

Mikan's Coach Says Big Pivot Still Has Two Good Years Left

(Last of two articles)
 By MURRAY OLDEMAN
 Staff Correspondent
 NEW YORK (AP)—It doesn't mean that outsize goons won't continue to infest basketball, but George Mikan may be the last of the big pivots.
 "There'll just be no pivot play, if not for Mikan it would be that way right now."
 In about two years you can expect basketball with five forwards on every team in a perennial whirl of fast breaks.
 Why two years?
 "George still has that many good seasons left," says Coach Johnny Mikan of the Minneapolis Lakers. "He hasn't slowed up yet. He's not scoring as many points, but you'll notice the other Lakers are picking up the slack."
 But after a month of action, George wasn't yielding to anyone under the boards, and they weren't running around him.
 Another reason for diminished

scoring is less playing time. At 28, middle-age for basketball, George is taking an occasional breather as the Lakers are trying to break in Lew Hitch, last year's recruit from Kansas State. The old stamina is not up to par since a virus infection slowed him late last season.
 "Yet you'll notice who's close to the league lead in rebounds," he winked. "I still can take on any man in basketball on any one night and give him more than he can handle. Fellows like Maculey and Arnie Rosen of Rochester give me the most trouble, but where do Maculey get most of his points from—long, outside shots. He runs me around half the night before he even dares get near the pivot."
 "Nowadays the pivot in basketball isn't the key man any more. It's the leading scorer. A little guy (well, comparatively, at six feet one) like Bob Cousy."
 Mr. Basketball washed up?
 "Let's just say slightly scrubbed—very slightly."

scoring is less playing time. At 28, middle-age for basketball, George is taking an occasional breather as the Lakers are trying to break in Lew Hitch, last year's recruit from Kansas State. The old stamina is not up to par since a virus infection slowed him late last season.
 "Yet you'll notice who's close to the league lead in rebounds," he winked. "I still can take on any man in basketball on any one night and give him more than he can handle. Fellows like Maculey and Arnie Rosen of Rochester give me the most trouble, but where do Maculey get most of his points from—long, outside shots. He runs me around half the night before he even dares get near the pivot."
 "Nowadays the pivot in basketball isn't the key man any more. It's the leading scorer. A little guy (well, comparatively, at six feet one) like Bob Cousy."
 Mr. Basketball washed up?
 "Let's just say slightly scrubbed—very slightly."



Huskies Garner Only Win for Northerners

By The Associated Press
 Four of five Northern Division Pacific Coast Conference basketball teams went down to defeat in pre-season games last night, and the only winner, the Washington Huskies, had to come from behind to salvage a sliver of prestige for the Northwest.
 Washington, seventh-ranked nationally, forged to a narrow 61-57 victory over the St. Louis Billikens at Seattle on the strength of a ball theft by Slippery Joe Cipriano in the last three minutes. Cipriano's layup cracked a 54-all tie and put the Huskies ahead to stay.
 The win, Washington's seventh in eight games for the campaign, gave the Huskies a sweep of the two-game series with the visiting Billikens. Capt. Mike McCutchen carried the scoring load for the winners with 19 points. Big Bob Houbregs, usual high point man, was held to 15.
 The rest of the Northern Division clubs met defeat on the road.

Pelicans Nipped By Bend

A long set shot by Maurice Rasmussen in the last 20 seconds of play gave Bend a 61-59 win over Klamath Falls last night on the Bears' court.
 Tom Hunt, Bend sparkplug for three years and this season switched to forward, did the most damage to the Pelicans over the long haul. He scored 19 points, five of his six times were in a third-quarter spurge that gave the Lava Bears a 52-40 lead going into the fourth quarter.
 The Pelis started out fast, running up a 13-2 score in the first frame. But with just two minutes to go in the first half, Rasmussen and Volney Sigmond sparked a Bend rally that added 10 points and a 28-all tie at intermission time.
 Hunt then took the reins in the third quarter to give Bend an imposing lead.
 The Pelicans rallied in the last quarter and tied the score 59-all with just a minute left. Beckon made up a 13-2 score in the first frame. But with just two minutes to go in the first half, Rasmussen and Volney Sigmond sparked a Bend rally that added 10 points and a 28-all tie at intermission time.
 Hunt then took the reins in the third quarter to give Bend an imposing lead.
 The Pelicans rallied in the last quarter and tied the score 59-all with just a minute left. Beckon made up a 13-2 score in the first frame. But with just two minutes to go in the first half, Rasmussen and Volney Sigmond sparked a Bend rally that added 10 points and a 28-all tie at intermission time.
 Hunt then took the reins in the third quarter to give Bend an imposing lead.

