SPORTS ROUNDUP

By Hugh Fullerton

NEW YORK, Dec. 23 (AP) — The Chicago White Sox, who probably have fewer farm clubs than any other major league outfit, figure they can get more material out of eight clubs than, say, 22 . . . "if you get two players a year out of your farms—two that have a chance to stick—that's all you can expect," says General Manager Frank Lane . . . "Maybe it's all right to operate 22 clubs to get those prospects if your minor league teams make money, but most of them don't . . . so we concentrate on quality instead of quantity . . . You start with say 15 good prospects on a class D club; the next year in Class C they're reduced to seven. A really good player, one who is going to be a star, stands a good chance to jump from Class B right into the majors . . . it isn't necessary to have a lot of farms to develop that kind of boys. .

P.S.: Only an unkind observer would add it isn't a very big jump to where the Sox were in the majors last season.

Veterans of the Univ. of New Hampshire football squad this year started under the coaching of Biff Jessford, a Pitt product, and finished under Chief Boston, a Harvard product . . . When someone recently asked the principal difference between the two "systems," an athlete thoughtfully replied: "Well, Chief always said 'Whom were you supposed to block on that play?"

Joe Lapchick, the Knickerbockers' coach, has been named "Yonkers' outstanding sports personality for 1949" . . . He'll retain possesion of the title for the last two minutes of the year . . . After watching Notre Dame's Leon Hart against S.M.U., Dutch Meyer of Texas Christian concluded that Leon's vulnerable to outside plays because his size slows him in changing direction . . .

Sam Barry, whose Southern California basketballers had a miserable night in the Garden, warns: "Watch out for my sophomores; we won't be back for two years, but they'll be ready then." . . .

To which Honey Russell counters that Seton Hall's freshmen are so hot they can beat his varsity by 30 points every day . . .

The roller derby skaters drew 798,178 paid admissions in the metropolitan New York area in 1949 — which is quite an ad for television.

George Weiss maintains the Yankees are cashing in on the "Platoon" system Casey Stengel used last summer by trading off the players the other clubs got to see because of it . . . Fans who saw him in the Catskill Hotel league last summer, say Dave Citerman, now touring these parts with the New Mexico U. basketballers, is the undisputed dish - smashing champ of the circuit . . .

Prognostication Dept.: Before the Tulane - Louisiana State football game, a bunch of LSU kids were caught smearing paint around Tulane . . . Apparently they were just brushing up on their selections because they hit the exact score—21-0.

College Basketball

By The Associated Press

Idaho 66, Morningside 49.
Kansas State 63, Washington State 39.
Western Washington 81, Willamette 78.
Central Washington 62, Seattle 49.
Colorado 64, Rice 51.
California Poly 59, Redlands 43.
Chico 47, Whittier 39.
Pasadena City 49, San Diego Balboa 42.
St. Johns (BKN) 60, San Francisco 44.
Duquesne 75, Fordham 61.
CCNY 76, California 46.
Pitt 52, Connecticut 35.
Long Island 76, Ithaca 55.
Louisville 75, Louisiana State 65.
Miami (Fla) 55, Mississippi 43.
Oklahoma Aggies 44, Arkansas 36.
Missouri 62, Southern Methodist 61.
Illinois 59, St. Louis 47.
Georgia Tech 68, Michigan State 60.
Bowling Green 75, Los Angeles Loyola 37.
Colorado State 58, Lawrence Tech 54.
Beloit 71, Fresno State 43.

Old Record Challenged

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 23 (AP)—A ten-year-old Sugar Bowl track record may be wiped from the books on New Year's Day.

It's the mile run mark set by Glen Cunningham of Kansas back in 1939.

The challenger is Alf Holmberg, a Swede attending the University of Tennessee.

Holmberg has been clocked in 3:50.8 for 1500 meters—the equivalent of a 4:09 mile.

Cunningham's mark was 4:10.4.

Holmberg will be making his American debut in the Sugar Bowl meet. The 21-year-old Olympia hopeful is a freshman at Tennessee.

FIGHTS LAST NIGHT

Philadelphia—Otis Graham, 151, Philadelphia, outpointed Honey Chile Johnson, 146, Philadelphia, 8.

