

THE SPORTS TRAIL

By Whitney Martin

NEW YORK, Jan. 29.—(P)—We're going to have to keep our eyes on the Cincinnati Reds this year, which won't be unusual. We've been keeping our eyes on the Reds for four or five years now. For a while it was easy, but the last couple of years we couldn't follow them very well. Just point to which way they went, which wasn't up.

Anyway, you can expect better things from the Reds this year. They have hired our little friend, Bill Miller, the voice of Tulsa, to synchronize the minds and muscles of the athletes and make them the picture of grace, and don't ask us Grace who?

Little Bill is the fellow who sold us on the Tulsa football team.

He did it by mail, and there is no telling how far we would have gone out on the limb if he had talked to us. He is very convincing, and undoubtedly would have had us writing poison letters to the Tennessee Vols before the Sugar Bowl Game.

He was guilty of just one oversight. He forgot to tell us that all bets were off if Tulsa had to run with the ball, as the Hurricane was strictly 4-F on the ground and had to get up in the air where the traffic was lighter to do much good.

However, that's water over the Tennessee Dam. The point is that Tulsa had a pretty fair football machine, and after hearing about Glenn Dobs throwing strikes with his passes, the Reds probably figured that if Little Bill could teach football players to throw like that he should be able to teach athletes to throw a baseball, which isn't stuffed with air and consequently has a better sense of direction.

His theory is one of body balance and his aim is the development of the relaxation of the muscles. If Ernie Lombardi still was with the Reds he would be giving Little Bill lessons in relaxation, as Ernie always is as relaxed as a pound of liver, and can remain motionless for hours, even when running.

Like any pioneer, Little Bill has had his troubles in convincing skeptics that his ideas had merit, as when a man builds a better mousetrap the mice don't like it. However, his history is a history of successes, and he'll practically guarantee results, so you can't laugh off his theories.

He's coached championship basketball teams dating back to the old Schenectady Eagles and running up through the National A. A. U. Champion Tulsa Oilers in 1933-34. Lately he has been experimenting with his theories in other sports including football, handball, tennis and bowling.

He isn't one of these gents who stands around telling you how to change a tire. He gets out and demonstrates. He's not a kid any more, and he's not much bigger than a jigger, but he is as fast as light and he's constructed of steel wires.

Two or three years ago he gave us a hotel-room demonstration of his muscle-control-and-relaxation ideas, and we were duly impressed. A chief factor seems to be the art of putting forth effort at the exact moment it is needed, as a fellow picking an apple off a tree doesn't need to be picking it all the time he is reaching up for it, but only when he gets his claws on it.

We have an idea that if the Reds listen carefully and are conscientious in following Little Bill's example, they will benefit greatly.

And you've got to give him credit, too. He's taken on a big job. He's subbing for Florida sunshine.

PILOTS AWARDED
WASHINGTON, Jan. 29.—(P)—Pilots of six planes from which parachute troops dropped into enemy held territory in North Africa, have been awarded the Air Medal for "excellent piloting, timing and handling of aircraft" in the War Department announced today. They included First Lt. William M. Tharpe, Moultrie, Ga.

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'CATS DOWN BLACKBIRDS 42-32

Hanover Leads Mounters For Entire Cage Battle

Locals Now Count Their Second Conference Victory

Wilmington Wildcats trounced the Rocky Mount Blackbirds in Rocky Mount Friday night to the tune of 42-32 in a rough and tumble fight which resulted in a total of 22 personal fouls.

The Cats led the Blackbirds from the opening gun and the score at the end of the first quarter was 10-9. The half found the local lads ahead by 20-16, and by the end of the third quarter, Hanover had piled up a ten point lead with the score 33-23.

Score:

Wildcats	Pts.
Fridgen, f	4
Watts, f	5
Collie, f	5
McKoy, c	23
Auld, g	2
Kelly, g	3
Total	42

Blackbirds	Pts.
Lambis, f	9
Joe Allsbrook, f	13
Johnson, c	4
Felton, g	4
McDuffie, g	2
Jack Allsbrook, g	4
Total	32

SALAMAUA GOAL OF ALLIED PUSH

The Australians and Americans to the Salamaua area said the Japanese patrols attacked the Allied positions west of Mubo, 12 miles south of Salamaua, but were repulsed.

