Pelicans Have Six Grid Dates

Many Schools Turn Down Bid

Only six football games, three at home and three on the road, have been lined up for the Klamath Union high school Pelicans for the 1948 season, Athletic Supervisor Joe Peak reports.

The hooks are out for other contests—at least two more—but nibbles are exceedingly scarce. The Pels might come up to starting time next September with just the six contests.

Here is the schedule of Pelican varsity games okayed at the present:

September 17—Grant of Portland at Modoc field.

September 24—Salem Vikings at Salem.

October 1—Ashland Grizzlies at Ashland.

October 15—Medford Black Tornado at Medford.

October 29—Boise, Ida., at Modoc field.

November 11—Bend Lava Bears at Modoc field.

SPRINGFIELD MAYBE

Springfield high is dropping one of its games in that vicinity and is contemplating hooking up with the Pels on a home-and-home basis, the first game to be played October 8 at Springfield. However, the deal hasn't been closed.

If Springfield comes in, that will make seven games, all against strong opponents, but the Pels could do with one or two more. October 22 and November 5 are still open.

Peak has turned out a copious amount of letters to various high schools in three adjoining states trying to pluck some more opponents for the Pels. And he's gotten lots of replies—all of them negative.

Among the schools which have declined, with thanks, are Reno, a couple of schools in Sacramento, Chico, Grants Pass, Eugene, Albany, Longview, Wash., and others.

TOUGH PROBLEM

Locating gridiron foes for the Pels is getting to be a tough proposition. Klamath's location—so far from most other schools of a comparable size—is one big drawback. Another is that various other state high school leagues are so much larger than the local district that schools use up most of their dates playing conference games.

Klamath Falls plays only Ashland, Medford and Bend in this circuit, skipping over Redmond, Prineville and Lakeview this year. Those points aren't going to lay claim to the district title, anyhow.

Last season the Pels engaged Prineville and Lakeview in an early-season and highly criticized "jamboree" but probably will not have any such thing this time. Coach Nello Giovannini at Prineville has been emphatic in saying his Cowboys won't play the Pels.

MATCH FOR SIZE

Public opinion, which is definitely against scheduling weak opponents for the Pels, will keep Lakeview, Central Point and other nearby high schools off the docket. Grants Pass just will not play football against Klamath Falls.

A good many other coaches around the state have frankly told Peak that they won't play the Pelicans because they don't have any chance of winning.

The difficulty in arranging games with strong teams for Klamath Falls is a point in favor of a recent proposal for a master class A league putting all the larger upstate schools in a district to themselves.

Spokane Fans Are Losing Zag Stadium

SPOKANE, March 25 (AP) — This city's sport fans looked forward today to a football season without a usable stadium.

Gonzaga university authorities, notified by the city that its stadium cannot be used until thoroughly repaired, said a complete overhaul is out of the question.

Necessary repairs would cost at least $25,000, Arthur J. Hoefer, city building inspector, estimated.

"Even if we had the money we could not make a long-term commitment for use of the stadium under a program proposed for the institution," said The Very Rev. Francis J. Corkery, S. J., school president.

Gonzaga itself does not play football, but its stadium has been available to other organizations.

Army Backfield Boss Goes South

MIAMI, Fla., March 25 (AP)—Andy Gustafson, former backfield coach at Dartmouth and Army, is the new head footbal mentor at the University of Miami.

Gustafson succeeds Jack Harding, who resigned February 16 after 11 years as coach to become full-time athletic director at the university.

The appointment was announced late yesterday by Dr. Bowman F. Ashe, university president.

There was no mention of salary.

Redbirds Ail Behind Plate, Dyer Declares

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla., March 25 (AP)—In searching for a sore spot on the St. Louis Cardinals you don't hear an "ouch" until you get to the catcher's position. The pain there is excruciating to Manager Eddie Dyer.

