

O'Connell Quits OTI Post

Athletic Director To Buy Local Tavern

F. L. (Skeet) O'Connell ends six years as Oregon Tech athletic director in June to devote full-time to a tavern business he takes over April 1.

O'Connell, basketball star with the Oregon State Beavers in the early '30s, has had his resignation filed with OTI officials for several weeks and late yesterday made it public to the Herald and News.

O'Connell, who this season steered the Owls to a 12-12 basketball season after a return to the cage sport, is buying Schuss' Tavern, 117 S. 7th, and plans to change the name of the establishment.

O'Connell, in releasing for publication his resignation as head of the Oregon Tech athletic program, said he believed he had "successfully accomplished his objective" — that of instituting an athletic program on the mile-high campus which would permit competition in various sports on an equal footing with smaller colleges — and recalled the "several fine years" he had "enjoyed at the Institute."

O'Connell, who prepped at Commerce High School (now Cleveland) in Portland where he starred in football, basketball and track, later made a name for himself as a hoop star at Oregon State College under Slat's Gill, still basketball mentor at the Corvallis school.

ALL STATE

In high school, he made the All-City team in football and basketball in 1929 and 1930, adding all-state laurels in basketball the latter year.

He held the Oregon high school broad jump record.

In college, he was named on the All-Pacific Coast Conference team in basketball and gained honorable mention on the New York Sun's All-America team.

His name still goes with superlatives when past Northern Division basketball players are recalled.

He also held the Northwest broad jump record in college.

After graduation from college, O'Connell coached football, basketball and track at Ashland High School and later took a Corvallis High School team to the state tournament (in 1942) where he captured second place.

A coaching job at Yuba City, Calif., and a hitch in the Navy preceded his stint at Oregon Tech.

Oregon Tech Director Winston Purvine said today that he had no "immediate plans" for replacing O'Connell but indicated something would be done along that line soon.

Purvine had nothing but praise for O'Connell. "We have enjoyed having Skeet with us," Purvine said, "and he did us a lot of good... his services have been greatly appreciated."

STATEMENT

O'CONNELL released this statement to the Herald and News, a copy of his resignation given to OTI officials:

"At the time I was hired at Oregon Technical Institute, the idea in mind was to institute an ath-



BILL FLETCHER, shown here mopping up on Georges Dusette last week at the Armory, gets a chance tonight against Eric Pedersen, the vain musclemen, in the semiwindup that promises to steal the mat show. — Photo by Don Kettler

Fletcher Could Give Eric Trouble Tonight

Eric Pedersen, who is probably the only wrestler in the Northwest from whom an appearance forfeit is necessary, is down for action tonight at the Armory in a bout that promises to steal the spotlight from the attractive main event.

The feature scrap sends popular and good-looking John Paul Henning of Miami, Fla., against Kurt Von Poppenheim, the Swastika Swatter, in a one-hour match with a two-of-three-fall stipulation.

MUSCLES

Pedersen, who ripples his muscles for the "edification" of the crowd when he gets a chance, may not get that chance tonight.

He faces Bill Fletcher, a Boise, Ida., lad who has shown vast improvement since his string of bouts here last season.

Fletcher surprised probably everyone but himself last week when he battled Georges Dusette on even terms for 30 minutes. That's no small feat and spells trouble for the vain, strutting Pedersen in the 30-minute semiwind-

up. This one also is the best two of three falls.

POWDER

Matchmaker Mack Lillard first obtained a chunk of money from Pedersen before he signed him. (Pedersen has ducked out of matches in the past, but will have



ERIC PEDERSEN

to show tonight to pick up his money.

Dusette and Juan Hernandez tangled in the opener, also a half-hour, two-of-three bout.

The Armory ticket office opens 7:30, one hour before the first bout.



SKEET O'CONNELL ... basketball to beer.

letic program which would permit competition in various sports on an equal footing with the smaller colleges. This objective, I believe, has been successfully accomplished.

"My training has been chiefly in the academic field and since I feel that my original objective at Oregon Tech has been completed through the establishment of this athletic program, I wish to submit my resignation as Director of Athletics. This may be effective at your pleasure following June 30, 1954.

"I have enjoyed several fine years at the Institute. I have witnessed the growth of the student body from a few in number to the present hundreds, and have noted a corresponding growth of interest in the Institute on the part of the people of Klamath Falls, the entire state, and the surrounding areas. These factors alone provide satisfaction of accomplishment, and have made a lasting impression upon me."

EXHIBITION BASEBALL

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tuesday's Results

Detroit (A) 6, Philadelphia (N) 5
Cleveland (A) 17, Chicago (N) 8
Baltimore (A) 10, New York (N) 9
St. Louis (N) 10, Chicago (A) 9
(11 innings)

Boston (A) 6, New York (A) 5
Cincinnati (N) vs Brooklyn (N) cancelled rain
Pittsburgh (N) vs Milwaukee (N) cancelled rain

Herald and News SPORTS

RED MURD, Sports Editor

Kid Down, But Whips Burnett

SPOKANE (AP) — Seattle's Harry (Kid) Matthews took an eight-count in the second round Tuesday night but came back to earn a unanimous decision over Murray Burnett of Chicago in their 10-round heavyweight boxing match.

