

Owls Open Tonite

Astoria, Grant in Grid Semi

Generals Picked To Win

By The Associated Press
Astoria has the points and the record, but there are few experts who will predict a win for the Fishermen tonight in their crucial semi-final game in the state high school football playoff.

That's because Astoria must play Grant high of Portland, a team with the most phenomenal playoff tradition in Oregon records.

Astoria is undefeated and untied, the winner of 11 straight games this season. The team ranked No. 3 in the final AP poll. It has romped through two playoff games to date.

Grant on the other hand has been defeated once in 10 games, and ranked a notch lower—No. 4 in the final AP poll. But Grant has the tradition. It has never lost a state playoff game. It has won five titles in the eight years of the playoffs. It is after its third straight championship.

The clash in Multnomah stadium of Portland is expected to draw nearly 10,000 fans.

The contrasts will be marked, too, in the second of the semi-final games. That one will come tomorrow afternoon, matching Grants Pass against Milton-Freewater at Pendleton.

UNDEFEATED

Both are undefeated and untied in 10 straight games this season. The Grants Pass string extends further, though. The Cavemen have won 21 consecutive games since 1949.

Grants Pass was the No. 1 team in the AP poll throughout the season. The vote was unanimous for the last two weeks of the poll.

Milton-Freewater is the lowest-ranking team to survive in the play offs. It was No. 6 in the poll. But then the playoffs began, and Milton-Freewater has since acquired a reputation for upsets.

BEATS VALE

First it bowled over Roosevelt of Portland, 20-12. Roosevelt was the No. 2 team in the state. Then Milton-Freewater crushed Vale, 40-12. That one was not exactly an upset, but many observers predicted Vale would win. As a matter of fact, Vale trailed only 12-13 at the half, before Milton-Freewater began rolling.

Upwards of 6000 are expected to turn out at the Pendleton round-up grounds to see whether Milton-Freewater can produce another upset.

Kid Cools Twelfth Straight

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP)—Harry (Kid) Matthews of Seattle, ranked No. 2 on the list of the nation's light heavyweights, stopped Maynard Jones of Philadelphia at 2:31 of the second round of a scheduled ten-round bout last night.

It was the Kid's 12th straight knockout and his 65th consecutive bout without a loss.

Matthews weighed 176½ pounds for his first appearance East of the Rockies since his victory over Irish Bob Murphy at Madison Square Garden last year. Jones weighed 192. A crowd of 5261 paid nearly \$14,000 to watch the bout.

A short, jolting uppercut to the chin was the payoff punch for the Kid. The two fighters battled on even terms for most of the first round. Matthews opened the second with a blistering attack that sent his heavier opponent on three trips to the canvas, the first time for a four-count and the last time for the full count.

Basin League Holds Meeting

The far-flung Klamath Basin independent basketball league will probably operate after all.

Harold Henderson, president of the league that fielded 14 teams last year, has called a meeting for Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., in the Klamath Falls city recreation office.

Managers, sponsors and players are asked to be on hand for the organizational meeting.

