

Cavemen May Boast Stronger Grid Club

(Editor's Note: This is the fourth in a series of articles written for the coming Southern Oregon Conference District 6-A-1 football season. Sportswriters from the competing cities are reviewing their respective teams. Since this was written, Grants Pass its the opening game against Roosevelt of Portland 40-13 demonstrating a great amount of football power, meaning it will be a top contender for the district title. The series will be completed shortly with an article on Ashland.)

By GEORGE CURTIS
Sports Editor Daily Courier

Despite the fact that this is definitely a "rebuilding year" for the Grants Pass Cavemen—with only one regular returning from the 1955 squad that won only three games, lost three and tied in two—Coach Mel Ingram and his assistants seem to be optimistic about the team.

After the first eight workouts, Ingram and backfield coach Ray Davis agreed that their current backfield is stronger at every position than it was at this time a year ago, that there is more backfield depth and that the line is stronger in some positions and probably has over-all strength at least equal to last year's.

BETTER PASSING
The coaches and other qualified observers say the team will have better passing than at any time in recent years. The backfield, for the most part, will be light but with considerable speed.

Perhaps the most outstanding characteristic of the current squad, however, is its hustle and desire to play football. At times last year, Ingram complained that some of his boys "don't seem to want to play football." He may have been justified, in view of the fact that it was his poorest season of the nine through 1955 since he came to Grants Pass in 1947.

But while the coaches are optimistic, no one is predicting an undefeated season for the Cavemen, who must face such teams as the Marshfield Pirates, defending state champions; Medford, with a potential state title contender; Longview, North Bend, Klamath Falls, Roosevelt of Portland, Roseburg, Ashland and Crater.

Even in 1946, when Ingram won his first state championship in Oregon, and 1953, when the Cavemen were runners-up to Central Catholic, the team lost some games. Only in 1950, and in 1951 when the Cavemen took their second state title, was the team undefeated all the way.

GETTING CALL
About that passing — it will be coming from Stan Lewman, a 5-foot 8-inch senior who played chiefly as a defensive halfback last year, and who is getting the call ahead of Jim Smith, a 6-1½ junior. Smith, better known as a right-handed baseball pitcher, can pitch a football, too, and he has had Jayvee experience as a quarterback. Ingram and Davis say both boys are coming along fast, in ball-handling and signal-calling as well as in passing.

There may be changes later, but at the moment the left halfbacks are all of the scabbard type. They include a pair of seniors, Roger Taylor and Chuck Lasher, and a junior, Jeff Loper. Taylor lettered as a defensive halfback last year but played very little on offense. Lasher is a transfer from Beaverton, where he lettered as a reserve halfback. Taylor weighs about 150. Lasher and Loper about 140.

There is more weight at right halfback, in Norris Conner, 180-pound junior, who is being given a close battle by Don Lewellyn,

stocky 155-pounder, and Jack Dean, 160-pound sophomore and the only boy to earn a varsity letter here as a freshman since Ingram became coach.

TOP CONTENDER
Mike Rose, a rugged stocky 175-pound junior, is the top contender for fullback. Dennis Eckstein, a senior who weighs around 190, may be a contender when he recovers from a knee injury received the first day of practice. Both are lettermen. Lewellyn also runs part of the time from the fullback position.

Mike Sparklin, 165-pound junior who stands about 5-11, and Gary Tompkins, about 190, 5-10 and a senior letterman, are showing best early-season ability as ends. Sparklin, in particular, can snag passes. Jim Maryott, the 6-footer who was a good hurdler last spring on the track team, is a first-line reserve at end, but so far appears ready for only defensive duty. He is a junior.

Tackles include Larry Thompson, about 190, who started a few games last year; Larry Walker, about 185, who was a regular at center in '55; Chuck Baldwin, 220-pound junior, and Dick Graves, about 260. Thompson, Walker and Graves are senior lettermen. Baldwin played JV ball.

Gary Hadsell, 190, and Doug Smith, about 180, both senior lettermen, are leading candidates at guard. Smith is a converted center. Paul Slaven, 195-pound junior and brother of all-star Arnold Slaven and Charles Case, 170-pound senior, are the current No. 2 men. Bob Allerheiligen, 185-pound senior and only returning regular on the squad, turned out late, has been appearing for only one workout a day instead of two and isn't expected to start or even to be used in the opening game against Roosevelt.

NEW POSITION
Dick Caldwell, 160-pound junior, is the only definite candidate for center, although 155-pound Bob Fowler, another junior, was moved into the position for a try in mid-week. He had never played center before.

The Cavemen lost 15 letterman seniors from the 1955 squad, including all of the first-string backs and five first-string linemen. Only one starting regular, guard Bob Allerheiligen, is back. The 11th position, center, was filled alternately by four boys, Doug Smith, Larry Walker and Dick Graves, now seniors and Lynn Cannon, who graduated.

Regulars lost by graduation were quarterback Chuck Nevi, halfbacks Dave Flipse and Gary Hermann, fullback Allan Drews, ends Eddie Guise and Larry McFarland, tackles Arnold Slaven and Gary Krasue and guard Jim Dean.

Ingram's assistants are the same as last year, Davis with the backs and young Bill Martell with the linemen.

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Out Of Doors With The Sportsman

Hunting Outlook

PORTLAND — Storms of the past week chased many of the doves southward on their annual migration, and slowed deer-hunting for archers, the state Game Commission said in this week's hunting report.

Dove hunting still may be good in Baker and Union counties, but archers seeking deer may find the going tough unless rain wets the special hunting areas and makes stalking easier.

The report by areas:
Northwest — Many birds moved south; dove shooting poor to fair; pigeon shooting holding fair on north coast and Willamette foothills.

