

Sacred Heart, Malin Clash In B Loop Fray

| COUNTY B LEAGUE | | |
|-----------------|---|-------|
| Team | W | Pct. |
| Malin | 2 | 1.000 |
| Sacred Heart | 2 | .667 |
| Merrill | 2 | .667 |
| Bly | 1 | .500 |
| Chiloquin | 1 | .333 |
| Bonanza | 1 | .333 |
| Gilchrist | 0 | .000 |

For the second straight week, Sacred Heart Academy's gymnasium draws the big game of the week for County B League basketball tonight as coach Dino Obisso's SHA Trojans host the defending champions, the Malin Mustangs in a battle for first place.

Last week, Merrill invaded the Academy territory with a perfect 2-0 record, and the Trojans dumped the Mustangs by a 19 point margin. But Malin is setting its sights on a third straight league win when the two clubs collide.

Lawrence Makes Bid For Medal

CORTINA, Italy (UP)—Skier Andrea Mead Lawrence, defending champion in the women's giant slalom but a "dark horse," nevertheless, makes a bid for America's first gold medal today while other U.S. hopefuls also begin competition in three other events of the Winter Olympic Games.

The women's giant slalom and the men's grueling 30-kilometer cross-country ski races involved the only two gold medals actually at stake today but the Russians and Finns are expected to monopolize the latter event.

American chances were somewhat brighter in two other events on today's program—the first and second runs of the 100-meter bobsled competition and a hockey game between the U.S. and Czechoslovakia.

The only other events scheduled are hockey games between Canada and Austria, Italy and Germany, and Russia and Sweden.

Mrs. Lawrence, a 23-year-old mother of three children from Parshall, Colo., was the only American to win two gold medals in the 1952 winter games, but the majority of experts did not figure her to beat favored Madeleine Berthod of Switzerland today.

IMPRESSIVE
Andrea, or "Andy" as everyone refers to her, made her last practice run Thursday on the 1,700 meter Canalone Delle Tofane slope where the women's giant slalom will be held and looked impressive doing so. She had a little bell fastened to one of her ski poles and wore the same boots that brought her a double championship at Oslo in 1952.

"I have no idea," she replied when asked whom she thought would win the event. "The competition is so good from so many quarters I couldn't make any predictions."

Mrs. Lawrence will defend her title against 51 other entrants from 15 countries.

The Olympic Games started officially Thursday with two hockey matches. In them, Canada, paced by Jerry Theberge's three-goal "hat trick," defeated Germany, 4-0, and Italy came from behind to beat Austria, 2-1.

But even as the hockey matches squabble was taking place behind the scenes over the "seeding" of competitors in the men's giant slalom ski race, scheduled for Sunday.

WALK OUT
The heated argument, in which American, Russian, French and officials of other nations took part, was climaxed when the delegate from Iceland walked out of the meeting in disgust.

The argument arose over the fact that 21 skiers from 10 countries were "seeded" the advantage of starting earliest over the perishable course. The remaining field of 74 was practically condemned to defeat in advance by receiving whatever was left of the starting numbers.

Vyacheslav Zhabavine, the leader of the Russian ski team, became so angry that only one of his team of four got a choice placing that he shoved his translator aside and started shouting at jury members in Russian.

TIME OUT



Ed gets so excited over the fights, I just had to do something to protect our furniture!

Jim Demaret Snares Lead In Golf Open

PALM SPRINGS, Calif. (AP)—The main topics of interest in this usually sunny desert resort today were Jimmy Demaret and the weather.

Demaret led a field of 42 pros into the second round of the \$15,000 Thunderbird Tournament thanks to a 7-under-par 64 in the opening fire.

It rained so hard last night that the pro-amateur sideshow was postponed until Saturday.

Demaret had a lead of two strokes going into today's play over the 6,843-yard, par 35-35-71 Thunderbird Country Club course.

His nearest foes were Gene Littler, Julius Boros, Doug Ford and Bo Wimmer, all with 66.

Demaret won the event here in 1953 when it was a 54-hole tournament. He beat out Ben Hogan with a birdie and an eagle on the last two holes.