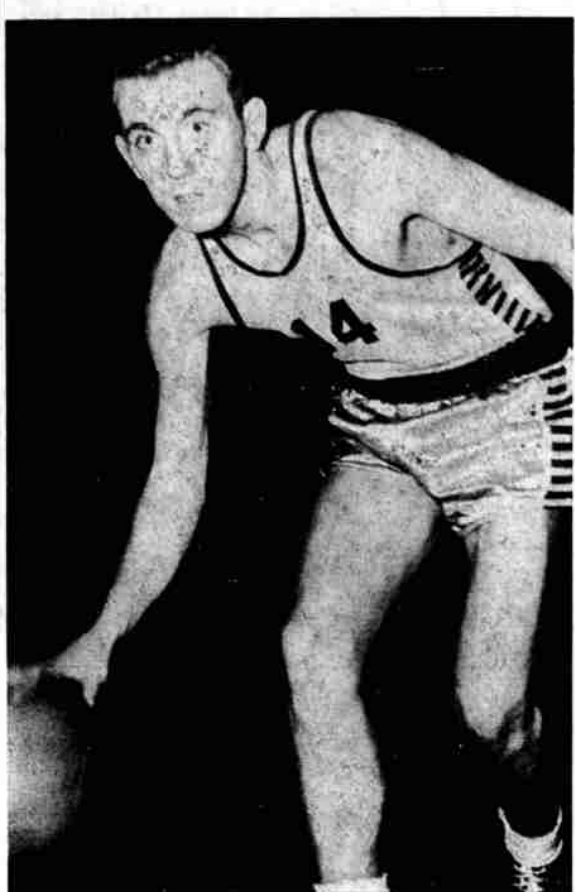
THE SCORE BOARD

By The Associated Press

TEXAS A&M 22 Texas 21

College of Otis 34 Arkansas 12

Tech 26



HE GAVE THE Klamath Falls Pelicans a lot of trouble last year as a member of the Grants Pass Cavemen five, but John Koch will be flying local colors now. He'll see action tonight and tomorrow night with the Oregon Tech Owls against Lassen Junior college on the OTI court.

SPORTS
RED HURD, SPORTS EDITOR

Bowl Foes Expected From Saturday Tilts

By ED CORRIGAN

NEW YORK, N.Y.—The waning college football season comes to the end of the trail tomorrow and when all the returns are in, the last two major bowl games probably will be decided.

Kentucky's opponent in the Cotton Bowl will be the winner of the Southwest conference, and Georgia Tech's Orange Bowl competition may come from one of the Southwest conference teams that lose out.

CAN WIN

Texas Christian can win the Cotton Bowl bid by beating Southern Methodist. If, however, TCU loses and Baylor whips Rice, then Baylor finishes at the top. If Rice wins while TCU loses, the two will wind up in a deadlock for first.

Texas is out of it, having bowed to Texas A. and M. yesterday, 22-21. The Aggies came from behind with 15 points in the third quarter to beat Texas for the first time in 12 years.

There are two other big battles—in a traditional sense—though actually neither means much from a national standpoint. Army meets Navy in Philadelphia, and Notre Dame travels to Los Angeles to play Southern California.

Time was when a couple of contests like this would have definite bearing on the final national rankings. Not this year, though. Southern California is the only one of the four with a top team. The Trojans won six in a row but have lost their last two.

Notre Dame has been having its ups and downs all season, and Army and Navy for a time looked as though they were going to enter the fray with nary a victory between them. But both defeated Columbia, and Army added The Citadel while Navy also tied Yale.

Even with their poor records, a crowd of about 100,000 is expected to jam municipal stadium for the Army-Navy affair, attracted to a large extent by the pomp and ceremony attached to it. Notre Dame and Southern California figure to lure some 50,000.

Navy and the Trojans rate favorites. The Middles are eight points over the Cadets while Southern Cal is regarded as a seven point choice over the Irish.

SEKS 20TH

Tennessee, the No. 1 team in the country in the weekly Associated Press poll, goes against Vanderbilt and is a 26-point choice to record its 20th straight victory. The Vols meet Maryland in the Sugar Bowl, January 1.

Georgia Tech, which has been waiting for its Orange Bowl opponent to be named for nearly a month, will meet Georgia, with the Engineers favored by seven and a half points. The Vols and Tech probably will wind up co-champions of the Southeastern conference.

County Teams Open Cagefare

Three of the eight Klamath county high school teams swing into non-league basketball play tomorrow.

Chiloquin hosts Tulelake. Bly is home to Lakeview while Merrill travels to Dorris to meet the Butte Valley Bulldogs.

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Orectech Launches Cage Run

By RED HURD

Preliminary games have been added to the cagefare tonight and tomorrow night when the Oregon Tech Owls host Lassen Junior college of Susanville, Calif., on their spacious court atop the hill.

Art Kirkland's Orectech Jayvees, frisky but untested, meet the Payless Druggists quint, expected to be one of the leaders in the city league this season, both nights.

Curtain-raiser time is 6:30. The Orectech-Lassen main event tips off at 8 o'clock.

