

SPORTS

Here And There

SYLVA BOYS TAKE CHEROKEE BY 44-28, GIRLS LOSE 38-29

Jack Cunningham Buckets 21 Points For Top Sylvia Honors

The Sylva Golden Hurricane boys made it two Smoky Mountain Conference wins in a row as they bowled over the Cherokee Indians 44-28 on the local hardwoods last Friday night. Jack Cunningham showed the way with 21 points. The Sylva girls were not so fortunate as they came out on the short end of a 38-29 decision.

In both cases, boys and girls, the Indians showed a one-man team. For the girls, Oneiva Thompson personally totaled 29 of the 38 points, and Clyde Arch accounted for 26 of the boys' 28 points. The remaining players of both teams suffered an off night.

With Ruth (Sis) Jacobs showing the way the Sylva girls grabbed an early lead and held it 14 to 9 at the end of the first quarter. By halftime the Indians had knotted the count at 22-all, and early in the third period Cherokee went ahead to stay with Thompson providing 13 vital points during the last two quarters.

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for Sylva with 10 points. In the boys' game it was Sylva all the way. Leading at the end of the first quarter by only 7-5, they pushed the halftime score to 21 to 9. Reserves played most of the third and fourth quarters and managed to hold the lead by a comfortable margin. At the end of the third they were out front by 28-16, then in the fourth quarter the Hurricane caught fire with Jack Cunningham dropping in 10 quick points and Donald Cooper, James Lee Blanton, and Ernest Bumgarner adding two each. The final count reached 44-28.

Arch's one man show was spectacular for the Cherokee boys. The wily Indian forward hit the bucket consistently from everywhere on the court as he accounted for all but two of the Cherokee points.

Jack Cunningham, in holding the veteran Tommie of Cherokee to two points and bucketing 21 for himself, was the spark of the Hurricane.

Girls' lineups:
Sylva (29) Pos. Cherokee (38)
Worley 10 f Tubby 3
Bryson 9 f C. Thompson 6
Jacobs 6 f O. Thompson 29
Green g Smith
Dillard g Bradley
Messer g Craig

Sylva subs: Fincannon, Bradley 2, Painter 2, Moore, Miller, Parris. Cherokee subs: Bigmeat.
Boys' lineup:
Sylva (44) Pos. Cherokee (28)
Cagle 4 f C. Arch 26
C. Cunningham 8 f Sequoyah
J. Cunningham 21 c Tommie 2
E. Bumgarner 2 g Goins
C. Bumgarner 2 g Saunooke
Sylva subs: Cooper 2, Blanton 2, Frizzell 2, Gass, Warren 1, Rhodes. Cherokee subs: Parker, Smith, H. Arch.

Sporting News Selects No. 1 Men of 1948 Baseball World

Veeck, Mayer, Boudreau Get Major Loop Awards

The thirteenth annual selection of Baseball's No. 1 Men of the Year has been released by The Sporting News.

Each year the St. Louis newspaper selects the outstanding major and minor league executive, manager and player by means of the measured judgment of experts located at various vantage points throughout the states.

The 1948 selections include: Major League Executive—Bill Veeck, president of the Cleveland Indians.

Major League Manager—William Adam Meyer, Pittsburgh Pirates.

Major League Player—Lou Boudreau, shortstop-manager of Cleveland's Indians.

Minor League Executive—Edward F. Glennon, general manager of Birmingham, Southern Association.

Minor League Manager—Casey Stengel of Oakland, Pacific Coast League.

Minor League Player—Eugene Richard Woodling, center fielder of San Francisco, Pacific Coast League.

Veeck, a 34-year-old son of the former president of the Chicago Cubs, literally lifted the Indians from an ordinary team, drawing ordinary crowds, to the highest honors of the season and into the greatest drawing card in the history of the game. His imagination, intuition, flair for the sensational, instinct for giving the customers what they wanted, determination that was transmitted to his team and indefatigable industry paid off in dividends and championships. His Indians won the American league pennant and the World Series.