Brooklyn—Paddy DeMarco, 140½, Brooklyn, outpointed Teddy "Red Top" Davis, 131½, Brooklyn, 10

Manila—Tirso Del Rosario, 121, Manila, outpointed Dado Marino, 120, Honolulu, 10.

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KLAMATH FALLS

Buc Pilot Advocate Of Spitter

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., Dec. 23 (AP) Pittsburgh Pirate Manager Billy Meyer advocates the revival of the spitball in baseball to help the pitchers catch up with the batters.

But the gray-haired Buc skipper, relaxing at his suburban home here yesterday, said he didn't see much possibility of the spitter's return because "the fans want big scores."

The trend in sports, he went on, is toward big scores.

"It's part of prosperity, I guess. The public wants more and more, the age of abundance. The same thing is happening in football and basketball."

Meyer advanced three reasons why he thinks the spitball should be legalized:

1. It would improve pitching and baseball.

2. It would eliminate a lot of wrangling and speed up games.

3. It would help second division clubs to take up the slack and tighten the races.

Meyer conceded the return of the spitball might open "the way for cheating on all those old freak deliveries." But he added that a certain amount of cheating "goes on all the time."

A lot of mediocre pitchers probably would become winners if they could use the spitter, Meyer believes.

And, says Meyer, here's why:

"There are a lot of pitchers with a good fast ball who need something else to win. Many of them have short fingers or a wrist that isn't too supple. A guy like that can never learn to throw a good curve. So he must learn a freak pitch—knuckle ball, fork ball, or some such, and then maybe he can win.

"A spitter is easy to learn and if it were legal every pitching staff would be stronger. It's the simplest thing in the world. You simply administer a little moisture, saliva or sweat, to the surface of the ball. If the moistened spot is on the left side of the ball, the sphere will break to the right, and vice versa. If it is on the top of the ball, it will shoot downward, and vice versa.

Response Is Chilly

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 23 (AP) — A proposal that all colleges publicize their athletic payrolls brought a varied response in the Big Seven conference.

The suggestion was made by Milton S. Eisenhower, president of Kansas State college which is a member of the Big Seven.

"Our alums are 100 per cent behind Eisenhower," said James E. Campbell, president of the University of Missouri Alumni association in Kansas City.

Chancellor R. G. Gustavson of the University of Nebraska said yesterday he could see no particular reason for not publishing athletic job lists and salaries, but he added:

"It is difficult to get at subsidization which goes on outside university control, when alumni and friends organize to see that a boy gets to college, with the idea that he will probably play football. They do this without consulting me."

Several other athletic officials in the Big Seven declined to comment.

Malin Tops Valley Team

In a small-bore gallery league rifle shoot at Malin Wednesday night, the Langell Valley Rifle and Pistol club met its second straight defeat before the steady marksmanship of Malin dead-eyes.

The score was 1435 to 1445.

Individual results:

Malin — Powell 294, R. S. Van Meter 289, Price 288, Myres 287, Rose Van Meter 287.

Langell valley—Bill Noble 294, Ted Albert 288, Daphne Settle 286, Joe Petucek 286, Cole Fitzhugh 285.

Sports Mirror

By The Associated Press
By The Associated Press

Today a year ago—Celebrating his 66th birthday, Connie Mack said he'd stay in baseball "until my brains wear out."

Three years ago—Mrs. Babe Didrikson Zaharias was voted the outstanding woman athlete in annual Associated Press poll.

Five years ago — Oriental racetrack in Havana opened its seven-month season, operating three days a week.

Ten years ago—Ceferino Garcia stopped Glenlee in 12th round at Manila, knocking Lee down seven times.

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PITCHING FOR THE WEST—Coach Matty Bell of the West team, said "All my backs can and will pass." In the backfield pitching the leather, are left to right: Ernie Johnson, UCLA; Ken Carpenter, Oregon State; Dick McKissick, SMU; Eddie LeBaron, COP; Lindy Berry, TCU; Don Paul, Washington State; Bill Martin, USC; Emory Mitchell, Stanford, and Dick Gray, Oregon State. In the line, left to right: Ken Rose, Stanford; Don Narrell, TCU; Carl Kiilsgard, Idaho; Jack Halliday, SMU; Jim Castagnoli, Stanford; Warren Wood, Puget Sound, and Harry Kahuanui, Hawaii. West team will meet the East team in the annual Shrine game to be played in San Francisco on December 31. Both teams are holding workouts in San Francisco.

