

Huskies Nab North Division Cage Crown

Oregon State Five Bows Out In 59-42 Rout

EUGENE, Ore., March 10 (AP)—University of Washington's Huskies, triumphant over Oregon State in a northern division playoff, head south today to meet the University of California for the Pacific Coast conference basketball championship.

Washington jumped to the conference series opening Friday night at Berkeley by overwhelming Oregon State last night, 59 to 42.

Coach Art McLarney's team has already given the California Bears a taste of Washington's wares. In two pre-season games in Seattle the Huskies won, the first 54-51 and the second 59-42.

The Huskies are counting heavily on the scoring power of Center Jack Nichols as they make their 10th try for the coast title. The pivot man has posted two northern division records this season. He fired 39 points last week for a new one-game individual mark. His 16-game total of 265 was also a record all-season division high.

OTHERS WERE ON
However, Washington's other regulars can be counted on to help when the going is rough or when Nichols is off pace. He was off last night when they won the playoff, but Forward Bill Vandenberg and Sammy White and Guard Bill Taylor helped in the rush.

Washington has won three conference titles in nine previous attempts. The Huskies carried the northern division in 1944 but there was no coast series that year. The averages on this tally favor the Bears, however. In 10 attempts, California has won the championship seven years.

The Huskies are due to warm up on the Berkeley court Thursday afternoon.

Seven thousand watched on Oregon's neutral court as the Washington team took the northern division title.

EARLY BUT SHORT
Oregon State took an early lead but the conference defending champions were outclassed before the game was more than minutes old. The Beavers had a 7-4 edge when the Huskies hit their stride and laid in 14 points as OSU stood still.

Washington went on to pile up a 29-19 lead at halftime.

Nichols scored only 16 points last night. He collected only a free throw in the first period. However, his 16 total was as good as any in the game. It was matched by Ward Paldanius, substitute forward for Oregon State.

Basin League Title Staked
Championship of the Klamath Basin Basketball league will be at stake tonight when Rickys Jewelry team and Oregon Woolen quintet, one-two leaders of the city division, meet at 8:45 on the Altamont Junior high school gym floor.

The Jewellers will be defending the title.

Two county teams, first and second place finishers in their division, will play off for third place in the opener at 7:30 p.m. That game has Genger's Store of Chiloquin tangling with the Tulelake Associated Flyers.

Tonight's games finish the lengthy basin league basketball schedule for the 1947-48 season.

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AAU Glovers Start
PORTLAND, March 10 (AP)—Oregon's AAU boxing tournament opens tonight for eight weight division champions who will go to the nationals in Boston next month.

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A full-handed ax is best for general use around wilderness camps.—Sports Afield.

All species of Pacific salmon die almost immediately after their first and only spawning period.—Sports Afield.

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By
Hale Scarbrough

Inflated Costs Might Preclude Fight Cards Here For Many A Moon

It might be many a day before another boxing card is held in Klamath Falls because inflationary ideas have penetrated the noggins of the boys who like to crawl into the ring. When a \$50 fighter starts holding out for \$200 to step, a fight that is less than the main event, it's time for a small club to close the door.

And that's exactly what has happened here. Without setting down any names, it's a fact that some of the lads seem to have worked up a king-size opinion of their worth and are asking for more dough than the traffic will bear.

I never heard of Mack Lillard giving a wrong financial deal to a fighter who put on a glove under Lillard's auspices, but some of them are actually demanding guarantees far out of proportion to what they'd pull if they were working on a percentage.

Good main events naturally cost a lot, but even the main events are inclined to want too much money for their services. They leave nothing over to offer a good support card.

The same thing is happening elsewhere. Up in Portland Tex Selkeld is having to lay out such heaps of sugar for his card toppers that the rest of the slate can carry only a bunch of characters named Joe for an even financial break with a capacity gate.

That's why support cards are getting notoriously poorer. But when an "all-star" card—in fight parlance one that has no particular big name attraction—is presented the customers stay away in droves. The promoter is always in a squeeze. His income is limited by the capacity of the house and his expenses are going out of sight.

