAGO, Feb. 8 (AP)—The last three world series have raised \$1,062,918 of the \$2,630,460 contributed to war relief by baseball's Major leagues in three wartime seasons, Earl Hilligan, of the American League Service bureau, disclosed yesterday.

Last season the All-Star game in Pittsburgh yielded \$81,275 to the fund for supplying service teams with baseball equipment to which was added \$25,000 from the two leagues and the commissioner's office and the \$25,000 radio fee.

In the three-year span, Hilligan said, the American league raised \$595,384 while the National league contributed \$565,784.

Out Our Way



Baseball Needs Czar, Says Connie

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 8 (AP)—The 82-year-old boss of the Philadelphia Athletics, Connie Mack, is regarded as a conservative member of the old school of baseball, but he believes the advent into the American league of the flamboyant Larry MacPhail is a stroke of good luck.

MacPhail, says Connie, is going to keep the rest of the league on its toes. "I'm a great admirer of Col. MacPhail," the veteran tactician said during a fanning bee with a group of baseball men. "He did a great job at Cincinnati and at Brooklyn. I'm glad to see him in with the Yankees. He can keep interest in baseball at white hot pitch. He really put night baseball across. He has brains, pep and color, and so do his teams."

Connie said he was sorry to see his old friend, Ed Barrow, step aside in the Yankee organization.

Mack said he is completely in accord with the major leagues' decision to retain the commissioner system. "By all means, baseball needs a commissioner—and one with plenty of power, too," Connie elaborated. "But I don't think we should be in too much of a hurry to pick him. There are any number of men, both in and out of baseball, well fitted for the position, but if we take our time we should find just the right man."

He declined to mention any names, however, as possible candidates. "The fanning bee got around to the annual question of when Mack was going to retire."

"Why should I?" he asked. "I'm looking forward to baseball after the war. We'll all have good players then and revived interest in the game. Then too, it has been a long time since we won a pennant in Philadelphia. Maybe it'll be our turn pretty soon, and I shouldn't want to miss that."

Service Boxing Bouts Scheduled At Sand Point

SEATTLE, Feb. 8 (AP)—Northwest service boxing matches are scheduled at Sand Point naval station Friday and Saturday, with title winners becoming eligible to compete in the Golden Gloves tourney here February 27-28.

Dominion elimination bouts for entrance in the Golden Gloves event will be held in Vancouver, February 16-17. The little fellows are looked to provide the fastest action in the service show at Sand Point.

In the featherweight match, Harvey Wicker of Fort Lewis, who kayoed Bobby Parker of Vancouver Monday, will meet Benny Jerome of the Pasco naval air station. Jerome is a former professional.

Other top-interest performers will include Don Sauer, lightweight, Seattle naval hospital; former Diamond belt and Golden Gloves boxer from Boston, and Elroy Malanado, Bremerton station bantamweight.

Singing Vaultor Too Busy to Compete

COLUMBUS, O.—This is to notify officials of the Millrose Games that Johnny Schmidt will be unable to accept their invitation. Schmidt, the nation's No. 1 collegiate pole vaultor, on the night of Feb. 3, when the meet is booked for Madison Square Garden, will be playing the lead in the opera, "The Red Mill," to be given by a group of Columbus amateurs. In addition to being a pole vaultor and captain of the Ohio State track team, a baritone, an accomplished pianist and master of ceremonies, the 133-pound Schmidt is the news announcer over the university's radio station. He has a medical discharge from the armed forces, in which he spent a year. Asked what he does in his spare time, he replies: "I love to sleep."

No Protracted Slumps

ST. LOUIS — The Cardinals haven't lost six consecutive games since 1940. When they dropped five in a row to the Pirates last September it was their longest slump since 1941.

By J. R. Williams

On Points



Sgt. Tom Clement, of Saranac, N. Y., in charge of Ski Lodge at Lake Placid Club, where U. S. Army ground and service troops are sent for recreation before redistribution, is shown about to execute a tip-turn on skis. Clement was with U. S. A. Ski Troops for two years.

Whitman Hoopsters Have Strenuous Day

MISSOULA, Mont., Feb. 8 (AP)—Basketball out west is coming double dipped these days. Whitman college's basketball team is manned by sailors, and navy regulations don't permit athletic teams to stay away for more than 48 hours. So Whitman did two days' work in one day. It walloped Montana State 71-51 in an afternoon game, then came back and dropped a 42-39 night contest.

EAGLES RAP MONARCHS

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 8 (AP)—After a tight (1-1) first period, the Portland Eagles, leaders of the Pacific Coast Ice Hockey league's northwestern division, swarmed all over the Los Angeles Monarchs to win an easy 8-2 exhibition victory last night.

ORTIZ IN BIG FIGHT

CAMP ROBERTS, Calif., Feb. 8 (AP)—Manuel V. Ortiz, 29, world's champion bantamweight boxer from El Centro, Calif., arrived here today for training as an infantryman.

Flaherty, a Gonzaga graduate and former New York Giants football star, coached the Washington Redskins to two championships before joining the navy to help train men for the fleet.

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Sports Briefs



By HUGH FULLERTON, JR.

NEW YORK, Feb. 8 (AP)—If the National Football league wants to get rid of a few weak clubs, Chick Meehan would be glad to have them. . . . Apparently shut out of Yankee stadium with his Trans-America league, Chick has been looking for new fields and listening to two questions: (1) That there still is room for another major grid league and (2) That the 11-club National league is unwieldy. . . . A solution would be for the National to whittle itself down to eight clubs and give the overflow to Meehan to combine with his best five. . . . That would virtually shut out all other rivals, enable each circuit to pay a home-and-home schedule with a real "world series" at the end and make for more profitable exhibitions. . . . "If the National league wants to appoint a committee to stabilize pro football, I'll talk it over and take any clubs they name," says Chick. "But that solution is just too sensible to be considered."

ONE MINUTE SPORTS PAGE

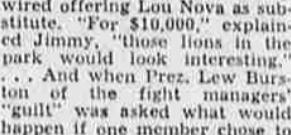
Sid Mercher, dean of the New York baseball writing clan, is dangerously ill. . . . Sign of spring: The national baseball congress reports the organization of a six-club sandlot league around Stockton, Calif., and that an Indiantown Gap, Pa., soldier team already has filed its entry for the state tourney next July. . . . When Jimmy Johnston read Promoter Bebe McCoy's threat to sue Leo Oma—"for breach of promise, or something"—if Lee pulls out of a California bout with Fitz Fitzpatrick Jimmy wired offering Lou Nova as substitute. "For \$10,000," explained Jimmy, "those lions in the park would look interesting. . . . And when Prez Lew Burston of the fight managers "guilt" was asked what would happen if one member chose to disregard the wishes of the ma-

FIGHTS LAST NIGHT

By The Associated Press
ELIZABETH, N. J.—Al Mobley, 139, Newark, knocked out Clarence King, 140, Waterbury, Conn. (1).
OAKLAND, Calif.—Ray 138, Berkeley, Calif., Mike Gamere, 139, Chicago (4); William Tierney, 160, Oakland, outpointed Speedy non, 139, Seattle (4).

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