

# Southern Conference Opens; Pels Meet Cavemen

By BILL GOULD  
Herald and News Sports Editor

If Southern Conference coaches are correct, the Medford Black Tornado will repeat as champions of the loop.

This is the consensus of the men who coach the teams as the conference prepares to move into 1963 counting action tonight.

The general feeling is the Grants Pass Cavemen have the better overall team speed, however, that the Tornado will again



**SET FOR CAVEMEN** — Mike McKibbin, 183-pound senior guard for the KU Pelicans, will be facing the Grants Pass Cavemen for the second time this season tonight as counting play starts for the Pels. McKibbin has been one of the top players for the Pelicans on both offense and defense.

capitalize on all breaks sent its way plus the fact the two teams will meet head-on at Medford Stadium in the final contest of the season.

Thus, the edge is given the Tornado.

The conference coaches also see the Klamath Falls Pelicans as a third place team, with Ashland and Crater battling for the honor of avoiding the basement.

This is the picture as the conference prepares to open counting play tonight and it's the Pelicans receiving the dubious honor of facing the fourth-ranked team in the state, Grants Pass,

on the Caveman turf tonight. Meanwhile, the Tornado hosts an always dangerous Crater Comet eleven tonight and attempts to protect its No. 1 ranking in the state and the lofty perch accorded it by conference coaches. The team thumbnails:

## KLAMATH FALLS

Coach Bob Williams' Pelicans have met with disaster in the four outings thus far, with a 53-0 lacing given them by the South Salem Saxons in their second

Defensively the Pels have been led by Linebacker Ben Kern, a 152-pound junior, with 34 tackles in four contests. Others showing well on defense have been Terry Christianson, Don Plowman, Glenn Miller and Tom Day.

Injuries have hindered the Pels some, with Kitching missing the North Salem contest due to a leg injury and Rick Gustafson missing this game also with a leg injury suffered in the Corvallis tilt.

Day is now not expected to see action against Cavemen tonight because of a "hip pointer" collected in the North Salem game.

The Pels have started slowly, but as the team, the staff, the fans and the opposing coaches know, the potential is readily visible.

The coaching staff has said when the club finally jells, it could be torrid.

This observation is not shared only by the KU staff.

Medford mentor Fred Spiegelberg agrees as he states, "The potential is there. It's been my experience that a team that keeps taking its lumps at Klamath Falls has thus far, finally finds itself and explodes."

"And pity the poor ball club it explodes against."

A 12-0 loss was sustained at the hands of the Grants Pass Cavemen in the initial contest of the season. Still, this defeat has

prompted Caveman veteran mentor Mel Ingram to say, "... we were lucky to escape with our lives."

The Pel defense has been much better than scores posied thus far would indicate. And the Pelican offense has been one to fear by all opponents between the five-yard lines of the gridiron.

Against all opponents thus far, the Pelicans have threatened on numerous occasions only to see their drives run out of gas.

The Pels have two of the better backs in the league in fullback Chuck Mills and halfback Mike Kitching. Added to their hard running is the work of Vern Petrick at halfback.

In addition to this backfield trio the Pels have linemen who have thus far brought complimentary comments from opposing coaches and players.

In John Jendrzejewski and Les Thurman, the Pels have two of the better ends in the conference. The guards are sound in 183-pound Mike McKibbin and 180-pound Steve Campbell, with tackles Lyle Haney (174) and 212-pound John Enright lending additional support.

Speed, quickness and the right amount of weight again give the Cavemen a deadly formula for a winning club.

The Caveman backfield must be considered one of the best in the state, with the most speed of any prep club.

Terry Isabell, Gary VanKoten, Dick Ireland and Tom Sparlin give Grants Pass a deadly four-some.

Isabell has been No. 1 since a sophomore playing the Roseburg Indians in the state quarterfinals of 1961 when the Indians went on to their first state title.

The Caveman senior fullback runs the century in 9.9 and weighs 173 pounds.

Ireland at 170 pounds and VanKoten at 160 pounds give the Cavemen more speed at the halfbacks. And at the quarterback post is Sparlin, considered to be as good a passer as any in the state.

An outstanding lineman for the

enue grid coaches has another outstanding football team.

Mel Ingram, heading into his 16th year at the helm of the Grants Pass Cavemen, a g a i n has come up with one of the top teams in the state prep ranks.