Eastern Outfit Loaded

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 23 (AP) Leon Hart, six-foot, four-inch, 258-pound All-America end from Notre Dame, was the star attraction yesterday as the East and West Shrine teams worked out for their football clash here December 31.

Hart and two of his Notre Dame mates, Guard Jim Martin and Fullback Frank Spaniel, arrived in time to bolster the East's football training camp at Santa Clara.

And here's what one of the East coaches, Andy Kerr, had to say about Hart after watching him:

"I always thought that Broncho Nagurski was the greatest ball player I had ever seen. He could do so many things. But this boy Hart tops him. He can do all the things the "Bronc" could do, but he's rangier and more agile."

And Eastern Co-Coach Bernie Bierman chimed in, "Yes, he certainly is quick for his size."

All-America Quarterback Arnold Galiffa of Army is due to arrive today and Michigan's Wally Teninga is expected Saturday morning.

The West, meanwhile, engaged in a rigorous workout at Stanford.

All backs on the squad took turns throwing the ball during the afternoon session with Eddie Lebaron of the College of Pacific and Lindy Berry of Texas Christian attracting the most attention.

Only one of the West players, large George Bayer, Washington tackle, failed to participate in the workout. He suffered a leg injury in a scrimmage with Stanford Tuesday but is expected to be all right today.

Cotton Bowl Ups Payoff

DALLAS, Dec. 23 (AP)—Rice and North Caroline each will receive at least $126,000 for playing in the Cotton Bowl game January 2, Dan Rogers, chairman of the board, said today, wondering if any other bowl game could match that figure.

Rogers said the increased amount (it paid $108,000 last Januar) resulted from an enlarged boywl and that fact that there would be fewer student tickets than before. Rice has a comparatively small student body; the distance from Chapel Hill, N. C., to Dallas will hold down the North Carolina student attendance. Student tickets are one-half price.

Rogers figures the Cotton Bowl would have $300,000 net receipts (after federal tax) and that only rental on the stadium, $45,000, would be taken out.

Panthers Tip Henley

Chiloquin's Panthers won their first county B league basketball game last night, defeating the Henley Hornets 51-23 on the Chiloquin floor.

Dick Souers was high with 16 points.

The game was moved up a day because of Christmas activities and was the first conference clash for the Hornets. Chiloquin has a 1-1 record.

The county league schedule shows Sacred Heart at Gilchrist, Bly at Malin, Bonanza at Merrill tonight.

To Buy or Sell—Use the Want-Ads!

IT'S A TOSSUP

Ex-Foes Divided On Rose Bowl Prospect

SANTA CLARA, Calif., Dec. 23 (AP)—Will Ohio State or California win the Rose Bowl?

Talk to the East Shrine stars, some of whom played against the Western conference's co- champion and you'll get an evenly divided prediction: two favor Ohio State, two California and one is on the fence.

Northwestern's Art Murakowski, all-America back in 1948, picks the Ohio State Buckeyes on the basis of their depth among other things. The 195-pound fullback scored the much talked about winning touchdown in last year's Pasadena classic that gave Northwestern a 20-14 win over the Bears.

On the other hand, Minnesota End Gordon Soltau predicts a California victory. He says the Buckeyes lack reserve strength. That's just the opposite of Murakowski's belief.

All-America Clayton Tonnemaker, Minnesota center, backed up his teammate's prediction for a California win.

Here are five of the East all-stars' predictions on the Tournament of Roses contest:

Art Murakowski, Northwestern fullback: "Ohio State has the same team as last year with more speed and depth. Their experience will count a lot and in addition they have a well-balanced club."

Lynn Chandnois, Michigan State halfback: "I'll stick to the Middle West as they've won every year so far and predict an Ohio State victory."

Ed Bagdon, Michigan State guard: "All I can say is that I hope Ohio State wins. Sentimental reasons, I guess."

Clayton Tonnemaker, Minnesota center: "From what I have heard of California and on the basis of our game with Ohio State, I'm afraid that Cal's power will win out. Ohio State has a good offensive team and plenty of speed but no defense." Minnesota defeated Ohio State 27-0.