Three strokes off the pace at 67 were Gary Middlecoff, Gardner Dickinson Jr., El Paso's Fred Hawkins and Jimmy Hines, Thunderbird's club pro.

Seven were bunched at 68, including Art Wall Jr., Jack Burke and Byron Nelson.

The casualty list in a round that produced 26 sub-par scores included the three players who fought it out for the \$2,000 top money a year ago. They were Shelley Mayfield, the ultimate winner in 1955, and Mike Souchak, the big guy who won the Calliente Open Sunday. Both with 71. Freddie Haas, the 1954 Thunderbird champion, had a 73.

W. Pastrano, Spieser Meet

MIAMI BEACH, Fla. (AP)—Willie Pastrano of New Orleans figures to be a 7-5 choice over Chuck Spieser of Lansing, Mich., when the two light heavyweight contenders meet in a 10-round fight in the auditorium tonight.

Pastrano, strapping 20-year-old who has not lost a fight since Nov. 30, 1953, when Italo Scottichini beat him, is expected to weigh in at around 182 pounds, which would give him a weight advantage.

Spieser, a Michigan State graduate, is a puncher who has won six of seven fights since coming out of the Army last March. He lost only to Pastrano, in Chicago last July, and since then has been anxious for a return engagement.

NBC will broadcast and telecast at 10 p.m., EST.

Bad Start Made By Americans

CORTINA D'AMPEZZO, Italy (AP)—American ice and snow athletes got off to a bad start Friday in the seventh Winter Olympic Games.

The ice hockey team, supposedly a darkhorse of the games, lost its opening game to Czechoslovakia, 4-3.

Cross country skiers were far out of their class as the Finns, Swedes and Russians cleaned up.

In the women's giant slalom, Mrs. Andrea Mead Lawrence of Parshall, Colo., finished in a tie for fourth as German restaurant worker Ossi Reichert won.

Probably the biggest shock of all was the failure of the American bobsledders to show any better than they did during the first two of four runs down the icy, one mile chute of Tofana Mountain.

Four years ago at Oslo the United States suddenly burst on the winter sports scene with four gold medal winners. Two of them went to the Grecian-faced Andy Lawrence, one for the giant slalom.

Since then Andy has had three children, one arriving only last October.

Considering her family affairs, Friday's finish was exceptionally good. But there were those who expected her to win despite the kids.

Mrs. Lawrence's time was 1:58.3—almost two seconds behind the German winner, whose time was 1:56.5.

American finishers in the cross country could have been worse—but not much. Lynn Levy of New Orleans, a part time Coloradan, finished 50th in the 51 man field with a time of 2:10:56.0. Andrew Miller of McCall, Idaho, finished 86th in 2:00:38.0.

The ice hockey loss was an unlucky one. The Iron Curtain team scored in the last two minutes to get the victory.

Hal Wood's Mid-Week Short Shots

SAN DIEGO, Calif. (UP)—Short shots:

Two home run sluggers from the major leagues are busy trying to build a 1956 Pacific Coast League pennant winner for the San Diego Padres—but, oddly enough, they don't plan to feature the home run play.

Ralph Kiner, new general manager of the Padres, and Bob Elliott, the field manager, depended upon the long ball to make their salaries in the big time.

"But we are just looking for a good, all-around team that will win the championship," says Kiner. "We want home run hitters, sure, but we also want good fielders and good pitchers. Can't win a championship with just sluggers."

Remember a guy named Gene Littler?

A year ago at this time he was being hailed as the eventual successor to Ben Hogan in professional golf.

Today he is just another threat for any title—and some of the touring pros are rating Mike Souchak, Dow Finsterwall and a couple of others as better prospects.

Littler was one of the top money winners in the country last year after a fast start—but he tailed off and is just another man in the field these days.

There are two guesses for the reasons:

"Littler is as good as he ever was from tee to green, but he can't putt," says one pro.

Says another:

"A year ago Gene had terrific power of concentration, a la Hogan. Today he is such a nice fellow that he talks to people as he walks along the fairways, greets friends in the gallery—and therefore does not concentrate fully on his game."