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Cavemen is tackle Bob Linderman, weighing 185 pounds.

The Cavemen will field an offensive team with a line average of approximately 182 pounds and a backfield average of 165 pounds.

How would Ingram rate this year's Caveman club with some of those in the past years?

"It's even with some of the better teams we've had. Right now the experience of the club is the key which I feel will be gained as we move along in the season," is the answer.

The Cavemen opened the campaign with a 12-0 win over the Pelicans and followed with a 19-19 standstill with North Salem at the Viking field. Then came a 19-7 triumph over South Salem and last weekend the Albany Bulldogs fell by a 35-0 count.

At this stage, the Cavemen appear to be the only club capable of replacing the Medford Black

Tornado as conference champs.

Barring any large upsets suffered by either team en route, this will be determined in the final league contest of the season at Medford.

## MEDFORD

It's a story 40 years old for the Black Tornado as they head into the first conference contest of the season tonight.

Again favored for the league crown and rated first in the state is coach Fred Spiegelberg's eleven.

This year the Tornado returns to a large club, with a line averaging about 190 pounds on offense and a defensive line at approximately 180 pounds.

Since the Medford club has increased this year in size over last year's state finals team, it has also sacrificed speed.

Still the Tornado backfield is one figured to give opposing teams problems with such people as 215-pound fullback Bill Enyart, a junior; 186-pound left halfback Tim Murray; Greg Gande, a 165-pound right halfback with good speed and quarterback Mike Barnes (165) a converted halfback from last year's club.

Speigelberg feels he has a real fine lineman with much college potential in 225-pound Jeff Hardrath at tackle. The Medford coach puts Hardrath in the same class as the outstanding tackle from a few years back, Neil Plumley, who went on to a top position at Oregon State.

The Tornado opened the season with a 21-0 win over the Corvallis Spartans and then followed with a surprising loss in most quarters to Boise, Idaho, by a 25-0 count.

Bouncing back, the Tornado rolled over North Salem by a 32-13 score and South Salem, 19-7.

In summing up the outlook for the Medford club, Speigelberg states, "Our speed is not as good as it was and this might make a difference. Our ends are much weaker, very young with little experience, so we will probably stay on the ground more than with last year's club."

"Also we will return to a platoon system for our changes on offense and defense as we did a few years ago."

The latter is in reference to the change on defense in which the group tagged with the title of "Rogue River Bandits" handled the defensive work for the Tornado.

And this group came to be well-known by opposing teams.

## ASHLAND

Coach John Gray took over the reins of the Ashland Grizzlies this year and if the Grizzlies don't win another contest this season

at least a 13-game losing skein has been ended.

The Grizzlies posted a 0-9 record last year and had lost the two final games of the 1961 season.

Opening the 1963 campaign, the Grizzlies lost games to Shasta High School of Redding, Calif., 39-0, and to Lebanon, 13-7, before ending the losing streak with a victory over Sweet Home, 21-7.

This weekend, the Grizzlies draw their first bye as conference play begins and host Yreka in another non-counter.

Gray will bank on the performances of junior left tackle Jack Gruber (190) and senior right guard John Yaple (165) to anchor the Ashland forward wall.

Of Gruber, Gray comments, "He's unquestionably the top lineman we have and does a great job." Yaple and junior center Jim Conklin (175) also draw words of praise from the Ashland mentor.

In the backfield the Grizzlies will look to a pair of top quarterbacks in 165-pound Dave Barger and 165-pound Dave Lohman.

At halfbacks will be Roger Atherton (170) and Mike Torrison (155), while at fullback will be 160-pound junior Don Scholer.

These are the top players for the Grizzlies, with a lineup boasting only two seniors and the balance juniors.

Gray, in his 14th year in the Ashland system but his first as head football coach, will send his Grizzlies out in an unbalanced line with T formation. Both a running and passing game will be utilized, with split ends and flankers.

The Grizzlies' passing attack is expected to be one of the keys to any amount of success they might achieve, with Gray's offense to include at least 12 to 15 aeriels per game.

As has been the case at Ashland for many years, the Grizzlies have just one way to go in the conference race.

## CRATER

Coach Keith Johnson's Comets have rolled to a 3-0 record in non-counting play, however, the caliber of the opposition faced is believed to have a large bearing on the Comets' chances in the conference this year.