DeSpirito Fails In 8 Rides

By TED MEIER
 (For Gayle Talbot)
 NEW YORK (AP)—The proverbial pot of gold is just around the corner for Tony DeSpirito. Riches and world fame beckon waiting to the 18-year-old jockey who is trying to shatter a record that has stood for 46 years in racing annals.
 Already the youngster is in the higher income brackets with estimated earnings of \$50,000 for this year, that will be a mere drop in the bucket if he rides 13 more winners by New Year's eve.
 That would give the Lawrence, Mass., mite 389 winners for the year and break the record of 388 set by Walter Miller in 1906 and tied in 1950 by Willie Shoemaker and Joe Culmone.
 FAMOUS
 If he makes it—and this observer feels he has a very good chance of doing it—his name will become as well known as Earl Sande, Eddie Arcaro and Johnny Longden.
 Little Tony failed to bring in a winner in eight tries at Tropical Park yesterday, but his 376 winners to date still is more than Shoemaker or Culmone had at the same time in 1950. Then Culmone led Shoemaker, 375 to 373.
 FIRST WINNER
 Only a year ago Tony was lucky to get a job walking "hobs" at Narragansett Park. He rode his first winner at Sunshine Park in Florida last January but was so little regarded that he was advised to seek employment other than riding.
 A youth with less fortune probably would say "the heck with it!" but Tony kept plugging away in the best Horatio Alger tradition. Now he's on the verge of lasting turf fame. Come on, No. 389!

Sugar Bowl Carnival Opens

By The Associated Press
 TODAY A YEAR AGO—Australia's Frank Sedgman and Ken McGregor defeated Ted Schroeder and Tony Trabert of the United States in Davis Cup doubles, 6-2, 9-7, 6-3.
 FIVE YEARS AGO—The South All-Star football team defeated the North, 33-6, in the 10th annual Blue-Gray Football Game.
 NEW ORLEANS (AP)—Sugar Bowl activity begins with a bang Saturday as competition opens in boxing, tennis and yachting and one of the two unbeaten teams that play in the New Year's football clash starts its final pre-bowl drills.
 Mississippi, the twice-tied team that ranked seventh nationally, flies to Biloxi on the Mississippi Gulf Coast and will work out Saturday.
 Georgia Tech, unbeaten in 25 games and the second ranked team this year will fly to New Orleans Sunday night for its final drills.



KEITH THOMPSON is in line for the center position with the Oregon Tech Owls as the Hilltoppers leave tomorrow for a Monday-Tuesday cage stand in the north against Olympic and Skagit Valley Junior Colleges.

Owls Go North For 2 Games

The Owls wing north tomorrow for two games in Washington Monday and Tuesday nights.
 Oretch Coach Art Kirkland will take 13 players with him for joust with Olympic Junior College (Monday) in Bremerton and Skagit Valley JC in Mt. Vernon.
 Kirkland said yesterday he would start Keith Thompson at the center spot. The pivot position has been a headache this season but Thompson, ex-Phoenix, Ore. and showed past savvy in the Pacific University game.
 He scored two baskets on tip-ins and looked strong on the backboards in the brief time he saw action against the Badgers. But he was somewhat too rough. He fouled out in less than one quarter of play.
 If Thompson starts at center, Tom Schubert will go to a forward position, a spot more familiar to the ex-Pelican scoring ace, Jerry Wright, the Owls' leading scorer with 126 points in seven games. Gets the other forward nod.
 Len Gettlin and Walt Butler start at the guard positions.
 The Oregon Tech cagers leave tomorrow morning.

Johnny-O Aims For New Mark

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Johnny O'Brien, the biggest little man in college basketball, shoots for a new year four-inch basketball record today.
 The 5 foot, 9 inch Seattle University star needs only one point to break the record he now shares with Nate DeLong.
 DeLong netted 2,992 points some years ago while playing for River Falls, Wis., State Teachers College. Johnny tied the mark last Tuesday when he scored 29 points against New York University.
 Seattle faces St. Joseph's College in the first game of a double-header well known as the unbeaten Fordham meeting Temple in the nightcap. It shouldn't take O'Brien long after the 8 p.m. tip-off to earn his record.
 Johnny-O, whose twin brother, Eddie, also is a Seattle court star, is the only college player ever to score more than 1,000 points in a season—1,031 last year. He also holds the foul conversion record of 361. Brother Eddie was the nation's assist leader last season.