Coach Street O'Connell's Owls go under fire for the first time tonight in the opening game of a busy '77 game schedule. 12 of them against Oregon Collegiate conference opponents.

TWIN BILL
The cage-opening doubleheader against the Susanville live launches a 13-game king's-X schedule before the Owls dive into league play Jan. 11.

On paper, the Owls look good enough to make a strong bid for the OCC title, last year won by Vaport when the Vikings edged out OTI for the crown.

Tonight and tomorrow night will give at least a partial answer to the strength of O'Connell's squad, sparked by four of last year's regulars.

HOLZFUSS IN
The four veterans will probably answer the opening whistle tonight along with center Wayne Holzfuss, one of the state's best prep performers from Lebanon.

The lettermen are guards Don Sutphin and Mary Hammack and forwards Jack Finkley and Homer Duncan.

The way Duncan has been hitting the net in pre-season drills to date indicates the big boy will race Sutphin for scoring honors this season.

Last year Sutphin finished second in the OCC family. Duncan was third.

CRYING TOWEL

Scraping with O'Connell for the crying towel is Lassen Coach Ron Old J. Gruneth who leads 10 carvers into the mile-high court.

Gruneth's major complaints are "lack of height and experience."

He will probably settle on forwards Don Rider (5-10) and Thornton Rhodes (5-10), center John Caughman (6-2) and guards Phil Trujillo (5-8) and Don Bollinger (5-9) as starters.

If history repeats itself, the Owls should be a shoe-in. Last year the local hoopers capped his 14-12 season with four rather convincing wins over the Lassen quintet.

Sports Mirror

By The Associated Press
Today A Year Ago—Phil Rizzuto, New York Yankees' shortstop and the American league's most valuable player for 1954, signed a contract for a reported salary of \$50,000.

Five Years Ago—Powerful Army eked out a 21-18 victory over Army and Navy eleven before 102,000 spectators in Philadelphia.

Ten Years Ago—Duke University's football team was picked to oppose Oregon State in Pasadena's Rose Bowl New Year's Day.

Twenty Years Ago—Yale's great Albie Booth was named to the Associated Press all-Eastern football team for the third consecutive year.

Three Gridders Join North Team

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP)—Two star gridders from Holy Cross and Columbia's ace end, Wesley Bonnm, are the latest to join the North for the December 29 Blue-Gray battle.

The Holy Cross players are 210-pound center Dick Murphy and half-back John Cullity, a versatile 183-pound flanker who churned up plenty of yardage for the Crusaders.

NAGS RUN

MIAMI, Fla. (AP)—Florida's 122 day horse racing season opens today at Tropical Park. Track officials predicted attendance and mutual play both would show an increase over last winter.

Tomorrow, at Fort Worth and Houston, the last shots of the conference campaign will be fired and either Texas Christian or Baylor or some combination involving Texas Christian, Rice or Baylor will wind up at the top.

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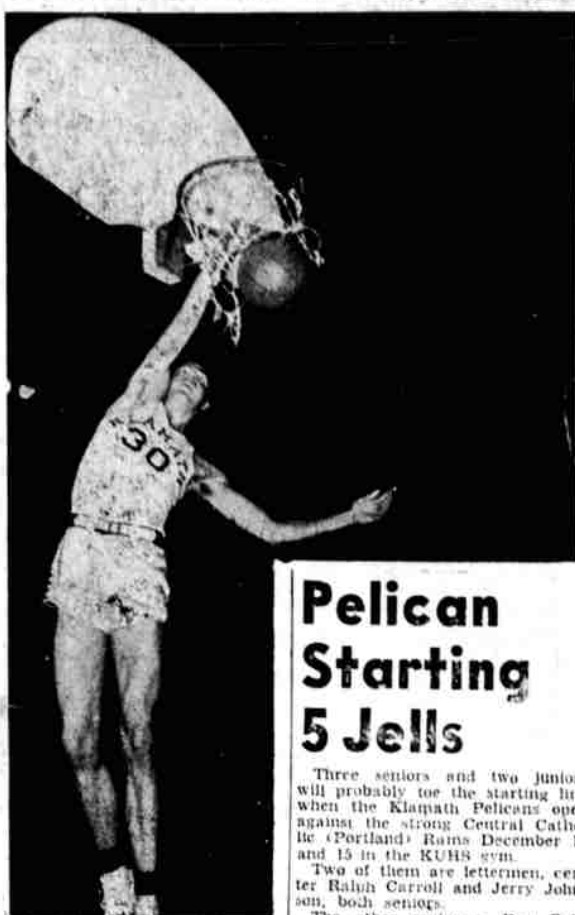