The outpost was the scene of a surprise raid by Allied forces in which more than 100 Japanese were killed and an enemy headquarters and a radio station destroyed during a recent three-day action.

"Strong hostile patrols attacked our positions west of Mubo and were engaged by our outposts," General Douglas MacArthur's noon communique said.

"Considerable casualties were inflicted on enemy detachments between Kainsiek and Wandumi. The enemy now is withdrawing with our forces in pursuit."

This marked the first ground activity of note in New Guinea since the Allies wound up their triumphant conquest of the Papuan peninsula with the capture of Salamaua.

A gale of fresh air has been blown into this miasma of double-talk and super-duper realism. For if our war aim were something less than unconditional surrender, then at the end of hostilities we should find ourselves dealing in Europe.

The decision is of the first magnitude, differing radically from President Wilson's decision to negotiate an armistice on the basis of the 14 points. This time the enemy, who has shown no mercy and no capacity for honor, must depend upon our mercy and upon our honor. The innocent among them, and even those who merely obeyed their masters when they committed their crimes, will, when they have pondered the matter, realize that they have more to hope for from an unconditional surrender than from ambiguity and equivocation.

For in the world which is not corrupted by Nazism they will find that there is still that ancient pride which makes men chivalrous to the fallen and magnanimous to the vanquished. But if the conclusion of the struggle were so doubtful that the moral victory was not clear, then the poison of the Nazi scourge will infect all men with suspicion and vengeance.

In the rest of occupied Europe the unconditional liquidation of the Nazi and quasi-Nazi regimes is the absolutely indispensable condition for the restoration of law and order. For if they are not liquidated in the armistice, because the super-duper realists are allowed to mislead us, then the popular struggle against the tyrannical regimes will plunge Europe into a civil war. That civil war will be waged by the common people who have seen that the western democracies are unwilling or unable, or too confused and too weak-minded, to insist upon the elementary principles of the democracy they profess to be fighting for. Inevitably they will turn to Soviet Russia as the strong champion, if not of freedom as they have known it, then at least of what they will believe are the basic interests of the common man.

HUTSON DECLARES RETIREMENT SOON

Injuries Named As Cause Of Star Packer's Plans

CHICAGO, Jan. 29.—(P)—Don Huston, the artful end whose name is etched 17 time in the National Football League's record book, hopes the fans will understand why he plans to retire from pro football despite the fact that family men are needed by the Green Bay Packers and the rest of the league more than ever before.

Severe chest injuries, suffered two seasons ago and aggravated further last fall, inspired Huston's retirement announcement yesterday, even though he knows the Packers already have lost 26 players to the armed forces since 1940. The National League as a whole has sent 317 players direct from clubs into the services and faces a serious shortage of material for 1943.

Thirty years old, Huston has been playing football for 14 years, the last eight with the Packers. He's already lasted beyond the normal span of effective competition in the pro league and yet shows no signs of slowing up. He has just been named the circuit's most valuable player for the second straight year.

"Some fellows make a ceremony of announcing their retirement every year," Huston said. "I meant it last year but then decided to try one more season. This time I intend to make it stick."

LEND-LEASE HEAD URGES MORE WORK

Stettinius reported that lend-lease aid had made the British Isles "an impregnable base for offensive operations" and reviewed the shipments of war material and equipment to Britain, Russia, Africa, Egypt and China. He told also how lend-lease operates in reverse, bringing supplies to American troops in the field and in billets abroad.

But this point he stressed in particular: "There has not been and there never will be developed a standard of values by which we can measure lives lost against the cost of airplanes or guns."

"It is difficult," he said, "to estimate how much the peoples of Russia have helped us by holding back the Nazi forces and taking the offensive away from them, or to estimate the value to our national interests of the superb fight of the Chinese against the Japanese."

"By the lives lost, the cities and homes destroyed and in the other losses of war, Russia and China and Great Britain have made limitless contributions to their cause, as well as to ours."

There were some questions which Stettinius left to be answered later in executive session for reasons of military secrecy, chief among them inquiries into how much aid is being sent China, why the Chinese mission left this country, and how much of the lend-lease aid is reaching its destination.

