

Army Captures 'Team Of Year' Poll; Detroit Tigers Next But Far Back

No West Coast Teams Mentioned For First Ten; Cleveland Rams Run Third

By MURRAY ROSE

NEW YORK, Dec. 19 (AP)—It will come as no surprise to the nine teams that got in the way of the army steamroller that the mighty West Point football combination has been named the outstanding sports team of the year.

The big, speedy, invincible cadets from the banks of the Hudson won the annual Associated Press poll in about the same manner in which they flattened their opponents.

Of the 76 votes cast by the nation's sports experts, 71 of 76 first place nominations were awarded to Army, most of them with comments like "in a class by itself," "out of this world," and other superlatives used time and again during the late grid campaign. In the other five cases the national collegiate football kingpins drew second place ballots. All told the Cadets piled up a total of 223 points on a basis of three for first, two for second and one for third.

The 1944 Army eleven won last year's team of the year honors but not by so wide a margin as the current edition although both squads swept all nine games. Last year Earl Blaik's men captured 57 of the 104 first place votes.

The Detroit Tigers took second place in the voting, receiving one top nomination but plenty of seconds and thirds to accumulate 66 points. The world series winners finished 27 points ahead of another championship football aggregation—the Cleveland Rams of the National Football League. The Rams scored 39 points but attracted two first place votes.

Of the other first place votes, Alabama's Rose Bowl football team and the Fort Wayne (Ind.) Zollner Pistons, a crack pro basketball outfit, each received one. The Pistons finished in a tie for sixth while Alabama wound up tied for eighth.

The Oklahoma A. and M. basketball team, which won the national collegiate title, annexed fourth place with 16 points and Indiana's Big Ten football champions took fifth with 13.

Football also figured in the biggest sports surprise of the year poll, the experts voting the Great Lakes 39-7 defeat of Notre Dame as the top eyebrow lifter.

FIGHTS LAST NIGHT

By The Associated Press
NEW YORK — Jerry Florelo, 161, Brooklyn, outpointed Bobby Berger, 152, Chicago (8); Joe Torres, 141, Puerto Rico, outpointed Maurice Lavigne, 146, Montreal.

JERSEY CITY—Danny Martin, 152, Newark, outpointed Sal Ritchie, 151, New York (10); Patsy Brandino, 134, Montreal, knocked out Johnny Douglas, 139, New York (1).

Basin League Cagers To Meet

Basketball players and prospective sponsors of teams will meet Thursday at 7:30 p. m. in the city council chambers to discuss the formation of a basketball league for out-of-school cagers, E. E. Hambrick, city recreation director, announces.

All players are urged to attend this meeting. Hambrick said in order to find out how many young men would like to engage in league play this winter.

OSC Trowned By Fee's Basketeers

CORVALLIS, Dec. 19 (AP)—On the eve of Oregon State basketball team's departure for Chicago to play in the DePaul tourney, they were beaten last night by Fee's Rollerdomers' 60-46.

The 'Dromers started slowly then strengthened for a six-minute scoring spree that stretched their lead to 18-8. Warren Perkins, high man for the night with 24 points, and O'Connell led the pack and at the end of the first half it was Fee's 35, OSC 19—a 16 points margin.

Fee's were never seriously threatened after that.

Basketball Scores

By The Associated Press
Commerce 33, Washington 35
Roosevelt 42, Lincoln 23
Sabin 30, Benson 31
Franklin 28, Jefferson 47
Molala 42, Canby 12
Gresham 56, Corbett 17
University (Eugene) 37, Lebanon 31
Cottage Grove 27, Pleasant Hill 26
Eugene 34, Salem 28
Myrtle Point 38, Roseburg 25

Seattle Drops Into Tie For Hockey Cellar

VANCOUVER, B. C., Dec. 19 (AP)—Those dead-end Seattle Ironmen took another beating from the Vancouver Canucks last night, when they snagged the short end of an 8-5 score in a Pacific Coast Hockey league game here.

The game put Seattle into a two-way tie for the basement location with the Portland Eagles and boosted the Canucks' victories to six straight on their home ice, which nicely strengthens their lead in the northern division of the coast league.

Vancouver grabbed the lead by opening the scoring only 21 seconds after the whistle and held it all the way.

As McDougall and Bernie Bathgate led the Vancouver winners with a pair of goals each, while Campbell managed to hold two scoring for the Ironmen with two goals.

Pel Hoopsters Tell Of Cage Tour Up North

Three members of the Pelican basketball squad, Jim Palmer, Gene Hoyer and Jerry Thorn, appeared at the regular meeting of the Klamath Falls Lions club Tuesday at the Willard, recounting their recent barnstorming trip through the Willamette valley. Coach "Dutch" French, scheduled to speak, was unable to attend due to illness.

