



BATTLING NELSON
...last bell

Nelson Dies On Sunday

By TOM BRANAGAN

CHICAGO (AP) — The courageous, tragic life of Oscar (Battling) Nelson, one of boxing's finest, ended yesterday in a charity ward.

The former brilliant and once wealthy lightweight champion succumbed to lung cancer at the age of 71—a wasted, incoherent little man without a penny.

It was the end of a slide from the heights of prestige and fortune—a slide that began nearly 25 years ago for the storied Durable Dane, whose fists earned him the world's title in the early 1930s.

He lost a half million-dollar fortune in the financial crash of 1929 and spent his last years subsisting on the public dole and the handouts of friends.

Just a month ago he was committed to the Chicago State Hospital after a court found him suffering from "an incurable senile dementia" and unable to take care of himself. A week before, his wife Edna, 40, had died.

Nelson weighed only 80 pounds when he was sent to the institution.

PURSES
He and Mrs. Nelson had been living in a cheap near North Side hotel for several years. Periodically friends who remembered his past greatness got together to keep them going.

Nelson, who came to this country from Denmark as an infant, fought his first fight at 14 against a circus heavyweight. He won with one punch but the management reneged on a promised \$1 payment and it was 16 years before the Dane collected. He sued the circus and was awarded the dollar with interest.

Thereafter, in a 22-year ring career, he fought approximately 250 times. He won the lightweight championship in 1908 with a knockout over Joe Gans, the clever Baltimore Negro, and lost it in 1910 in a 40-round bout with Ad Wolgast.

LAST MATCH
His last match, in 1917, was a 12-round no-decision affair with the then-lightweight champion, Fred Welsh.

Nelson's fighting weight was 133 pounds and those who saw him say he was the greatest piece of fighting machinery the prize ring has ever known. He also was noted for an amazing capacity for absorbing punches.

Nelson lost all he had in 1929 in a real estate venture and until he quit working because of poor health a few years ago had since put his hand to odd jobs and postal clerking.

Pelicans Drill For Medford

The Klamath Pelicans return to conference play this weekend after dropping two games to the Shasta Wolves at Redding.

The Wolves won 58-40 Saturday night after a 61-48 win Friday night. The Pelis go to Medford for a Friday-Saturday series, the first of second round games as the Klamath team attempts to catch up with Grants Pass, one game up after the first half of play.

Saturday's game in Redding was slow in the first half but stepped up after the intermission.

The Pelis held the lead twice early in the game at 3-2, then 4-2, but ended the first quarter with just six points while Dave Brewer sparked Shasta in a 15-point period. Redding slumped to three points in the second quarter but the Pelis lost a chance to catch up when they connected on just seven points as Redding took an 18-13 halftime lead.

But after the rest period Redding put together 19 and 21-point quarters and Klamath Falls never threatened, although they started hitting better to score 13 in the third, 14 in the fourth.

Fred Morrison sank seven field goals for 14 points, while Mike Preseau, Shasta's big gun, was held to just eight points. None of the Pelicans hit two-figure; Dave D'Olivo was high with eight points.

Boxer Up On Dope Charge
LOS ANGELES (AP) — The chairman of the California State Athletic Commission promises a drastic investigation of boxing following the arrest on narcotics charges of welterweight Oscar Reyes who was scheduled for the main event Tuesday at the Olympic Auditorium.

Reyes, booked on suspicion of peddling heroin, may be suspended by the commission. He had been considered one of the state's most promising boxers in the 147-pound division. The Olympic replaced him with Frankie Skidmore, Salinas, Calif., to oppose Ramon Tiscareno, Juarez, Mex.

Reyes was the third local boxer to be arrested on narcotics counts in the last year. Keeney Teran, a bantamweight main event, and Danny Duran, a preliminary fighter, were the others.

Tony Entenza, the athletic commission chairman, declared: "I've had some little inquiry of my own going on, and I'm amazed at some of the material I've uncovered about managers and fighters in general. I think the time has come to have the managers in for an examination by the commission."

Reyes was one of 81 persons jailed in a dope crackdown by police and sheriff's officers Saturday. Dist. Atty. S. Ernest Roll said the cases will be sent to the county grand jury on Wednesday.

Brown Paces Ski Victory
GOVERNMENT CAMP, Ore. (AP) — Sixteen-year-old Frank Brown paced a team from McCall, Idaho, to victory in the two-day Pacific Northwest Ski Assn. Junior championships here over the weekend.

Brown won the jumping and cross-country events Sunday and took second in the downhill and third in the slalom Saturday to pile up 393.6 points.

Stan Harwood and Dave Butts, both of McCall, were second and third respectively.