FRENCH POLITICS STILL IN MUDDLE

any custodian of French sovereignty until the forty millions of Frenchmen at home can freely express their opinions," the statement continued.

During the conference, the general asserted he was willing to give the Jews in North Africa back their property and allow Jewish children in the schools. He added, however, that these moves must be made gradually.

He said that so far as he was concerned Jews, Communists and all creed were entitled to be treated exactly alike in North Africa as long as they worked for the good of France.

The policy of the Germans is completely against the policy of the French in regard to Jews," he said, adding that the time he spent in Nazi prisons in Germany made him hate Hitler's measures.

Baltimore's Lads Arrive Today For Slated Scraps

Joe Poodles, manager of the Baltimore boxers who are fighting in Wilmington, said that the boys left Baltimore late Friday night and will arrive in Wilmington shortly after noon Saturday.

Johnny Finazzo, top ranking middleweight of Baltimore, is the outstanding attraction on the card meeting George Eschman, rifle instructor from New River.

Featured with Finazzo, Lee Rosen, who rates as the outstanding Jewish middleweight of the Baltimore area, takes on Jackie Beauhold, another Marine from New River.

"Mus' Lockamy, Wilmingtonian lightweight, runs into his first pro card when he meets Frankie Martini. For the opening bout, Bill Johnson, Negro shipyard boxer, will square off with Lambertine Williams.

Doors to Thalian Hall will open at 7:30 and the first bout is scheduled to begin at 8:15 p.m. Prices are \$1.00 for general admission and \$1.50 for ringside seats. A special price of \$5.50 is offered to service men. All tax is extra.

Russian Troops Slash Gaps In Enemy Lines

In the same three-day period, "according to incomplete data," the Russians said they captured 107 tanks, 40 guns, 254 machine-guns, 8,000 rifles 40 radio transmitters, 1,217 trucks, 307 motorcycles, 24 trains with military loads, and 36 ammunition, arms and food depots.

The Russian break-through in this area where the Axis has been building its famed hedgehog defenses ever since last fall was accomplished by Soviet troops that struck from the north, east, and south.

Among the towns now in Russian hands in this area are: Lachinovo, 10 miles west of Kastornoye, which is the junction of the Voronezh railways; Naberezhnoye, 10 miles north of Kastornoye; Gorsehnoye, 22 miles south of Kastornoye; Zmlyansk, 25 miles northwest of Voronezh; and innumerable other places within this roughly triangular area.

The location of the newly-won towns above Kastornoye and Voronezh bears out a German radio commentator's announcement last night that the Russian Voronezh front now had overlapped with the lower central front which extends northwestward to the Orel area.

The same German radio commentator, Capt. Ludwig Sertorius, acknowledged tonight that the Red army had "made some progress" in this drive above and below Voronezh, but sought to ease this bad news with a statement that they were not to an extent "to justify the enormous (Russian) sacrifices."

The German high command earlier had announced that "northwest of Voronezh there was heavy fighting full of vicissitude," and otherwise indicated that the Germans were retreating in "planned movements."

Novy-Oskol, where the Russians said they killed or captured an entire Italian Alpine corps, is about 75 miles south of Kastornoye. The Russians hold many points on this line, including the Vauiki junction 35 miles below Novy-Oskol.

Possession of this north-south railway will give the Russians a springboard for their next lunge toward the main Kurks-Khar'kov railway which was the starting point for Germany's back-firing 1942 offensive that reached east to the upper Don, Stalingrad on the Volga, and the Caucasian mountains far to the southeast.

At Stalingrad, 350 miles southeast of Kastornoye, the Russians said they were putting to death the last few ragged thousands of an Axis assault army that once had numbered 220,000 men. Moscow dispatches said 5,000 or 7,000 were all that remained in the Russian noose.

The advance on Rostov, gateway city to the Caucasus, was accelerated with the Red army's announced capture of Kropotkin. The town is the junction of a railway running west from the Kalmyk steppes to Novorossisk on the Black Sea, and the one running north to Rostov.

Its seizure threatens further to trap German forces in the oil city of Maikop, 60 miles to the southwest. Other Russian units coming up from the south are within 20 miles of Maikop.

DAKAR MUST NOT BE THREAT ANEW

Ingraham, commander-in-chief of the Allied forces in the South Atlantic.