Lewis & Clark Drubs Alaskans

PORTLAND, (AP)—The University of Alaska basketball team, making a statewide tour for the first time in the school's history, took another one on the chin Friday night, losing to Lewis and Clark College here, 100-53.
 Ken Servas was high man for the Alaskans with 19 points.
 Lewis and Clark led at the half, 46-24.

Vols Arrive In Dallas

DALLAS, Tex. (AP)—Tennessee's footballers came to town Saturday and that'll be one-half the cast in the Jan. 1 Cotton Bowl football game, Texas, the other principal, flies in Sunday morning.

Breaking Houbregs' Leg Seen As Only Way to Stop Huskies

(This is the last in a series on prospects of Northern Division basketball teams).
 By JACK HEWINS
 SEATTLE (AP)—The best way to beat the University of Washington basketball team is to take Bob Houbregs out behind the gym and break his leg. It might be the only way.
 This high hunk of human is the trigger on Washington's gun. Coach Tripp Dye calls him "the greatest pivot man in basketball." The only way to keep him from scoring is to hide the ball and that's what Washington might try to do itself if it lost Houbregs.
 This is by no means a slur on the rest of the club which is defending the Northern Division championship and picked in most quarters to repeat. Only one man—Frank Guisness—is gone from the starting five that took the crown last spring.
 Dye's Huskies miss the free-wheeling Frank and they miss

Duane Knocks, who was known as the best sixth man in basketball, but Charlie Koon has moved in to plug the Guisness gap and Junior Don Tripp indicates he may be ready to come off the bench in the clutch and deliver.
 Capt. Mike McCutchen has moved to the forward spot formerly handled by Guisness and Koon, a reserve last season, is operating smoothly at guard with the veteran Joe Cipriano. Fifth man is 6 foot 8 inch Doug McClary, who has the power and agility to cope with the best under the backboards.
 Standing by to relieve either McClary or Houbregs is Sophomore Dean Parsons, another 6-8 tower who has improved greatly over his freshman season.
 The chief assignment of all hands is to get that ball to Houbregs, whose hook shot is unstoppable. He demonstrated, too, that he's something of a cat on beating his man as he piled in 26 points in one game against California.
 Slippery Joe and Koon are dead-

eyes from outside the key and not afraid to let fly at the ring. When the defense clusters around Big Bob, this pair discourages gang tactics with long range flips, Washington's own defense is a crowding, hurrying man-to-man that causes the enemy to waste a lot of shots.
 With Parsons and Tripp blossoming and Reserve Guard Will Elliott showing great promise, the Washington bench appears much stronger than it did at the season's start. But the major concern of the Husky camp is the health of Houbregs. To opponents he's been looking disgustingly healthy. Carousing on



BOB HOUBREGS ... Huskies' trigger

Martinez Eyes Davey Bout Following Win

By JACK HAND
 NEW YORK (AP)—Vince Martinez, called "Paterson No. 1" by the bobby sox 'ns, has taken another giant step toward Rookie of the Year honors. Now he's aiming toward Chuck Davey.
 Although young Vinnie may not be a rookie in a real sense, he was just another obscure welter until he hit the headlines in 1952.
 After a six-month layoff because of bad hands following an exciting win over Sammy Giuliano last June, Martinez picked up where he left off by scoring a technical knockout win over Don Williams last night at Madison Square Garden.
 The end came at 1:35 of the ninth round when Referee Ruby Goldstein decided the Worcester, Mass., veteran of 71 pro fights had enough.
 Martinez never was able to knock Williams from his feet but his fast hands handed out stiff punishment, rocking his man several times and opening a cut over his right eye.
 Referee Goldstein and Judge Art Adala had it 8-0 after eight and Judge Américo Schiavone saw it 5-3. The AP card was 7-1.
 "We're going to keep him busy now," said Tex Peite, Martinez's manager. "We're aiming for a shot at Chuck Davey. Right now we haven't any definite opponent in mind for the next two or three fights, but eventually we want to get Davey."
 It will be "eventually" because Davey is supposed to get a welter title shot at Kid Gavilan before the winter is over. Martinez will have to wait in line.
 "I was pacing myself," said Martinez. "After all, I hadn't fought in six months. I got a little tired a couple of times, but I paced myself. I didn't want to run out of gas."
 PARTISAN
 Among the crowd of 5,954 that gathered to the house of \$18,791, best Carden was in several months of 60-strong delegation from the Westinghouse plant where Martinez works as a draftsman.
 Martinez must have convinced the customers. He made such an impression on the crowd and battered Williams that he decided to quit the ring.