Sharing the honors with Veeck for the success of the Indians on the field was his manager, Lou Boudreau. Ordinarily, directing a team to a world's championship would have been an accomplishment enough for one man, but Lou, in addition, was the premier shortstop of the year and the second best batter in the American

League. Notwithstanding the strain of managing through the tensest season in the history of the American league and the pains of aching legs, Boudreau stood out on the field and at bat throughout the campaign, especially when the going was toughest.

Lou's spectacular play at shortstop and his timely bat pulled his team through at crucial moments. His two home runs in the playoff game with the Red Sox at Boston put the Indians in the World's Series and his fighting spirit carried them through to the world's championship.

Spectacular as was the advance of the Indians, the ascension of the Pirates from a tie for seventh place in 1947 to the fourth rung of the National League, under the first-year direction of Bill Meyer, amounted to almost a miracle. The Indians made a gain of 107 over the two seasons, but the Pirates added 136 in moving from .403 to .539. Pittsburgh stood as high as second in the National League race until three weeks before the close of the season and then fell eight and one-half games behind the leader at the finish.

While Bill Veeck was setting a pace in attendance for the majors, Eddie Glennon was topping the minors at the gate in a like manner. Although Birmingham finished third in the Southern Association, Glennon's promotion helped the Barons set an all-time league record of 445,926 during the regular season for a park that seats only 15,000. In 1948, the last season before Glennon's arrival from Wilmington of the Interstate League, the Barons drew only 157,823.

Casey Stengel, coming back to the majors in 1949 as manager of the Yankees, gave Oakland its first Pacific Coast League pennant since 1927 and led the Oaks to their first playoff title. Probably no pilot did more with so little than did Casey. Some 20 players on his squad were ex-majors leaguers, which called for plenty of tact in handling, since each was an individual in his own right.

Casey's handling of the pitching staff was especially notable. He had only one pitcher, Charles Gassaway, who could win as many as 15 decisions in a 188-game season, yet he maneuvered the staff to the championship. Although sidelined six weeks of the season with a torn ankle ligament suffered in late May, Outfielder Gene Woodling set a terrific batting pace with San Francisco of the Pacific Coast League after having failed to regain his prewar form in earlier trials with Cleveland and Pittsburgh. Woodling hit .385 in 146 games last season to lead the runner-up by 43 points; was first in triples with 13; tied for fourth in total bases, 316, and made 22 home runs and 22 doubles.

Batting champion of the Ohio State League, with .398 in 1940, of the Michigan State, with .394 in 1941 and in the Eastern with .344 in 1943, Woodling hung up his fourth batting championship in 1948. As a result, Gene will receive another opportunity in the Big Show the coming season—as a member of the New York Yankees.

As the leading sextette of 1948, the trio from the majors and the trio from the minors sounded some high notes that their 1949 successors will find difficult to reach.

Unbeaten French Middleweight Wants Shot At Cerdan
NEW YORK—Robert Villemain, undefeated French middleweight, and hard-hitting Steve Belloise of the Bronx hook up in the main ten-rounder at Madison Square Garden Friday night.

The bout between the top-ranking middleweights brings boxing back to the Garden after a two week holiday lull. Villemain, a squat, five-foot-four-inch bruiser, is aiming for a shot at Marcel Cerdan's title. The husky Frenchman claims his fellow countryman ducked a meeting with him. Villemain's rugged fistic career includes a win over Cyrille Delannoit in his string of 33 victories and one draw. Delannoit, a Belgian,

Christmas Celebrations

TUCK BREAKS LEG

Tuck McConnell, the genial, worrisome basketball coach of the Western Carolina Teachers college Catamounts, is suffering from a broken leg.

The mishap occurred on Tuesday, Dec. 28, while McConnell was visiting his parents-in-law in Laurinburg, S. C. He fell from the back porch onto a small glass jar which threw him sideways and snapped both his tibia and fibula bones just above the ankle. The bones were set and put in a cast Thursday night in Sylva.