There was no official interpretation of the reference to Dakar and West Africa. A possible implication, however, was that the matter of assuring the American coast would be one for which ever international instrumentality to maintain peace may be set up after the war. It could take the form of a pledge from France of its complete and continuous demilitarization.

The White House release fell into three parts. The first was the joint statement by the two presidents. It related that the president had lunch, inspected and reviewed the army, navy and air forces of the two nations, then passed the evening in discussion of the problems of the war as a whole and especially the joint Brazilian-United States effort.

President Roosevelt informed Vargas of "the very significant results" of the Casablanca conference.

Summing up, the two presidents were quoted: "This meeting has given us opportunity to survey the future safety of all the Americas. In our opinion each of the republics is interested and affected to an equal degree. In unity there is strength. It is the aim of Brazil and of the United States to make the Atlantic ocean safe for all. We are deeply grateful for the almost unanimous help that our neighbors are giving to the great cause of democracy throughout the world."

Since all the American republics except Argentina are at war with the Axis or have broken diplomatic relations, the references to equal interests and strength in unity possibly were addressed particularly to that country.

Following the joint statement, was a "memorandum for the press" from Mr. Roosevelt. This explained that he believed his African conferences with Prime Minister Churchill were "so vital to the war effort" that he should delay his return to the United States to talk informally with Vargas.

He had also had opportunity, he noted, to inspect vital operating points of the ferry command which speeds supplies by air to all war fronts.

Finally, the White House added: "The presidents of the two nations—United States and Brazil—our old friends and their talks were timely and profitable in every way."

Revelation of the scope of the conversations stirred speculation as to whether Brazil might send an expeditionary force to aid in the final crushing of the German armies. Vargas hinted at such action less than a month ago. At that time he said, in an address, that Brazilian participation in the war would "not be limited to a simple expedition of symbolic units."

Lieut. Gen. S. D. Embick, chairman of the inter-American Defense Board, commented, "We can be confident that Brazil as an ally will be even more important months to come, as she takes her place in the new grand strategy of the democratic nations."

NO TIME ZONE CHANGE
WASHINGTON, Jan. 29.—(P)—An official of the Interstate Commerce Commission said today that agencies will refrain from considering changes in time zones in the absence of an expression from Congress on that status of states which changed their clocks.

LOCK FEATURED IN FLYNN CASE

The senior fraternity of the Boys Brigade will hold its regular meeting in the clubroom of the Brigade Monday, February 1 at 6:30 p.m. This is a regular supper meeting and all members are urged to be present or to notify the secretary if they cannot attend.

or your sister to come to Balboa for a visit. This was some time before the yacht excursion to Catalina on which, Peggy charges, Flynn had intimate relations with her twice.

Flynn's own testimony that Police Lt. Robert W. Bowling had told him, "if it was up to me I wouldn't prosecute you," was disputed by Bowling himself.

What he actually said in substance, Bowling testified, was: "I think you are guilty as hell, but I don't blame you for denying it."

The trial adjourned until Monday when, Deputy District Attorney Thomas W. Cochran said, he will call two more rebuttal witnesses.

HITLER ENTERS NEW NAZI YEAR

At 4 p. m. tomorrow (11 a. m. Eastern War time).

The usual decks of flags in the streets and other Nazi theatrics will be absent this year, Berlin announced. The lavish display of flags would be out of keeping with the melancholy news from Russia and North Africa, London observers said.

Reichsmarshal Goering will make an anniversary speech to the army at 11 a. m. (6 a. m. EDT) and Arthur Axmann, youth leader, will speak to the German youth two hours earlier.

Navy Needs Experienced Men For War Production

RALEIGH, Jan. 29.—(P)—The Navy has an urgent need for men experienced in expediting production in large manufacturing plants, with the view of breaking "bottle-necks," Lieut. Lodwick C. Hartley, head of the Naval Office of Officer Procurement at N. C. State College, reported today.

He said mechanical and electrical engineers who have specialized in industrial engineering, marine engineering, ordnance or steam power, with a minimum of eight years' practical experience in any of those fields, are desired as candidates for commissions in the naval reserve.

Officers also are needed to analyze production methods and to check the progress of products manufactured under Navy contracts, Lieut. Hartley said.

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