

Politics And Cold Weather Cause Mix-up At Ch'ships

By STERLING SLAPPEY
GARMISCH, Germany (AP)—The world figure skating championships begin here today with part of the cast fusing, with politics mixing in sports and with weather so cold even the ice is acting up.

In this winter sports capital, which Adolf Hitler once used to manufacture Nazi propaganda, at least a dozen skaters were saying: "I wish I were home."

Hayes Allen Jenkins, world and Olympic champion from Colorado Springs, Colo., said: "I don't want to sound ungrateful or unappreciative, but the fact is I wonder just why we are here."

The world championships coming 10 days after the bigger, and more important Olympics make some of us think these events are anti-climactic. Why hold these events in Olympic years?"

Jenkins took the men's Olympic title and Tenley Albright of Newton Center, Mass., the women's title at Cortina, d'Ampezzo, Italy. Their presence makes the world championships even more like the second sitting for the same dinner.

The program calls for the pairs championships today, the men's championship Friday and the women's championship Saturday—all at night—and the ice dazing Sunday afternoon.

In some of the events will there be any of the usually graceful Hungarians. It is apparent that politics—the thing which never is supposed to become involved in sports—is playing a part again.

REACT ON VISA

The Nagy team from Hungary, and the other Hungarians, would not come to Garmisch because six weeks ago the West German government refused to issue visas for a Hungarian soccer team.

The United States team is having persistent and not entirely minor dissension in the ranks.

Olympic runners-up Carol Heiss of Orzone Park, N.Y., and Ronnie Robertson of Long Beach, Calif., are living with their mothers and coaches away from the other Americans.

Miss Heiss declined to pose with Miss Albright after she took a beating in the Olympics. All sorts of claims of alleged unfair judging came from the Heiss group.

Robertson's reasons for leaving the American hotel headquarters is obscure.

In Pacific Baseball League

Owners And Fans Hoping For Better Times In 1956

By CHRIS EDMONDS
SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Pacific Coast League baseball, owners and fans are hoping, will take a turn for the better in 1956.

Bluntly, that's about the only way the league can turn. It was on its uppers when the 1955 season ended and the betting was close to even that it would fold before this spring rolled around. That it hasn't, with pre-season training only a matter of weeks away, is due to two major changes.

First, and most important, was the purchase by Boston Red Sox of the approval by league directors of the San Francisco franchise. The action amounted to admission that the PCL had to have major league affiliation to survive.

MOVE TO VANCOUVER

The second was the decision of owner C. L. (Brick) Laws to take his Oakland franchise to Vancouver, completely unexplored territory as far as higher-bracket organized baseball is concerned.

Dwindling attendance forced the hands of league directors in both actions. The turnstiles at Oakland and San Francisco were accumulating, cobwebs a lot faster than the baseball teams of the two cities were attracting fans. Naturally, owners of the six other clubs felt the pinch when they came into the bay area.

So, with their wallets hurting, the directors swallowed their pride and revised the league constitution to permit major league ownership. The decision was a direct reversal of policy established back in the winter of 1951-52 when the PCL severed its relationship with the majors and tried to go it alone.

At the moment, San Francisco and Los Angeles are the only franchises owned by major league clubs. Boston, promising to send its top rookies here, emphasized the importance it would place on San Francisco by disposing of its

Louisville farm club in the association. The work from Los Angeles is that the Cubs plan to start using their PCL property more for training purposes than for castoffs.

Two of the other six clubs already have working agreement with the majors. Hollywood, of course, will continue operating with Pittsburgh. Laws, in moving to Vancouver, has an arrangement with Baltimore Orioles.

Sydney Sending Experienced Team To Schoolboy Bonspiel

SYDNEY (CP)—Sydney Academy, winners of Three Nova Scotia curling championships during the past seven years, will send a rink backed by experience into the Dominion schoolboy bonspiel at Port William, Ont., Feb. 20.

Academy quartets have placed second and third in two of their Dominion starts and observers say the 1956 team may be the toughest yet.

Members of the rink have a total of 13 years of curling behind them. Lead Ray Canning is the veteran with four years. Cousins Gerry MacNeil, mate and second respectively, and skip Jimmy MacInnis have each been curling three years.

Their athletic prowess isn't limited to the sport brought to Cape Breton by their Scottish forebears. All play basketball and Canning is a former Cape Breton junior golf champion.

Prince Co. Sport Echoes

Deserving Of Fan Support Says S'side Junior Aces

We think Elmer Matheson and his Junior Aces are deserving of a lot of support. They are the connecting link between the minor brackets which are under the wing of the Summerside Athletic Association and the Senior Aces. Naturally they cannot draw the big crowds which the Senior Aces do, and being too old for the minor hockey program, they cannot receive the financial support given to the younger teams. Yet if we are to keep fresh talent graduating into our senior team, this junior age bracket is important, and the boys in that group should be given all the encouragement possible.

They have played two games at Civic Stadium this winter, and the attendance at these games was remarkably good considering past experience with exhibition games involving junior teams. The receipts accruing to the Junior Aces' treasury, however, were scarcely sufficient to keep the finances of the club in a healthy condition. The last thing in the world we would want to do is to tell the management of the Civic Stadium how to run its business. We realize their overhead is high, and they must not get into too much of a Santa Claus mood if they are to keep the red inked wolf away from their door. But it seems to us that the Junior Aces should be given a little preferential treatment in considering gate splits, in comparison with what is being done for the Aces. Only in this way, we think, can the junior hockey movement be kept flourishing, and if it is not, the policy of acquiring imports from the mainland may have to be continued indefinitely.