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HIGH MAN — When Italy's newest heavyweight boxing find, Milo Maligoli, is measured, the attendant has to stand on a chair to read the figure. He's seven feet tall.

Sports In Brief
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GOLF
PHOENIX, Ariz. — Carry Middlecott of Memphis, Tenn., with a 71, and Ed Purgel of St. Louis, Mo., with a 68, tied at 272 for the \$10,000 Phoenix Open Tournament.

HOLLYWOOD, Fla. — Cookie Swift, Great Neck, L.I., and Vonnue Colby, Hollywood, Fla., won the women's International Amateur Four-ball Tournament.

LEXINGTON, Ky. — Head Coach Paul Bryant was released at Kentucky to become head coach, and athletic director at Texas A&M.

CHICAGO (AP) — Nelson, former world's lightweight champion, died of lung cancer at the age of 71.

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. — Top-seeded Gardnar Mulloy of Miami won the 10th annual Austin Smith championship, defeating Lorne Main of Montreal, 6-4, 6-3, 6-0.

DAVOS, Switzerland — Boris Shikov, Russia's 26-year-old world speed skating champion, won the 1954 European championship.

NEW YORK — Mal Whitfield, the ex-Air Force sergeant from Columbus, Ohio, captured both the half mile and the 800-yard events at the Millrose Games and the Wannamaker Mile was won by Joey Bartel of Luxembourg in 4:07.5.

RICHMOND, Ky. — Eastern Kentucky snapped Western Kentucky's 21 game winning streak, defeating the Hilltoppers 63-54.

Reigger Wins Reno Shoot
RENO (AP) — Seattle's Arnold Reigger added the over-all championship of the Reno Midwinter Handicap Trapshoot to his long list of victories.

Reigger's four-day score was 658x700. Al Ljutic, Reno, won the Sunday shoot with 98x100 from 21 yards. Mort P. Askrann, Minn. N.D., was next with 97x100 from the same distance.

Mrs. Evelyn Primm, Los Angeles and Reno, won the women's division and Sunday's final handicap. Her handicap score was 93x100.

Vikings Next For Oretech

OCC STANDINGS

Eastern Oregon 82 Oregon Tech 72
Western Oregon 72 Oregon Tech 72
Portland State 54 Oregon College 52

Oregon Tech will try to salvage a 500 season in the Oregon Collegiate Conference race Friday and Saturday nights here against Portland State after losing two games to Eastern Oregon over the weekend in La Grande.

The Mountaineers scored an 82-72 win Saturday night to add to its 88-60 win over the Owls Friday night.

Ted Schadewitz again paced the La Grande quint with 28 points while three of his teammates chipped in with two-figure contributions. Larry Pryse had 19, Ken Westover 15 and Bob Adrian 14.

Big Keith Thompson scored 18 for the Owls; Don Sulphur scored 14, Gary Dorn 12 and Jerry Wyatt 10.

Saturday's score was tied three times in the first period that ended in a 19-all tie after Sulphur scored from the key.

But after Adrian hit on a hook shot and free throw early in the second quarter, the Mountaineers were ahead to stay.

Eastern Oregon puffed its margin to 15 points in the third quarter. The Owls, hitting 15 of 31 shots from the floor in the second half, cut the lead to 10 points.

The Owls dominated the backboards and used a tight zone defense for three quarters, switching to man-to-man in the final quarter in an attempt to catch up.

The weekend series with Portland State ends league play for the Owls; after that it's trips to Arcata, Calif., and Ashland for rematch series with Humboldt State and Southern Oregon.

OREGON TECH
Hutchie, f. 2 3 5 10
Walt, f. 3 4 3 10
Thompson, c. 7 4 4 18
Sulphur, c. 8 2 0 14
Dorn, g. 5 2 3 12
Reserves:
Edgren 1 0 0 2
Savage 0 1 1 1
Cunningham 0 1 1 1
Arcia 0 1 0 1
Schorn 2 2 0 4
Totals 38 28 79 72

E. OREGON
Weston, f. 8 3 15 19
Pryse, f. 7 3 4 19
Adrian, c. 6 2 5 14
Schadewitz, g. 10 8 4 28
Reserves:
Savage 0 1 2 1
Totals 39 22 54 87

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HOT TIP — Jockey Sammy Boulmetis sunbathes and sips iced tea between mounts at Hialeah.

Chiefs In 23rd Win
SEATTLE (AP) — The Seattle University Chiefs, their toughest hurdles behind them, will try to stretch the nation's longest basketball winning streak to 24 straight Tuesday night in a meeting here with College of Puget Sound.

The Chiefs, ranked No. 6 in the latest Associated Press poll, cleared a major obstacle Sunday night by topping Gonzaga 70-58 to sweep a two-game series at Spokane. They won Saturday night 71-49.