Pelicans Average 10 Points Better
In 31 games this fast-fading basketball season our Pelicans came out on top 24 times and went the other way seven. Four of the losses were to college outfits, one was to an alumni squad and the other two were to high school quintets.

The 31 games saw Klamath pour in 1337 points, for an average of 43.13 per game, while the combined opposition was hitting the target for 1030 points and a 33.23 average. In other words, the Pels averaged 10 points a game better than the boys at the other end of the court.

Coach Wayne Scott will settle for a five-point or even a one-point margin over every opposing team in the state tournament. And be glad to get it.

Sheriff's Posse Breaks Into Big Time
Klamath county's Sheriff's Posse gets to the big time Sunday afternoon, 32 horses and riders performing before probably a million people on San Francisco's Market street in the annual St. Patrick's Day celebration.

The Posse is to be stationed near the lead of the gigantic parade, taking precedent over expensive horse units from all over California. It will be the only Oregon entrant in the San Francisco extravaganza which this year is a double feature—it marks the umpteenth anniversary of the exit of snakes from Ireland and the 100th anniversary of the discovery of gold in California.

No Imagination Shown In Selections
In scanning Far West league baseball stories this summer you'll have to look twice to see what league you're reading about. The names are confusing.

Most of the clubs are merely taking the moniker of the parent organization, so the circuit contains the Medford Dodgers, Santa Rosa Pirates, Marysville Braves, Oroville Red Sox, Redding Browns and Willows Cardinals.

Klamath Falls got off the beaten track by adopting the name "Gems" and Pittsburg—which should have appropriated "Pirates"—is running a contest to determine its baseball calling card.

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Citrus Loop Rookies Helping Redlegs

TAMPA, Fla., March 10 (AP)—Manager Johnny Neun of the Cincinnati Reds hopes that rookies Hank Sauer and Ted Kluszewski will supply the extra base punch that has been missing from the Reds' attack for so long.

Both boast excellent minor league records as sluggers and the two have highlighted the Reds' drills with their punch.

Yesterday, each clubbed a homer as the Reds downed the Philadelphia Phillies, 13-3 in the Reds' first exhibition game of the season.

Kluszewski, who led the South Atlantic league and the Southern association in batting in 1946 and 1947 respectively, clubbed Dutch Leonard for a three-run homer in the first inning.

The 23-year-old Kluszewski hit for 232 total bases while belting Southern association pitching at the 377 club for Memphis last year. The lanky first sacker is a southpaw all the way.

Sauer, a righthanded hitting outfielder, has been up with the Reds before. He batted 50 homers while hitting .336 for Syracuse of the International league last year.

Final Workout
TUCSON, Ariz., March 10 (AP)—The Cleveland Indians will hold their last workout here today before embarking on an 18-day tour of the West Coast. Some players will remain. Three of them—Pat Seer, Walt Judnick and Jim Hegan—will be left in care of Hank Greenberg, who is giving them hitting hints.

Pesky Confident
SARASOTA, Fla., March 10 (AP)—Boston Red Sox infielder Johnny Pesky says he will be a better third baseman than he ever was a shortstop—no easy task for a player named to the American league all-star team in two of this three major league seasons. Vern Stephens will play shortstop.

Sanders Proving
CIUDAD TRUJILLO, D. R., March 10 (AP)—Manager Leo Durocher of the Brooklyn Dodgers is happy over the performance of Ray Sanders.

Sanders, recently obtained from the Boston Braves, worked out at first base yesterday and apparently his left arm, fractured in 1946, has mended perfectly.

Sorboe Looking To Better Days
YAKIMA, March 10 (AP)—Washington State college football coach Phil Sorboe believes his 1948 football team will have "better boys playing better football."

Sorboe told the Monday morning Quarterback club yesterday that he would have 22 men returning from the 1947 squad.

"But," he added, "I'm not promising a championship."

Mack Prefers Hungry Players, Keeps Them That Way

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla., March 10 (NEA)—Mr. Cornelius McGillicuddy prefers his ballplayers hungry and down through the years the only manager the Athletics ever had has done his best to keep them that way.