Southwest — Dove hunting tapering off; Illinois Valley best for pigeons, but also good to excellent hunting in Coos Bay area. Douglas County very slow. Best prospects for grouse and mountain quail are on tributaries of the Applegate.

Central — Doves moved south from northern Wasco County, but there should be fair hunting around the Madras project. There

Milwaukee Wins Year's Biggest Fray

BROOKLYN — In one ball game, probably the biggest one of the year for Milwaukee, the Braves shoved the charge down the throats of their critics who had maintained the league leaders would wilt with the mounting pressure.

If ever there was a "pressure" game, it was yesterday's which the Braves won from the Dodgers 8-7 after a string of misfortunes that would have discouraged another club.

It was a game that could have been lost several times and in several ways, yet the Braves fought back after each disappointment. They squared the vital series at one victory apiece and left Brooklyn exactly the way they came . . . with a one-game lead over the Dodgers.

No wonder Joe Adcock, one of Milwaukee's stars, sighed in the clubhouse after the game: "It was the toughest game I ever played in my life; and the most important we ever won."

No wonder Danny O'Connell, another star yesterday after it looked as if he might be the goat, looked around defiantly at the visiting newspapermen and shouted: "Who's choking up now?"

It was a tense, nerve-wracking game from start to finish.

TENNIS
TORONTO — Althea Gibson, New York, scored a 6-3, 6-1 victory over Shirley Bloomer, England, to win the ladies singles title of the International Invitation Tournament.

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Fishing Outlook

PORTLAND — Salmon angling still is good along the coast, and cooler weather inland is improving trout fishing, the state Game Commission said in its weekly fishing report.

The report by areas:
Southwest — Trout angling slow in upper Umpqua areas. Some sea-run cutthroat, steelhead and silvers in the Umpqua system, but best fishing is for salmon at Winchester Bay. Best trout fishing of the season can be found on the upper Rogue in the Union Creek area and at Fish Lake. Spin fishermen doing well for steelhead, but fly fishermen doing better in middle section of the Rogue. Salmon angling at Coos Bay fair to good, depending on weather.

Central — Angling improving at East and Paulina lakes. Good at Odell Lake with a few large mackinaw being caught. David Lake poor to fair. Crescent Lake good. Taylor Burn Basin good with Wahanna Lake the best. Angling good on Metolius and cooler weather is improving conditions.

Southwest — Malheur Reservoir producing limit catches. Streams in southern Malheur county good. Fish Lake in Harney county excellent; Blitzen River good. In Lake County, Dairy Creek is good; Deadhorse and Campbell lakes fair; Sids Reservoir good. Most other streams poor or unpredictable.

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Braves Regain Lead; Yanks Lose

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
Milwaukee Braves call it "the biggest one yet."

The Brooklyn Dodgers kiss it off with a "so what?" They both could be right about that humdrum of a comeback 8-7 victory the Braves grabbed from the Dodgers at Ebbets Field yesterday, regaining undisputed possession of first place in the National League race.

If any club was hurt by the decision, it was Cincinnati. The third-place Redlegs fell three games behind while being held to just three singles by Johnny Antonelli in an 8-0 loss to the New York Giants.

The Chicago Cubs defeated Pittsburgh 3-0 in the only other NL game scheduled. The New York Yankees and the Kansas City Athletics, walloping three between them, erased the American League's one-season home run record set in 1950 at

973 as the A's beat the league leaders 7-4.

Early Wynn helped set the mark, slugging his first home run of the season for his 17th victory as second-place Cleveland beat Baltimore 2-1.

Boston took third place from Chicago, defeating the White Sox 4-1. Detroit made it six in a row, beating Washington 3-2.

Billy Bruton, a 268 disappointment with only 46 runs batted in for the Braves, and Joe Adcock, a regular Dodger tormentor, drove in five runs between them as Bob Buhl, one of 11 pitchers in the game, came back in relief after losing 4-2 Tuesday night to gain his 17th victory.

Bruton's eighth-inning single cracked a 7-all tie, driving in Adcock to beat reliever Roger Craig. His two-run triple shelled 23-game-winner Don Newcombe in a four-run second inning, after the Dodgers had taken a 3-0 lead in the first while knocking out Lew (18-9) Burdette.

Adcock's 37th home run, with a man on, broke a 4-all tie in the sixth. Roy Campanella hit his 18th for the Braves and Del Crandall smacked No. 15 for the Braves, who wound up with a 12-10 edge in the season series between the two clubs.

Antonelli, beaten four times previously by the Redlegs, struck out three and walked none while facing just 29 men for his 16th victory. Jack Brandt and Daryl Spencer homered for the Giants. Spencer's a two-run, inside-the-park job, to beat Joe Nuxhall.

Sam Jones bagged the Bucs on four hits while the Cubs got eight off loser Vern Law and three re-

liefers, one Walt Moryn's 22nd home run.

Ex-Yankee Eddie Robinson drove in four runs for the A's and his homer gave the AL a record total of 974. It came off reliever Maury McDermott in the fifth inning and followed earlier shots by Yankee Hank Bauer and A's rookie Lou Skizas. Wally Burnette, former Yankee farmhand, won it with six innings of shutout relief. Tom Sturdivant lost it.

Vic Wertz also homered for the Tribe, held to five hits by Hec

Brown and Mike Fornieles, with Wynn's breaking a 1-1 tie. It was No. 28 for Wertz, a one-season high for the big guy who was hit by polio last year.

Boston, now half a game up on Chicago, rode in as Frank Sullivan tossed a five-hitter for his 12th victory. Jackie Jensen, with two RBIs, hit his 19th home run among Boston's 11 hits.

Two walks, one hit and an error scored a tie-breaking run for Detroit in the ninth inning, giving Billy Hoelt his 18th triumph.

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