After Puget Sound, the Seattle five will rest two weeks, then close out their schedule with a pair of games here with Portland State and the University of Washington.

The Chiefs already boast victories over the two schools and expect to wind up their regular season with 26 straight wins and a single defeat. They were beaten by Wichita in the first game of the season.

Joe Pehnick and Stan Glowaski teamed Sunday night to help the Chiefs to victory No. 23. Pehnick dropped in 18 points and Glowaski 16. Jerry Vermillion was high for Gonzaga, also with 16.

Jim Piersall of the Boston Red Sox led the American League in sacrifice hits during the 1953 season with 19.

PAIGE SAYS OFFER LOW
LOS ANGELES (AP) — Satchel Paige says it will take more than \$10,000 to lure him to the Modesto club of the Class C California Baseball League.

Paige said here he hadn't heard officially from the Modesto president, Tom Mellis, who announced Saturday he was offering that much to the veteran Negro pitcher, recently released by the American League Baltimore Orioles.

Paige has been conferring with Los Angeles of the Pacific Coast League, reportedly dickering for about \$20,000. He plans to return to his Kansas City home Wednesday.

Woods that spark most, in the order of their doing so, are white cedar, red cedar, alder, hemlock, balsam, the spruces, soft pines, basswood, box elder, chestnut, tulip, sassafras and willow. — Sports Afired.

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NCAA Field Will Look Familiar

By RIF WATSON

NEW YORK (AP) — College basketball's world series, the annual NCAA Tournament, gets under way exactly one month from today—and it looks like a replay of last year's meet.

More than half a dozen of the teams that began the scramble to qualify again next month, with Indiana's defending champions leading the way.

The Hoosiers, heading toward their second straight Big Ten title with a 7-0 conference mark, play host tonight to Minnesota, a team they whipped last month in Minneapolis. It's the last chance for Indiana's defending champions leading the way.

Bob Leonard and Don Schlundt, the Hoosiers' one-two punch, sparked Indiana to a 97-74 victory over Michigan State Saturday night. The team was ranked third in the Associated Press poll last week.

12TH WIN
Notre Dame, which bowed to Indiana in the NCAA quarter-finals last year, won its 12th game against only two setbacks by turning back De Paul 59-53 Saturday. The Irish, ranked seventh nationally, appear certain to be named one of the "at large" teams east of the Mississippi River.

Seattle, just as certain a choice for one of the Western "at large" berths for the second successive year, now boasts the longest winning streak among major colleges. No. 23 was a 70-58 romp over Gonzaga. Seattle is ranked sixth.

Tenth-ranked Holy Cross should gain an Eastern "at large" berth, if the Crusaders decide on the National Invitation Tournament. With a 16-1 mark, they can choose their tournament.

Kansas, which lost the NCAA final to Indiana last year on Leonard's foul shot, is tied with Colorado for the Big Seven lead. Louisiana State, a semifinalist in '53, is tied with Kentucky for the Southeastern Conference lead.

Idaho State, beaten in the first round last year, could be the first team to clinch a berth in the 1954 tournament. A two-game sweep over Colorado State this week will assure Idaho State the team's second successive Rocky Mountain Conference title.

Fordham (14-2) and Oklahoma City (12-4) have the records, to gain "at large" berths again. Louisiana State probably faces the toughest task of all. Both the Bayou Tigers and Kentucky Wildcats should go through their SEC schedules without a loss, which would necessitate a playoff. Even

if Kentucky wins, they won't be able to use All America Cliff Hagan, Frank Ramsey and Lou Tioropoulos in the NCAA.

EYE 18
Kentucky, No. 1 in the AP poll, wallowed Georgia 100-68 Saturday for the team's 18th without defeat. They should make it 18 this week against Florida and Mississippi.

Duquesne, ranked just behind Kentucky with an 18-0 mark, was even more impressive. The Dukes not only whipped the Quantic Marines-81-68, but stopped Paul Arizin, Philadelphia Warriors star, with 12 points.

Kentucky, Duquesne and little Norwich (14-0) are the only unbeaten teams left now.

Two upsets jarred the top 10 as Eastern Kentucky whipped Western Kentucky No. 4, 63-54, and George Washington topped Duke, No. 8, 76-71.

Oklahoma A&M, ranked fifth, was idle but ninth-ranked La Salle was busy winning a 100-83 scramble over Furman. Frank Selvy outscored Tom Gola, La Salle's All America, 40-26, but Gola also got 27 rebounds and his team won the game.

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Montreal 4, New York 1
Boston 1, Detroit 1
Chicago 2, Toronto 1
WESTERN LEAGUE
Seattle 10, Saskatoon 2

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