The Crater eleven opened the campaign with a 7-0 decision over Lebanon and followed with a 26-2 win over Sweet Home. Two weeks ago a 48-13 triumph was recorded over the Coquille Red Devils as 58 Comet players saw action.

Leading the offensive show for the Comets is senior fullback Vern Swanson, a 165-pounder who has averaged over 100 yards per game and has scored seven touchdowns.

Against Coquille, Swanson

packed up 208 yards in 13 carries and scored three times.

Also impressive in pre-league action has been senior halfback Darrell Summerfield, who weighs 185 pounds. And another top halfback has been Sherman Kiger at 180 pounds.

Leading the Comet forward wall is tackle Denny Ryerson, a 170-pounder who was converted to halfback last year.

The Comets have been plagued by early injuries this year, with six starters currently out of action. The results is the depth of

the Crater club, small at the start, is reduced even further as they head into conference action tonight against Medford.

Johnson feels the Comets will possess less hell than last year's club, but will perhaps be somewhat quicker.

"Kiger, Swanson and Summerfield are all fast and if we can keep them well we might give people trouble," is Johnson's observation.

Gone from last year's team is outstanding quarterback Mike Gilmes, currently pacing the Ore-

gon Tech Owls in the Oregon Collegiate Conference.

The Comets threw their T formation at Medford last year on the Crater field and held the strong Tornado to a 7-0 win.

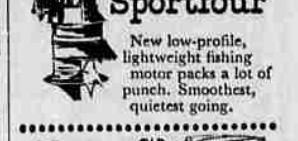
Whether another close contest is to be expected tonight between the two teams is highly doubtful.

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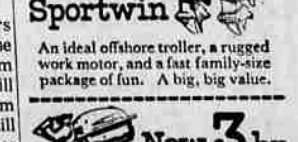
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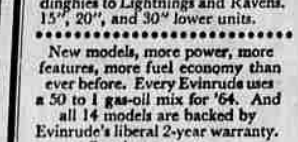
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## Ducks, OSU Try Northwest Teams

### Klamath Falls Runners Decision Crater Comets

Klamath Falls collected a 20-35 cross-country victory over the Crater Comets Thursday, taking all but two of the first 10 places.

The Comets' Dave Skelton paced the field to the wire with a time of 10:15, while the Pelicans' Dave Vaagen ran second.

The Pels were without the services of their No. 1 man, Bob School, who was forced to miss the meet because of illness.

The Pelicans return to dual action Thursday when they travel to Ashland.

Results: Klamath Falls 20, Crater 35.

Dave Skelton, C, 10:15; Dave Vaagen, KF; Mike Sweek, KF; Merkel Britt, KF; Gary Maw, KF; Ralph Totten, KF; Steve Moore, KF; Terry Metler, KF; Don Mainwaring, C; Bob Robbins, KF.

Bryant, S.D., High School defeated Florence 97-9 in football this week.

### Basketball Brings Hope

FLORENCE, S.D. (UPI) — The Florence High School had hopes today of better luck in basketball.

Bryant, S.D., High School defeated Florence 97-9 in football this week.

### Bowl Test Now Set

The women's All-Star B.P.A.A. elimination bowling tournament will be held this weekend at Lucky Lanes with women bowlers from all over Southern Oregon competing. The elimination matches will start at 4 p.m. Saturday afternoon, with the final elimination matches Sunday at 1 p.m. Winners here will go to Portland for the finals on Oct. 19-20.

Last year three Klamath bowlers went to the finals, Vita Samples, Eldina Greenwood and Marilyn Kempf.

Local bowling fans are invited to come out to Lucky Lanes and see the elimination matches.

### THE LINEUPS

Klamath Falls	Grants Pass
No. 1 Player	No. 1 Player
65 John Jendrzejewski	190 Jerry McCormick
77 John Enright	172 Les Sanders
62 Mike McKibbin	147 Jim Cornett
58 Jay Paxton	157 Bill Stanley
48 Steve Campbell	178 Chuck Fuller
79 Lyle Haney	183 Bob Linderman
44 Les Thurman	175 Marty Bauer
10 John Parisotto	142 Tom Sparlin
40 Mike Kitching	160 Gary VanKoten
35 Verne Patrick	178 Richard Ireland
30 Chuck Mills	172 Terry Isabell

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Target No. 4	NEW RAMBLER V-8 WAGON. The full-size, 4-door wagon everybody wants. Look at this clearance price	2612.00
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