McConnell commented about his coaching plans. He stated that "I may not be able to show my boys how to dribble, but I sure split in two bouts with Cerdan.

Belloise, a 30-year-old war veteran who lost a big payday when Ray Robinson was unable to go through with a Dec. 9 match, is hoping to get back in the big money at Villemain's expense.

The bout will be broadcast on Gillette's Cavalcade of Sports.

can teach them how to pivot now." The leg was reset in a walking cast which has a protrusion on the foot that gives the wearer the impression that he is walking on a peg leg.

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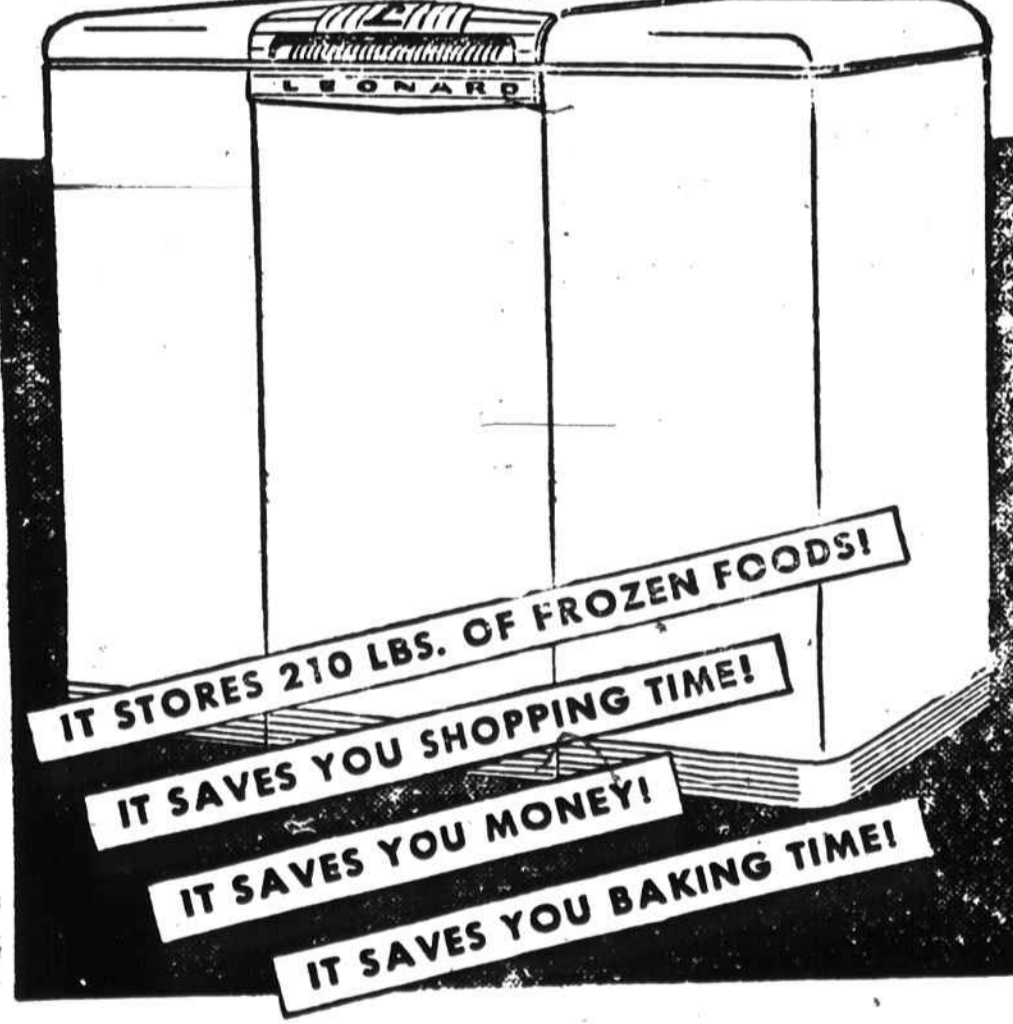
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