

Bly Bobcats May Be Surprise Team

Bernard Smirch, a graduate of Utah State Ag in 1932, could very well be sitting in the darkhorse seat as far as the coming County League basketball race is concerned with his Bly Bobcats.

In his first season at the county school, Smirch could field a team that will mean trouble to last year's defending champs, Malin, and the runnerup in last year's post-season tournament, Chiloquin, as he has seven returning lettermen back from last year.

HOOPSTER

Out of these seven are the five starters that saw the major share of league action for Bly last season, including all-league hoopster Sherman Seastrong, 6-2, two-year letter winner of the Bobcats.

Besides Seastrong, Smirch has a turnout of 22 hopefuls in his attempt to make his first season at Bly a successful one, including Jim Martin, Danny Caven and

Jeff Tecumseh all two-year letter winners. The other pair of single monogram winners are Stanley Tecumseh and William Nixon.

Stan Tecumseh, Cavan, Hadley, Nixon and Seastrong were the starters for the Bly quintet during the latter part of last season, and with this experience could make it rough on the other teams around the Basin.

Other hoop support is expected to come from Merlin Joneschiet, a non-letter winner from last year's club and Glenn Moore, 15-year old 6 foot 4 inch freshman center who is coming up through the squads of the school's teams.

STRENGTH

Pete Herrera and Jack Dillavou both of whom are juniors are expected to add strength to Smirch's quintet before the season is over. The Bobcats first maple court battle will be December 3 against Paisley on the Bly court, while they meet Lakeview at Lakeview the following night. The first league encounter for the quintet will be December 17 when they meet Gilchrist in a road game.

In the past few seasons, Bly hasn't fared so well in the final season outcome, and this year could be their time, should they take a notion to build a basketball powerhouse. Last year they were beaten in the second round of the tournament by Malin 55-29.

HARDWARE

In the year 1952-53 they finished in the basement of the league standings with a 0-6 record, and suffered a first round defeat in the tournament that followed the regular season of play. This was the year that Chiloquin went to the state tournament and captured the fourth place hardware in the B-tourney at Salem.

The Bobcats found themselves in the next-to-last spot of the league standings in the 1951-52 season and then advanced to the semi-finals of the championship round before being knocked out of contention.

Their best season came in 1950-51 when they finished in a tie for second with Bonanza and Chiloquin, and then found their way into the finals of the consolation round of the post-season tournament before dropping a 44-31 decision to Henley.

Denver Cancels Grid Battle With Mexico City

DENVER (AP) — Denver University announced Wednesday its final 1954 football game, scheduled Dec. 4 at Mexico City College, has been cancelled.

DU Athletics Director E. E. (Tad) Wieman said Paul V. Murray, president of Mexico City College, telegraphed: "Deeply regret necessity to cancel our game on Dec. 4. Local conditions plus peso exchange make it impossible to meet guarantee."

Wieman said it was understood here Mexico City College ran into difficulties promoting the game because of recent devaluation of the peso, dwindling crowds and Mexican government restrictions on raising admission prices for the game.

Kansas City Successor Still Sought

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — With his directors still undecided on a successor to Kansas City, President Ed Doherty of The American Assn. was leaving Thursday for a minor league convention which may provide an answer to the question.

A joint meeting with the Western League also is scheduled Sunday at the convention, to be held at Houston, Tex.

Doherty said Wednesday he had notified the Western League his directors still have not decided on the Class A team for which they wish to negotiate.

The Assn. had hoped to pinpoint before Sunday the territory it wishes to draft from the Western League.

Holding up things are the negotiations among the city of Columbus, the St. Louis Cardinals and the New York Yankees, who were left with a homeless Assn. franchise after the American League took Kansas City.

The Cardinals have offered Red Bird Stadium in Columbus to that city for \$550,000. The Cards own the Assn. franchise in Columbus, but wish to shift it to Omaha of the Western League, which they also own.

Sports Notes

TOKYO (AP) — Cold, drizzling rain forced postponement of the 15-round title bout scheduled Thursday night between world flyweight champion Yoshio Shirai of Japan and Argentina's Pascual Perez. The outdoor fight was reset for Friday night.

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Wally Moses, who hit often and well for 17 years in the American League, was signed Wednesday as batting coach of the Philadelphia Phillies. The former Philadelphia A's outfielder is 44.

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