"I'm downright envious of teams with catchers such as Phil Masi, Bruce Edwards and Walker Cooper," the drawling Texan moans. "I didn't want to let Cooper go, make no mistake about that. But the circumstances were such that it just had to be."

It's an odd situation that presents a team with perhaps the deepest strength in pitching in the National league, but hasn't a good, sound basket to catch what the chuckers throw.

As Dyer explains it, Joe Garagiola can't throw, Del Rice is good against left-handed pitching only. And Del Wilber can't hit right handers and drops the ball often.

That sounds a little complicated, but Dyer means that he has no one man he can stick in there any day against any kind of pitching and forget him. He has to juggle around, trying to get the best man in there on a particular day against the type of opposition to be faced.

If it isn't a running team, he can use Garagiola. If it's a left-handed pitcher, he can use Rice. If he feels he can take a chance on having third strikes muffed, he can use Wilber.

Basinski Out Unless Given Portland Job

PORTLAND, March 25 (AP)—Eddie Basinski, bespectacled violinist who held down second base for the Portland Beavers in the Pacific Coast league last year, will be there again this season or he will be out of baseball.

That's the story he told here in explaining why he had not reported to the Kansas City Blues.

"I want to stay here even if it means giving up professional baseball," Basinski said.

Well regarded in musical circles for his violin work, he is held in even higher esteem by Beaver fans.

He said he was sent originally to Portland on option from Newark but was sold last fall to Kansas City.

While waiting for something to happen to get him into Portland uniform, he's living here and looking for work.

By *Hale Scarbrough*

Olympic Nations Will Compete In Basketball For Only Second Time

Basketball is strictly an American sport, devised and developed in this country and made the competitive thrill it is by American players. In fact, basketball and baseball are probably the only two athletic endeavors truly belonging to this country.

Nevertheless, the cage game has done considerable branching out in the past few years and will be played as an event of the Olympics for the second time next July and August in London. Back in 1936 basketball took on an international flavor when it was accepted as an Olympic sport in games at Berlin. The basketball phase of those games went to the U. S. all the way.

There were 22 competing countries in the hoop section of the Berlin games—21 after Spain dropped out to fight its civil war—the largest number of teams in any competition on the program. The games were played outdoors on hard-baked clay courts. The United States team took a default from Spain in the first round, beat Esthonia 52-28 in the second, drew a bye for the third, eliminated the Philippine Islands quintet 56-23 and moved into the finals by defeating Mexico, 25-10.

That final game was a dilly, from all reports. It matched the Americans against Canada and was played in a downpour of rain that reduced the clay court to a Berlin facsimile of a Georgia swamp. The U. S. outfit won, 19 to 8.

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U. S. Team Should Win Easily

Of course there was no Olympic competition for 1940 or 1944, during the big blow, but the rivalry is on again for this summer, and this week-end at Madison Square Garden the United States goes about the business of picking its 14-man squad.

Eight teams—four collegiate and four independent—are entered in the Olympic eliminations, and the 14 players will be chosen from those eight. With basketball on the tremendous upgrade in this country, its land of origin, there can be little doubt that the U. S. squad will be certain to pick off the Olympic cage ribbon next summer.

• • • •

Game Was Introduced In 1944

It so happens that basketball was introduced to the Olympics considerably earlier than 1936, but it wasn't accepted as a competitive sport until that year. Back in 1904, when the games were held at St. Louis, five teams, all of them from the U. S., saw action.

Each Olympic year thereafter basketball was played, but as a non-counting sideline and not as a part of the historic games. It was 1936 before the rest of the world took enough interest in the sport to advance entries.

• • • •

Disabled Veterans Get Bargain

Now that fishing season is approaching, war veterans who have service-connected disabilities of 25 per cent or more are reminded of a state law granting them angling licenses for 50 cents. However, the usual red tape is encountered and it'll probably be easier to just buy your fishing license over the counter for $3.

