

Fans Jam 'Championship Boulevard'

Pel Rooters Hail Returning Heroes

By WAYNE SCOTT
Herald & News Sports Editor

Highway 97 travelers northbound through Klamath Falls Sunday afternoon were more than pleased that there was a bypass leading around the town.

Because for an hour or so "Championship Boulevard" was a one-way street.

It was jammed from curb-to-curb with hundreds of horn-blowing cars containing a horde of screaming basketball fans who turned out to welcome the 1961 Oregon Prep Championship Klamath Union Pelican basketball team on its return from the annual pilgrimage to Eugene.

It's getting to be a habit. The Pels won their second state title in four years Saturday night when they brushed off the powerful Medford Black Tornado, 66-64, before a record crowd in the University of Oregon's McArthur Court.

The north entrance to the city, from the edge of town to Wocus, was lined with cars containing Pelican fans who had been unable to attend the tournament, and when the caravan of those who had accompanied the team came into sight, the scene exploded into a roar of cheers and horns.

The players, who traveled most of the way home in private cars, were assembled in Klamath Falls police cars, which, with sirens screaming and lights flashing, headed a procession that traveled the length and breadth of town to wind up at the high school.

New League Ends Draft Of Players

CHICAGO (AP) — The American Basketball League which plans to begin its operations next fall drafted a total of 131 college players at the end of a two-day meeting Sunday.

The preparation of schedules and the question of playing rules which will list several changes from the way the game is played were referred to various committees for study.

Abe Saperstein, owner of the Harlem Globetrotters, who has been acting as commissioner of the new league, will operate the Chicago franchise. The league offices will be located in Chicago.

Other members of the league are Washington, D.C.; Pittsburgh; San Francisco; Los Angeles; Kansas City; Honolulu, and Cleveland.

All of the players drafted were seniors, and each team was allowed two territorial selections.

Among draftees were: Los Angeles — Rafer Johnson, UCLA; Honolulu — Frank Burgess, Gonzaga, and Dave Mills, Seattle.

Open draft selections include: Los Angeles — Clint Names, Washington; Bill Ellis, UCLA; Honolulu — Karl Anderson, Oregon State; Jim Altenhofen, Portland; Rollie Williams, Idaho.

San Francisco — John Berberich, UCLA; Stan Morrison, California; Jim Woodland, Oregon State.

Saxons Claim Special Award

EUGENE (AP) — The first place sportsmanship award at the Oregon class A-1 basketball tournament was awarded to South Salem High School Saturday night.

Corvallis was named to the second place and La Grande took third.

The awards are given on the basis of sportsmanship of both the school team in the tournament and the school's rooting section.



GOOD WINNERS, GOOD LOSERS — An attitude typical of that following the KUHS victory over Medford in the championship game at Eugene Saturday night is exemplified here as a pair of Tornado rally squad girls congratulate Pelican captain Bruce Brickner at the conclusion of the hard-fought game.

Pelican Triumph Culminates Long Year; Injuries, Ailments Make For Tough Row

By WAYNE SCOTT
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The Klamath Union Pelican basketball team had to overlook, overcome, accept, or otherwise ignore enough physical problems of face of these obstacles, serves as a tribute to the spirit of the players, their coaches and the school, and reflects credit that can be shared by every citizen of Klamath Falls.

The KU cagers got off to a flying start as the season opened, but even at that time they were forced to live with a pair of things that could have dampened the enthusiasm of lesser boys.

One of their players, junior Gary Patzke, had been a victim of Perthe's disease since he was 5 years old. The ailment has caused him to grow to his 6-3 height with one leg markedly shorter than the other. His decided limp, however, has been overlooked many times by opponents that saw him spring high in the air to pull down the lion's share of rebounds over the season, and also watched him leap skyward with the two points that won the championship for the Pelicans Saturday night.

Despite the bad leg Patzke matched all-state teammate 6-7 center Bruce Brickner for the number two position among all the rebounders on the 16 tournament teams.

Brickner, himself, had his miseries during the late regular season. He was stricken with the mumps and forced to miss a number of games while recuperating. The forced benching naturally cut into his effectiveness prior to the start of the tournament, a poor time for inactivity for many a basketball player.

Brickner's performance at the tournament, and particularly in the championship struggle with Medford, however, failed to indicate he had ever been sick.

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Medford KF Fans Jubilant

Saturday night Klamath Falls people took over the entire basement of the Eugene Hotel for a gigantic victory celebration after the Pelicans had won the 1961 Oregon State Prep basketball championship.

And they invited their favorite "enemies," the Medford fans and players, to join them.

While the adults filled one gigantic room the players and students gathered in a nearby room for their own party.

A well-stocked buffet provided in congratulations by Klamath Falls Winema Hotel, awaited the celebrants and the building rang

(Continued On 10)



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Celtics Down Nats, 128-115

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The well-rested Boston Celtics are off on the right foot in defense of their National Basketball Association playoff championship.

The Celtics trimmed the weary Syracuse Nats 128-115 Sunday in a nationally televised game in Boston to take a 1-0 lead in the best-of-7 Eastern Division title series.

Syracuse had completed a three game sweep of its best-of-5 semifinals against the Philadelphia Warriors Saturday night, winning 106-101.

Meanwhile, in the Western Division the Los Angeles Lakers eliminated the Detroit Pistons in their best-of-five semifinals Sunday. Los Angeles turned back Detroit 137-120 to take the series 3 games to 2.

The second game of the Celtics-Nats series will be played in Syracuse Tuesday night.

The Lakers open their best-of-7 Western finals with the Hawks at St. Louis Tuesday night.

Tacoma Giants Select Coach

CASA GRANDE, ARIZ. (UPI) — The Tacoma Giants Monday named veteran left handed pitcher Bill Werle as player-coach for the 1961 Pacific Coast League season.

General Manager Rosy Ryan pointed out Werle should prove a valuable man in assisting manager Red Davis with the development of the young pitchers on the Giant staff.

Davis indicated Werle would be used primarily as a relief pitcher, along with spot starting assignments in addition to his coaching duties.

Davis said he would hold the first intrasquad game Wednesday.

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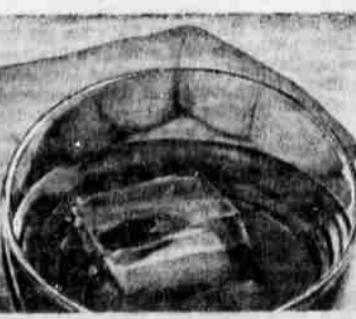
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Basketball Results

NBA Playoffs
By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
Sunday Results
Los Angeles 127, Detroit 120
(Los Angeles wins best-of-five series, 3-2)
Boston 128, Syracuse 115 (Boston leads best-of-seven semifinals, 1-0)

Saturday Results
Syracuse 106, Philadelphia 103 (Syracuse won best-of-five series, 3-0)
Detroit 123, Los Angeles 114

Monday Games
No games scheduled

Tuesday Games
Los Angeles at St. Louis (First of a best-of-seven semifinal)
Boston at Syracuse

LL Meet Tuesday
The Klamath Falls Little League will hold a special meeting Tuesday night at 7:30 at the city hall. All coaches and officers are urged to attend.