The war and post-war years have been lush, but Mr. Connie Mack recalls having to break up two championship clubs because he owed the bank money—\$400,000—when Cochran, Fox, Grove and that bunch went in 1933 and '33.

Naturally, Mr. Mack hopes baseball attendance will continue to soar. But if things ever get back to what he considers normal, the venerable leader of the Philadelphia Americans is quite sure that the rich men in the game will rapidly grow tired of paying exorbitant salaries.

"After he had owned the Yankees for 10 years, says Mr. Mack, Col. Jacob Ruppert asked me: 'Where's all that money they told me there was in baseball?'"

"Alva Bradley told me the Cleveland club lost \$100,000 a year for eight straight years."

Mr. Mack noted how rapidly the affluent Dick Muckerman unloaded in St. Louis when the Browns didn't attract enough paying guests to pay the ushers.

Mr. Mack sent one of the young As a contract calling for \$6000. The young man returned it, explaining that a parchment dealing out that little lettuce didn't mean a thing these days. He couldn't live on it, he claimed. He gave Mr. Mack until the following Monday to make another offer, threatened to devote his entire time and attention to bigger things.

"It's too bad you can't live on \$6000 a year," Mr. Mack wrote the athlete. "I suggest you waste no more time. Tell your off-season employer that he can have your services all spring and summer, too."

The player was the first one in camp here.

I asked Mr. Mack what the youngster did when he wasn't playing ball.

"He's a clerk getting \$50 a week," replied the tall tactician. "But as a ballplayer he contended he couldn't live on \$8000 a year. How do you like that?"

Starting his 65th consecutive year in baseball—think of it—the first thing Mr. Mack did was reserve Rudy York a room on the sixth and top floor of the West Palm Beach hotel in which the As are quartered. Mr. Mack's suite is on that floor.

With Ferris Falk having submitted to a second operation on his right knee, York becomes increasingly important in the Athletics' plans. The huge Indian may have to do all the first basing.

It will be recalled that York's penchant for falling asleep with a lit cigarette in his mouth helped him get out of Boston and Chicago last season. That and the fact that he didn't, or couldn't, get in condition.

He was yanked from a burning hotel room in the dead of night in

Boston in the nick of time, then brought out the fire apparatus in Chicago.

"With Rudy on the top floor, I'll have a chance to get out myself," laughs Mr. Mack.

Mr. Connie Mack hasn't lost his sense of humor, which is not the least reason why even the worst of the Athletics never got on his nerves.

FIGHTS LAST NIGHT
Los Angeles—Jimmy Blinn, 185, Cleveland, outpointed Turkey Thompson, 222, Los Angeles, 10.

Salt Lake City—Ernie Hunick, 139, West Jordan, Utah, stopped Chalky Wright, 135, New York, 3.

Seattle—Bobby Yeager, 147, Los Angeles, outpointed Phil Palmer, 148, Vancouver, B. C., 10.

BAKER GOES TO FINALS FROM HOOP DISTRICT 1

WEISER, Ida., March 10 — The Baker, Ore. high school basketball team moved clear out of the state last night but in doing so moved into the Oregon state high school basketball championship tournament.

The Indians defeated Vale 30-21 in the rubber game of a two-of-three series. The game was played on a neutral court in this across-the-line city.

Baker takes over the district 1-A spot in the state tourney, leaving only two more berths to be filled. Corvallis in district 7 and Salem in district 11 are topheavy favorites to win their playoffs and move up to the big show.

Meanwhile, in Arlington, Ore. eight schoolboy basketball teams representing the class of the state's class "B" bracket are awaiting the starting gun of the small school championship tourney.

Action in the single elimination playoff will start Thursday with afternoon and night double-headers on the opening round schedule.

Pairings for the opening round put Moonmouth (district 2) against Drain (district 4); Union (district 8) against Garibaldi (district 1); Madras (district 6) against Umapine (district 7) and Oakridge (district 3) against Jacksonville (district 5).

There will be no title defense inasmuch as Pleasant Hill, winner of the 1947 diadem, failed to qualify for the championship wrangle this season.

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