For one of the four-bit permits, a disabled veteran can get an application blank at the county clerk's office, fill it out and send it to the state game commission (1634 SW Alder, Portland) along with a statement from the veterans administration as to the percentage of disability. The same holds true for hunting licenses, 50 cents, or $1 for a combination hunting and fishing permit.

Olympic Ring Trial Slated For June 16

CHICAGO, March 25 (AP) — The U. S. Olympic committee today announced dates and sites for most of the 11 regional Olympic boxing tests. The first, the National Collegiate Athletic association championships, will be held at the University of Wisconsin, April 1, 2 and 3.

The committee said that each of the regional tests will qualify eight men, one in each weight, for the finals which will be held June 28 and 29 at Boston. From that field 16 survivors will be selected to make up Uncle Sam's Olympic standard bearers.

The committee said the regional tests were set up to provide every amateur boxer in the country an opportunity to try out for the team. It added, however, that boxers must qualify through the regionals for the Boston finals.

Other regionals, dates and sites of the tourneys and the directors in charge include:

Pacific coast region—tournament June 16-17 at San Francisco, with James J. Richardson, Portland, Ore., and Al Sandell and Dave K. Stevenson, San Francisco, in charge, includes Montana, Wyoming, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Utah, Arizona, Nevada, California, Hawaii and Alaska.

U. S. army air forces—will conduct own championships with final bouts on June 11 at Chicago.

U. S. navy—will conduct own championships with finals set for week of May 2 at San Diego, California.

Games Session

A meeting of persons interested in supporting the Olympic games has been called for 7:30 p. m. Friday, Mayor Ed Ostendorf has been appointed chairman of a local Olympic committee.

Friday night's session will be devoted to explanation of the Olympic program and organization of local support.

SAIGON

Season Might Prove Tough For Beavers

(This is the last of a series of prospects of clubs in the 1948 Pacific Coast league pennant race).

By BOB MYERS

RIVERSIDE, Calif., March 25 (AP) Manager Jim Turner may be hard put to come up with a repeat surprise with his Portland club in the Pacific Coast league this year.

Opening day a year ago, Turner, mindful of rather discouraging predictions made by many critics rendered a somewhat acid reply. Despite what others may have thought, said Turner Portland positively would field a team in the coast race.

Jim the Milkman not only fielded one, but a good one that beat out the more favored Oakland Oaks for third place. The Beavers and Turner proved one of the highlights of the season.

Prospects for a first division club are no brighter than last year, however, with the catching on the weak side and the infield in need of a plug or two—which may be forthcoming.

Portland's pitching is dominated by veterans, which can be good—or bad. Turner believes it will be good, and that such hurlers as Ad (Submarine) Liska, Johnny Bianco, Tommy Bridges, Jake Mooty, Vince Di Baist, all righthanders, and southpaw Roy Helser wil be of value.

Of the newcomers, Ed Kowalski, a righthander who won 19 and lost eight for Augusta, Ga., last year, and Jack McKinney, freshman football and basketball coach at the University of Georgia in the winter and a 13-9 pitcher for Beaumont in the Texas league last summer, show promise.

Beaver fans had little to holler about team batting last year, and it will be up to Harvey Storey at third and Johnny Lazor in the outfield to repeat their 300 efforts, and perhaps set the pace for other potential hitters. Included would be Johnny Rucker and Herman Reich, who figure to patrol the outer garden with Lazor.

Turner likes Fenton Mole, first baseman up from Beaumont, and Frank Zac sems to have the nod for the shortstop berth. Ford Mullen has been doing the second base chores but the club hopes to land Eddie Basinski from the New York Yankee farm club, Kansas City.

Del Ballinger and Bill Beard figure to be the one-two catchers.

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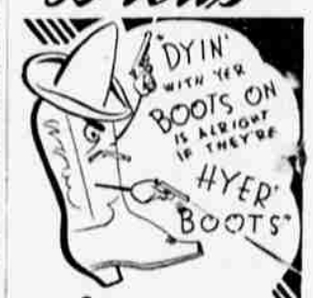

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