Detroit Pro Grid Choice

CLEVELAND (AP)—Cleveland's crippled Browns and Detroit's Lions go to the movies Saturday night, trying to shake a four-point deficit before Sunday's world championship pro football game at Municipal Stadium.
 All football players get "butterflies" before game time. But this time, with end Mac Speedie and tackle Bub Jones benched with injuries, the Browns say they are suffering the most.
 Coach Buddy Parker says the Lions are taking the title tilt in stride.
 NO DIFFERENCE
 "I don't think the championship game is any different to the players than any other important league contest," he said.
 Most important injured Lion is Jack Stantel, the No. 1 offensive tackle. Lou Creekmur will fill in for him and Bob Miller will take over Creekmur's tackle spot. Also on the Detroit injury list are Son Girard, a sub halfback, and Johnny Gande, a rookie end.
 The Browns are underdogs for the first time in their seven straight championship games that Speedie and Jones were out, said: "We've known all along that we wouldn't have them, but we kept hoping that something would happen. Still it's a shock when you get the definite word from the doctor."
 HURTS
 "This really hurts us. There is the crux of our pass offense shot to pieces. We'll be without our top scoring threats."
 As the two clubs wound up their preparations, bettors picked the Lions by 3 1/2 points to win their first National League championship will probably like those points.
 Also figuring in the odds was the regular season game the Lions took from the Browns, 17-6.

Williams May Play

MIAMI, Fla. (AP)—Ted Williams, the Boston Red Sox slugger now doing a second hitch in the Marine Air Force, hopes to resume his baseball career when he gets out of the service next September.
 "If I feel right when I get out, I'll be back in baseball," Williams said Friday as he stopped over in Miami on his way to California and, he believes, on to Korea. "I'd like to play some more."
 "But I'm getting near the age where major league players begin to go downhill," added Williams, the highest-paid baseball player in history.
 The 34-year-old outfielder had to give up a Boston job paying a reported \$125,000 a year when he was called back into the Marines last spring. He served as a flight instructor in World War II.
 While here, Williams made an investment in a fishing equipment firm and became a vice president. He said it would be good to have a sideline when his baseball days are over.

Chiloquin Wallops Redskins

Chiloquin's regulars caught a scoring fever last night to reverse a recent loss to Jacksonville on the losers' court in what would be a preview to the district playoffs for a berth in the Class B state tournament.
 The score was Chiloquin 71, Jacksonville 48.
 Chiloquin is favored to win the Klamath County cage title; Jacksonville is favored in Jackson county.
 The Redskins' D. Clay poured in 14 points in the last quarter to capture high points honors with 25.
 But all five of the Panthers took large whacks at the score column. Center Gene George poured in 23. Forwards Jo Jo George and Ronnie Legges had 16 and 14. Guards Vaden and Don Anderson finished with nine each.
 Chiloquin led all the way, 33-20 at the half and 47-27 going into the last quarter.
 Jacksonville beat Chiloquin, 62-49, last Monday night.

Shrimp Bowl Foes Clash

GALVESTON, Tex. (AP)—High-scoring Northerners State of Oklahoma and Sam Houston State of Texas clash Saturday in the Shrimp Bowl and a flood of touchdowns is anticipated.
 A crowd of 9,000 is expected to see the post-season game under its new name. It formerly was the Oleander Bowl and matched Junior College teams.
 Northeastern State, undefeated in nine games this season and loser of only one game in its last 19 encounters, is a six-point favorite.

HOCKEY

By The Associated Press
 Western League
 Seattle 6 Vancouver 3
 Tacoma 6 Victoria 1
 Saskatoon 7 Calgary 2

TIME OUT!



"Oh, Dear... I just had a hunch I shouldn't have played that hunch!"

CAGE SCORES

By The Associated Press
 (Big 7) Tournay (First Round)
 Missouri 63 Iowa State 61
 Kansas 72 Nebraska 66
 (Southwest Conference Tournay (First Round)
 Baylor 57 Texas 43
 Rice 68 Texas Christian 49
 (Hostra Invitation Tournay (First Round)
 Williams 84 Wagner 72
 Hofstra 74 Syracuse 53
 (Augustana (Sixway Falls) Tournay (First Round)
 Idaho 67 Augustana 71
 South Dakota 67 St. John's (Minn.) 69
 Other Games
 Wisconsin 64 California 57
 Iowa 86 Oregon 57
 Washington 61 St. Louis 57
 UCLA 64 Oregon State 58
 Southern California 65 Washington State 60 (Overtime)
 San Jose State 68 Stanford 67
 Washington (St. Louis) 61 Idaho 57
 Navy (Clark) Amphibs 65 Denver 61
 The Alaskans 100 Alaska Univ. 53
 Santa Clara 82 Los Angeles Loyola 67.
 Oregon Prep Basketball
 The Dalles 49 Astoria 45
 McMinnville 55 Willamette (Eugene) 30
 Clatsop 58 The Dalles JV's 36
 Prineville 56 Hermiston 39