The Junior Aces have some very good boys on their roster. There are four Phillips brothers who play

a fine game. "Red" MacLean is a promising prospect for future senior hockey, and Bob Bowness does a surprisingly good chore out there on the ice considering the limited amount of practice he has had. Alfred Groom is a real prospect, too, and there are other boys coming along well.

The pier-six brawl that took place at the Civic Stadium Monday night was unfortunate, but should not be taken too seriously. The SDU club and our Aces this year both play particularly clean hockey. Deliberate rough play is kept at a minimum. The strobe part about the donnybrook they staged was that it boiled over without ever getting heated up and simmering. There was no evidence of ill-feeling between the two teams, as far as spectators could see, until, bang, the roof fell in. If, as has come to our ears, one of the Ace players on the bench hit Kane with a stick as he was passing, such action is deplorable, and the offender should be put in his place by the Ace management. But we feel sure that the Saint Dunstan boys do not feel like blaming the whole Ace club for the action of this one individual. That there were faults on both sides was fairly evident. One member of the Saints skated around apparently taking punches at every one he saw wearing an Ace uniform. One Ace player, standing still and looking at the scrap was clipped by this whirling dervish. Ordinarily this SDU boy is a fine, friendly chap, who plays clean and very fast hockey. He just got a bit over-excited, that's all. This action did not change our belief that the Saints, as a club, are a fine, fast skating, aggressive but clean, group of players. It is a real pleasure to watch them.

Cape Traverse Trips Hampshire

The Cape Traverse Rovers defeated the Hampshire Bulldogs 6 to 4 in a fast game of hockey played in Craupad Rink Tuesday night in the second game of the semi-finals for the Craupad-Victoria Board of Trade trophy.

This gives Cape Traverse a two game lead over the Hampshire boys in the best of five series. The next game will probably be played Saturday night.

The winners of the Albany-Nine Mile Creek series, tied presently at one game apiece, The third game of this series will be played tonight.

Ottawa Signs Willie Frye

OTTAWA (CP)—Willie Frye, star end with University of North Carolina for the last three years, has been signed by Ottawa Rough Riders of the Big Four Football League, it was announced today.

Frye, a native of Hickory, N.C., is the first United States import announced by the club as having signed for next season.



Among The Top Scorers

Wally Hergeshelmer of New York Rangers is one of the top scorers in the National Hockey League. He averaged 2 goals in his first three years in NHL play. Wally's home is in Winnipeg where he was born. (CP Photo).

Between Football Teams

Plot General Agreement To Halt Player Raiding

By ML SUFRIN
PHILADELPHIA (CP)—Canadian and American professional football representatives plotted the general outline Wednesday of an agreement to halt player raids between teams in the two countries.

It would include a provision for giving teams in the Big Four and Western leagues an equal chance with the National Football League to draft United States college players.

However, a big stumbling block to final agreement remains. This involves close to a dozen players still in dispute, including some whose cases are still before the courts.

Bert Bell, commissioner of the National Football League emphasized that until the individual disputes are settled, there can be no pact.

Bell and Ralph Cooper, chairman of the Canadian Football Council, representing the nine Canadian clubs, met for 2½ hours at a luncheon open to the press. They engaged in a friendly exchange of ideas and answered a host of questions from newspaper men.

"In principle I believe we are of the same idea," said Cooper. However, he stressed that he is not empowered to make any final

agreement now. He said Canadian clubs are in general agreement with the proposals designed to end player raiding and would consider them at a March 1 meeting in Toronto.

WILL PICK SPOKESMAN

Cooper said he is confident the Canadian teams will agree on appointing a commissioner with absolute power to speak for Canadian football similar to Bell's position in the U. S.

Once that is done, he said, the representative could come back to Philadelphia to sign a final pact. The Canadian representative brought up the question of alleged intimidation as a weapon to keep U. S. college players from going to Canada. He said he had heard stories of American college graduates being told that if they go to Canada and then try to return to the U. S. they would be "ostracized."

Bell replied that it would be "ridiculous" to think such a ban could be made effective and declared there will be "no such restraint of any player."

One means of avoiding this might be the draft. At present, the NFL drafts the best college talent after each football season.

Two Hoop Games Slated Tonight

After more than a week's lay-off the City Basketball League swings back into action tonight with two games scheduled for P. W.C. Auditorium.

The first game at 7:15 brings together the Aloms and the first-place Oilers, who have been beaten only once in 6 games.

The second-place Aces and the winless Welshmen will tangle in the second game at 8:30.

Joe Revell has been appointed official referee for the remainder of the league's games and will handle both contests tonight.

Remember When

By THE CANADIAN PRESS
 Suzanne Lenglen of France was the queen of the international tennis courts 30 years ago today when she defeated Helen Wills, the United States ace, 6-3, 8-6, at Cannes, France. The first leading tennis player to turn professional, Lenglen soon afterwards accepted an offer by C. D. Frye, the sports promoter, for a tour of the United States. She was 39 at her death in 1938.

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