Gordon Soltau, Minnesota end: "After playing Ohio State I got the impression that it lacked reserve strength and was weakened whenever it had to make substitutions. If California's manpower is what I heard it is Cal should be the Rose Bowl winner."

The East stars are training here for the annual East-West Shrine football game at San Francisco December 31.

Hyland Rumors Irish on Skids

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 23 (AP) That old rumor about Frank Leahy leaving Notre Dame so the Fighting Irish can de-emphasize football has cropped up again.

Dick Hyland, Los Angeles Times sports columnist, is the latest to resurrect it.

Hyland today said his source is "absolutely reliable and of top-drawer importance."

The columnist says the de-emphasis stems from the fact that Irish gridiron prowess overshadows the school's scholastic attainments.

Carries Now

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark., (AP) — Alvin Duke, Drumright, Okla., Indian who is captain of the Arkansas football team this season, has charged out of the obscurity of a blocking back post into the limelight.

Duke for three seasons was Arkansas' blocking back and defensive stalwart but the switch to the T from the single wing put blocking backs out of business. Hard-running, 180 - pound Duke quickly caught on as halfback.

(NEA Telephoto)
RESIGNATION RUMORED—Wes Fesler (above), football coach of Ohio State University, reportedly has resigned his post at the Big Ten school, but OSU Athletic Director Richard Larkins says the report "is not true." Fesler is at Pasadena, Cal., prepping his Buckeye squad for the big Rose Bowl battle Jan. 2.

Trainer In Nag Scandal

SALEM, N. H., Dec. 23 (AP)— A Los Angeles trainer was held in $5000 bail today on a charge of being an accessory before the fact in the "sponging" of horses at Rockingham Park race track.

Forest C. (Chub) Wilson was taken to Rockingham county farm at Brentwood late yesterday after he pleaded innocent and the case was continued to December 30 .

Wilson is accused of instructing by letter William H. Weaver, 31, of Nogales, Ariz., in the insertion of sponges in the nostrils of Shining Deed, owned by Henry J. April of Danvers, Mass.

The insertion of sponges is designed to slow up a horse.

Back Home

EAST LANSING, Mich., (AP)—A pair of recent Michigan State football stars are helping coach the Spartans. Warren Huey, a letterman for four straight years at left end (1945-48) is an instructor in physical education and assistant football coach, and Bob McCurry, center and three-time captain of the team (1946-48) is a special part time assistant.

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Record Recap Reveals Kell Is Bat Champ

Tiger Infielder Edged Williams By Slide-Rule Figure

CHICAGO, Dec. 23 (AP)—George Kell of Detroit was certified today as the first third baseman ever to win the American league batting crown—and he did it with the closest finish on record.

The 170-pound Tiger, collecting two hits on the final day of the 1949 season, shaded Boston's Ted Williams, who was held hitless in his last game, .3429 to .3427. Williams missed becoming a five time winner of the crown by two ten-thousands of a point in the slide-rule windup.

There have been one point margins before, but never has the edge had such a decimal decision at this one. Goose Goslin of Washington grabbed the 1928 title by one point. Buddy Myer of Washington had the same close shave in 1935.

The 27-year-old Keil, who was nabbed by Philadelphia after hammering .396 for Lancaster, Pa., of the Interstate league in 1943, gathered 179 base hits last season in 522 times at bat in 134 games.

Williams appeared in 155 games, had 194 hits in 566 trips. He had led the league since the first week in August until the Tigers' third sacker caught and passed him on the last day.

HITTING SWEEP

Although shaded for the diadem, Williams topped the circuit in home runs with 43; runs scored, 150; total bases, 368, and in two base hits, 39—one more double than Keil. This sweep in specialized hitting helped give Williams "player of the year" honors.

Third in official batting averages was Third Sacker Bob Dillinger of the St. Louis Browns, who was traded to Philadelphia last week, with .324. Trailing him were Dale Mitchell of Cleveland with .317; Bobby Doerr, Boston, .309; Cass Michaels, Chicago, .308; Dom DiMaggio, Boston, .307, and Johnny Peaky of Boston and Roy Sievers of St. Louis with .306 apiece.

Joe DiMaggio, the New York Yankees veteran outfielder who was out until midseason with a heel injury, slammed .346 in 272 times at bat—128 appearances short of the 400 AB required for championship recognition.