Take your choice.

The 1956 Southern Assn. baseball season opens April 10 with games at Birmingham, Nashville, Memphis and Mobile.

Finns, Germany Nab Medals As Games Open; Snow Comes

CORTINA D'AMPEZZO, Italy (AP)—Finland and Germany each grabbed a first place gold medal Friday and Italy's two daredevil drivers took a commanding lead at the halfway mark of the two-man bobsled championships as the seventh Winter Olympics opened full blast.

Snow fell, too, to make this a joyous occasion in this snow-starved resort center but there was only gloom in the American camp.

The two U.S. bobsled teams were virtually out of their competition. Mrs. Andrea Mead Lawrence finished in a tie for fourth place in the women's giant slalom and the U.S. hockey team absorbed a 4-3 defeat from Czechoslovakia in the last two minutes of its opening game.

Veikko Hakulinen, a 31-year-old Finnish lumberman who won a gold medal at Oslo in 1952, became the first champion of these games when he captured the 30-kilometer cross country ski race (18 miles, 1.128 yards). A new event on the Olympic program. He won the 50-kilometer grind in the last Olympics.

TIMED
Hakulinen was timed in 1 hour, 44 minutes, 6 seconds, with a Swedish second and a Russian third.

Ossi Reichert, a 30-year-old German cafeteria manager, unofficially won the giant slalom in the sparkling time of 1 minute, 56.5 seconds for the lightning fast, 1,700 meter (mile, 109 yards) Tofano course, to dethrone Mrs. Lawrence.

The 23-year-old American housewife from Parshall, Colo., winner of both the giant slalom and slalom in 1952, was tied for fourth in 1:58.3.

The slalom results were decided official after the usual review by the judges.

With the only two finals completed, Russia, making its debut in the winter games with a powerful squad, was tied for first with Germany and Finland with 10 points each in the unofficial team

score. The Russians compiled their points with third, fourth, fifth and sixth places in the cross country ski race.

No official point score is kept in the Olympics but traditionally points are counted 10-5-4-3-2-1 in all events in which gold medals are awarded.

Italy's Umberto Bialla Costa, a 35-year-old jet pilot, and Eugenio Monti, a pint-sized former Italian ski champion, raced away from their field in the first two heats of the four-heat bobsled event. The final two trips for the two-man bobs will be made Saturday with total times for all four runs determining the championship.

ZOOMED
Dalla Costa, at the wheel of Italy's No. 1 sled, zoomed down the icy chute in 1:22 and 1:22.45 for a total of 2:44.5. Monti was clocked in 1:22.73 and 1:22.53 for 2:45.26.

Waightman (Bud) Washbond, at the wheel of the No. 1 U.S. sled with Pat Biesiadecki, Ware, Mass., at the brake, held fifth place with 2:48.97 on runs of 1:24.82 and 1:24.15. Art Tyler and Ed Seymour, both of Rochester, N.Y., were sixth with 2:49.18 on runs of 1:25.41 and 1:23.77.

The U.S. didn't figure to do anything—and didn't—in the 30-kilometer cross country ski race. The

hockey defeat was a mild surprise. Now the U.S. must beat Poland Saturday and hope the Czechs knock over the Poles Sunday to gain the final round of the hockey tournament.

The other American girls in the giant slalom finished away back in this order: 22. Gladys Werner, Steamboat Springs, Colo., 2:04; 24. Penny Pitou, Laconia, N.H., 2:10.4; and 36. Betsy Sulte, Norwich, Vt., 2:16.2.

In the cross-country ski grind Andrew Miller of McCall, Idaho, finished 38th in 2:00.38 and Lynn Levy of New Orleans, a part time Coloradan, finished 50th in the 51-man field with a time of 2:10.56.

In the point scoring Mrs. Lawrence's 4th place tie earned 2 1/2 points for the U.S.

Miss Sulte, and three other competitors in the giant slalom, none of whom placed high in the standings, were disqualified for missing one or more of the 59 gates in the race.

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7:30 Gilchrist at Merrill
7:30 Bly at Chiloquin
7:30 Henley at Bonanza (non-league)

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