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SIX-SIX and three-quarters is a lot of height and Pelican Coach Paul McCall plans to use it to the hilt in the Klamath quint's drive for a second straight state tournament trip. The lad who nonchalantly drops the ball in the hoop is elongated Ralph Carroll, letterman center.

AGGIES UPSET TEXAS

COLLEGE STATION, Tex. (AP)—The sun shines on AggieLand today

—on a Texas A and M football team that made its last game the greatest.

From the wreckage of a tragic season, the Aggies arose magnificently yesterday to beat Texas, the team they had rather look than any other. And that 22-21 decision knocked their bitter rivals from the Southwest conference race.

FISTICUFFS
Finished in a flurry of fistuffs, the victory was a salute to deep wounds for a team that was supposed to win the championship and had to wait until the last day of the season to throw its power in the right direction.

Glenn Lippman, Yale Lary and Bill Tidwell, playing their last game as Aggies, and Darrow Hooper, a giant junior with a gifted toe, brought A&M the first victory over Texas in 12 years.

Lippman, Lary and Tidwell ripped and smashed the Texas line. Hooper kicked a field goal and a point after touchdown to actually furnish the margin.

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Moore, Matthews Fight Cooks

SEATTLE, (AP)—Archie Moore of St. Louis, will fight Harry (Kid) Matthews, of Seattle, for the right to meet light heavyweight champion Joey Maxim, if recommendations of the Washington State athletic commission are accepted.

Chairman Leslie C. Sinkins said yesterday the commission has asked the National Boxing Association to "use its influence" in arranging the bout.

Moore is ranked as the No. 1 light heavyweight contender and Matthews is listed No. 2.

In other actions, the commission continued its rule against women wrestlers in Washington State. Decreed that boxing promoters

must have at least an eight-round or six-round semi-final fight in every card, in addition to the main event and preliminaries.

Announced that promoters must notify the commission two weeks before a card what fighters are scheduled to appear on the card.

Two of them are lettermen, center Ralph Carroll and Jerry Johnson, both seniors.

The other senior is Ray Bell, a veteran but not a letterman.

JUNIORS
The juniors are Jack Horton and Calvin Gilmore, jayvee transfers, although Gilmore was moved up last year for the state tourney trip.

This quint will average just a shade under 6-3 per man.

Carroll and Bell have both added about an inch since last season. Carroll now measures 6-6 and three-quarters. Bell comes in at 6-5.

NO MIDGET
Horton is no midget at 6-4, while Gilmore is an even six feet Johnson is 5-10½.

Coach Paul McCall has a fast line of reserves, although the shock troops aren't much on height.

The subs are Oakley Summers, twins Lester (Stub) and Les Flochini, Phil Detroit, David French, Doug Pence and Ken Young. All are juniors except the Flochini boys. They're seniors.

ALTENHOFF BACK
It's very likely the Pels will meet their stiffest competition in their opening doubleheader. The Rams will have four of their last year's regulars back, including Bob Altenhoff, all-state cager two straight years and regarded by many as the best prep player in Oregon.

The Pels will have eight king's-X games before opening league play January 11 and 12 against Medford and Pelican court.

GATOR BOWL SELLOUT SEEN
MIAMI, Fla. (AP)—Signing Miami and Clemson was "the greatest thing that ever happened to the Gator Bowl," says Pres. Sam Wolfson.

The Gator Bowl at Jacksonville will be sold out in advance for the first time since the New Year's Day game was inaugurated in 1946.

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