Murray, who at 171½ spotted Matthews a 10-pound weight advantage, floored the Kid with a left followed by a hard right early in the second stanza. Dazed by the blow, Matthews took an eight-count before climbing to his feet.

Matthews forced the fight the rest of the way and picked up more points with a sharp body attack.

The scrap was the second in the "fight a month" comeback campaign planned for Matthews by Manager Jack Hurley. The Kid knocked out Jack Nelson of Salt Lake City in 76 seconds in a bout here a month ago.

Preliminaries included:
Pat McMurtry, 184, Tacoma, knocked out Billy Carter, 174, Vancouver, B.C., (3).
Dixon Hoxsey, 141, Seattle, stopped Kid Leon, 139, Ogden, Utah (2).

Mitchell Whips Chuck Ross

KENNEWICK, Wash. (AP) — The judges gave Bob Mitchell of Spokane the decision over Chuck Ross of Portland in an eight round heavyweight boxing match here Tuesday night.

Mitchell weighed 192 to Ross' 206 pounds.

Preliminary results:
Barrie Jackson, 174, Spokane, outpointed Joey Aguilar, 170, Seattle (4).
Jack Frost, 145, Spokane, outpointed Frank Armenta, 146, San Jose, Calif., (4).
Leo Bruce 130, Spokane knocked out Duane Crist, 130, Spokane, (3).

Trojans In SOC Tourney

The Sacred Heart Trojans have been invited to the Southern Oregon College Invitational Class B basketball tourney in Ashland and play Thursday night.

The tourney runs through Saturday.

Couch Jim Souza will take with him the same players he used in the Klamath County Tournament where the Trojans captured the consolation title.

Bill Snider and Al Reginato are down for starting forward positions, Roger Seibert at center, Dean Michaels and Dino Reginato at guards.

Others making the trip are Dick Wickline, Phil Collins, John Deputy, John Reed and Dick Durrell.

Ontario, Benson In

Two more teams qualified Tuesday for the state high school basketball tournament at Eugene March 16-20.

They are Ontario, which downed Baker 55-43 for the district 1 championship, and Benson of Portland which earned the district 16 title with a 41-39 victory over Cleveland.

That left only two berths unfilled for the tournament.

Milwaukie, No. 1 in the Associated Press poll, advanced one game closer to the district 12 championship with a 67-48 win over Oswego and meets Molalla Friday in the title game.

Estacada eliminated Central Catholic of Portland, 61-59, from district 13 play. Gresham or Estacada will represent the district.

'Shoe' Rides 3

SAN MATEO, Calif. (AP) — Willie Shoemaker, the world's leading jockey, scored three wins and two seconds Tuesday in the opening card of Bay Meadows race track's 45-day meeting.

Rookie Sparks Tribe In Grapefruit League

By BEN OLAN
Associated Press Sports Writer

Rookie Rudy Regalado, an infielder by trade and a terrific hitter by the looks of things, is the player they're all talking about in the camp of the Cleveland Indians today.

A student at the University of Southern California, Regalado, 23, is making sure Manager Al Lopez knows he's around.

Yesterday, he connected for two home runs and a pair of singles as the Indians walloped the Chicago Cubs 17-6.

The youngster's bat has been sizzling all spring. In 23 times at bat, he's collected 13 hits for a .391 average. He's hit five homers and batted in 11 runs.

ONE YEAR

Yet he's had only a year of professional experience. He played most of last season with Reading of the Eastern League, where he batted .325. Then he was sent to Indianapolis.

Actually, he is still on the Indianapolis roster, but if he keeps up his present pace he's a cinch to stick with Cleveland. He has played second and third base.

Meanwhile, the rest of the Cleveland players haven't been twiddling their thumbs. In fact, the Tribe has compiled 64 runs in the four games they've played—or 16 runs per game.

HOMER

Al Rosen, the American League's Most Valuable Player in 1953, chipped in with a bases-loaded homer in yesterday's triumph. Outfielders Dave Philley and Wally Westlake and first baseman Billy Glynn also hit drives out of the park as did Bruce Edwards of the Cubs.

The Indians play the Baltimore Orioles today and that one could develop into a real bummer.

The Orioles still are unbeaten this spring. They came from behind with a pair of ninth-inning runs yesterday to down the New

York Giants 10-9.

MORE HOMERS

Sam Mele and Jim Fridley hit home runs for Baltimore while Hank Thompson hit two and Ray Katt one for the Giants.

At St. Petersburg, Fla., Solly Hemus, seeking to hold on to his regular shortstop job, drove out four hits, the last a bases-clearing triple in the 11th inning to give the St. Louis Cardinals a 10-9 decision over the Chicago White Sox.

Bonus baby Billy Consolo doubled home the tying and winning runs as the Boston Red Sox scored four times in the ninth inning to defeat the New York Yankees 6-5. The Detroit Tigers picked up their first triumph of the year, edging the Philadelphia Phillies 6-3 at Lakeland, Fla.

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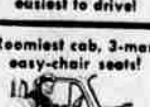
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