Tony Trabert Looks Sharp

ADELAIDE, Australia. (AP)—American hopes of recapturing the Davis Cup got a big lift Saturday when Tony Trabert, the power-stroking sailor on leave, zipped through one of his most impressive workouts.
 Trabert, whose tennis got a bit rusty during Navy duty will team with Vic Seixas, the U.S. captain, against Australia's Frank Sedgman and Ken McGregor in the challenge round, opening Monday.
 Aussie officials have virtually agreed to give McGregor the nod over left-handed Mervyn Rose, who lost his two singles to the Americans last year. This means the Davis Cup final battle will be strictly a four-man affair.
 If any doubt remained about Rose, it was removed Saturday when the left-hander developed sore throat and earache and missed the Aussies' final practice.
 The Americans have young Ham Richardson and Straight Clark for reserve use, but neither is expected to see action.
 The draw is scheduled Sunday at 11 a. m., Adelaide time (5:20 p. m. Pacific standard time.)

Trojans Stage Last Scrimmage

PASADENA, Calif. (AP)—Southern California's Trojans may be delighted when Saturday's workout is over.
 Coach Jess Hill said it would be the last scrimmage the Trojans will hold in their preparations to battle Wisconsin in the Rose Bowl grid classic New Year's Day.
 Coach Ivy Williamson of the Badgers would get a scrimmed tune-up, but he has not scrimmed the squad since Rose Bowl training began, nor did he scrimmage them all season.

SPORTS MIRROR

By The Associated Press
 TODAY A YEAR AGO—Australia's Frank Sedgman and Ken McGregor defeated Ted Schroeder and Tony Trabert of the United States in Davis Cup doubles, 6-2, 9-7, 6-3.
 FIVE YEARS AGO—The South All-Star football team defeated the North, 33-6, in the 10th annual Blue-Gray Football Game.
 NEW ORLEANS (AP)—Sugar Bowl activity begins with a bang Saturday as competition opens in boxing, tennis and yachting and one of the two unbeaten teams that play in the New Year's football clash starts its final pre-bowl drills.
 Mississippi, the twice-tied team that ranked seventh nationally, flies to Biloxi on the Mississippi Gulf Coast and will work out Saturday.
 Georgia Tech, unbeaten in 25 games and the second ranked team this year will fly to New Orleans Sunday night for its final drills.

Sugar Bowl Carnival Opens

By The Associated Press
 TODAY A YEAR AGO—Australia's Frank Sedgman and Ken McGregor defeated Ted Schroeder and Tony Trabert of the United States in Davis Cup doubles, 6-2, 9-7, 6-3.
 FIVE YEARS AGO—The South All-Star football team defeated the North, 33-6, in the 10th annual Blue-Gray Football Game.
 NEW ORLEANS (AP)—Sugar Bowl activity begins with a bang Saturday as competition opens in boxing, tennis and yachting and one of the two unbeaten teams that play in the New Year's football clash starts its final pre-bowl drills.
 Mississippi, the twice-tied team that ranked seventh nationally, flies to Biloxi on the Mississippi Gulf Coast and will work out Saturday.
 Georgia Tech, unbeaten in 25 games and the second ranked team this year will fly to New Orleans Sunday night for its final drills.

NEW TRAILER HOMES
 Agency for SPARTAN-PONTIAC & CLIPPER
 NOW ON DISPLAY
 Balsiger Motor Co.
 Main at Esplanade Klamath Falls

GENE WOODS, Insurance
 Chartered Life Underwriter,
 Chartered Property and Casualty Underwriter
 122 South Ninth Phone 6369
 Klamath Falls, Oregon
 INSURANCE ACCOUNTS SOLICITED
 ON AUDIT AND ANALYSIS BASIS
 Fire . . . Casualty . . . Auto . . . Life
 Top Old Line Companies Only

YOUR EYES will POP when you see the Beautiful, Entirely New 1953 CHEVROLET It's coming FRIDAY JAN. 9 SEE IT AT—ASHLEY CHEVROLET 410 So. 6th Ph. 4113

BASKETBALL
 SPORTCASTS Oregon State vs. UCLA
 Direct from Los Angeles
 Tonight at 8:30
 KFJI Your Sports Station
 FLYING SERVICE