Mitchell, the snappy Cleveland flychaser, led three departments with 640 times at bat, 203 hits and 23 triples. He was the only player to top 200 blows for the campaign.

ON BASEPATHS

New York's Phil Rizzuto had the most sacrifices, 25, while Dillinger headed the base stealers with 20 thefts, two more than Rizzuto. Dillinger was caught pilfering the most times, 14. The fleet Yankee shortstop was nipped only six times.

Boston took the team batting laureis with a collective .282—13 points more than the champion New York Yankees.

IRVING E. VINING

ASHLAND, Dec. 23 (AP)—Funeral services are scheduled here today for Irving E. Vining, 75, an educator and former member of the state game commission. Vining, an Ashland native, died here Wednesday.

Louis Gives Flat Answer on Plans

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 23 (AP)—Is he is or is he ain't? Will Joe Louis hit the comeback trail—if he isn't really on it already?

Well, yes, the "retired" champion indicated in one interview yesterday. Then just a few hours later, on arrival here, he gave a flat "no" to the same question.

"I feel good. I'm punching good, but I've got to be sure," Louis was quoted by Tony Cordaro, Des Moines Tribune sports writer, in a telephone interview. He said it will take about three more months to reach a definite decision.

Whom would he fight?

"If I fight, it will be Ezzard Charles, of course. He's the best heavyweight around and the match will draw the most money."

So ran the story from Des Moines.

But there must have been something in the air between Salt Lake City, where Louis had toyed with two exhibition foes, and Los Angeles, where reporters were waiting to greet him. Joe came down a changed man.

Asked if he's coming back, Joe gave out with a loud, lone "no."

Said his manager, Marshall Miles, "a question like that brings an answer that can be easily misunderstood."

And Press Agent Fred Sommers chimed in with:

"You know Joe. He's always ready to oblige. He'll try to answer any question, but that doesn't indicate he means to come back."

Manny Seamon, Joe's trainer, didn't say much. Cordaro had quoted him earlier: "The champion still can punch but he's not sure of his legs."

Louis now plans to stay in Los Angeles for a month or so. Whenever he's here, he's generally out on some golf course. Which never hurt anyone's legs.

In the meanwhile, Miles said, plans are going ahead for Joe's swing around the exhibition circuit. A charity bout with Turkey Thompson is in the making for January 17, and an offer from the Cow Palace in San Francisco for February 22 is under consideration.

Then in March, Louis probably will repeat his popular tour through South America.

What's In A Name?

PASADENA, Calif., Dec. 23 (AP) Sports Writer Mannie Pineda took a poll.

Referring to Ohio State's nickname, he inquired: "What's a buckeye?"

Some of the answers: A vegetable, a bush, a flower worn in a lapel, the eye of a buck deer, "a kind of chestnut," an early day pioneer, "something like a pancake—that is, a buckwheat cake."

Ohio State followers merely called it a nut, and the dictionary says: "Any of several shrubs and trees, resembling the horse chestnut, of the genus aesculus."

Syndicate Buys Into Senators

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23 (AP) A syndicate headed by a former official of the Detroit Tigers has bought a 39 per cent interest in the cellar-dwelling Washington Senators baseball team.

Senator President Clark Griffith, in announcing the deal yesterday, made clear that it doesn't affect his operation of the club. Griffith holds about 42 per cent of the stock

John James Jachym, who headed the group of purchasers, confirmed Griffith's statement from his home at Jamestown, N. Y.

"I'm for Griff 100 per cent," he said, "and I'm for Bucky Harris, the Senators' manager. There will be no attempt on the part of the syndicate to acquire control of the club."

The stock was bought—for a reported $500,000 — from Senator Treasurer William E. Richardson, who inherited it on his brother's death in 1948.

Jachym, 31, is a former newspaperman who turned to baseball after a year of journalism. He became baseball school director for the St. Louis Cardinals under Branch Rickey before the war.

When the war ended, Jachym was a marine major. On his discharge he bought the Jamestown team in the Pony league for $35,000. After three successful seasons he sold the club to the Tigers for $50,000 and joined the Detroit organization.

He quit a week ago as head of the business operations of the Detroit farm teams.

Passes to New Marks

SYRACUSE, N. Y., (AP)—Although he is only a junior on the Syracuse university football team, every time Bernie Custis completes a forward, he establishes a new Orange record.

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