Guests of the club were Ward Stephenson, recently discharged from the marine corps, and Elmer Merritt. Frank Ramsey, member on leave, was renewing acquaintances, and Eric Majors was introduced as the newest member.

Tickets to the basketball game against Bend, January 4, were passed out to all members of the club, as a stimulus to interest in the sport. The Peppers sold 18 season basketball tickets the week before to members of the Lions club.

SEEKING FIGHTERS

LONDON, Dec. 19 (AP)—Jack Solomons, London fight promoter, left by air today for the United States, where he will attempt to sign several American boxers for matches in England.

Figures Favoring Rufus To Topple Mask From Throne

After a long term as one of the most unpopular guys regularly appearing on the razzle-dazzle here, the dusky Detroit, Rough Rufus Jones is in a new and strange role as the people's choice against the Grey Mask.

Jones' being favored by the crowd, as he was last Friday and probably will be next, does not particularly enhance his chances of whipping the old master, but the railbirds are of the opinion that if the Mask can be felled on this circuit then Rufus is the man most likely to accomplish it.

The Jones proponents have two strong arguments substantiating their cause: (1) Rufus was way ahead of the Mask last week before he took time out to eliminate Referee Normal Stock still from the proceedings, and (2) the Mask has been winning so long the law of averages is bound to catch up with him.

So it's not at all too unlikely that local grapping fans may have an unmasked Mr. Stoneface for a Christmas present Friday night.

The balance of Friday's card will have a quartet of very popular rasslers in Pete Belcastro, Herb Parks, Angelo Martinelli and Ben Sherman. The last-named grappler displayed boundless energy until he was shelled by Belcastro last week, so his tiff with the Buckeye Beauty, Martinelli, should be a lively skirmish.

Parks and Bloody Pete in the semi-windup should put on a slugfest. The Weed Wildman likes nothing better than a free-for-all and the Canadian has given evidence that he is not loath to mix it up.

PORTLAND, Me. — Johnny Greco, 145, Montreal, knocked out Oscar Suggs, 151, Newport, R. I., (5); Leo Macueci, 131, Portland, Me., stopped Jackie Smallwood, 130, Boston (7).

SPORTS

By Hore Scarthrough, Sports Editor

'Ebony Streak Of Football' May Succumb To Ucla Wiles

By RUSS NEWLAND

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 19 (AP)—The "ebony streak" of football will be getting out of the navy before too long now, at least before the 1948 pigskin thumping begins. The "ebony streak," of course, is Claude "Buddy" Young who hurried the Fleet City Bluejackets through an undefeated season, just finished.

Will "Buddy" Young return to the University of Illinois where he was the freshman backfield sensation in 1944? Or will he wind up at the University of California at Los Angeles where such other negro stars as Kenny Washington, Jackie Robinson and Woodrow Wilson Strode earned lasting athletic fame?

There is a powerful tug of war game going on behind the scenes now between alumni, students and friends of the two universities. Young recently informed an Illinois official, so we learn, that he intends to return to his old school.

But UCLA ptisans haven't given up yet. In Los Angeles' populous negro quarter, the elite and influential of Central avenue are leaving no stone unturned in efforts to convince squat, speedy "Buddy" Young that UCLA offers many educational as well as athletic advantages.

When Fleet City played in Los Angeles recently Young was the honored guest at Central avenue functions after the game. One of the team officials says "Bud-

dy" was flattered, to say the least.

All of this activity in behalf of Young is extra-curricular, so to speak, and inspired in good faith by Los Angeles residents of his race. They want him to become a permanent citizen of the community. The fact he is the fastest halfback in the country, the scourge of any gridiron he cleats and that he has three years of college football eligibility ahead of him, has some bearing on the case also.

It should be understood that members of the UCLA athletic staff have no hand whatsoever in the "Young to UCLA" movement. It also is reasonable to assume they will not try to discourage the young man if he seeks registration at the school.

Bangtail Bickering May Go Into Court

BALTIMORE, Dec. 18 (AP)—The controversy between horsemen and racing commission officials over the enforcement of rules against the stimulation of thoroughbreds was slated today for what is believed will be its first civil court airing.

Two horsemen and their trainers, suspended by the Maryland commission on charges of stimulating horses which ran under their silks, filed a suit in circuit court yesterday seeking to have the commission's rule

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against "doping" declared invalid. The suit also seeks to bar the racing commission from holding further hearings on the stimulation charges except by court order.

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