

SPORTS

Iowa, Illinois Nearly Upset In Loop Tilts

Chicago, Feb. 20.—(UP)—Ohio State's defending champions, who play Illinois Friday night in a desperate bid to retain their Big Ten title, might have been the team to beat today if it hadn't been for two free throws.

Iowa and Illinois, currently running 1-2 in the conference basketball race, survived a "night of scars" last night on the strength of those two points. Iowa defeated Wisconsin at Iowa City, 54-53, to win its eighth victory in nine games and hold first place, while Illinois squeaked by Minnesota at Champaign, 49-48, for its seventh victory in eight engagements.

If those two points had gone the other way to give Wisconsin and Minnesota victories, O. S. U.'s Buckeyes would have been back in a tie for first place with Iowa and favored to retain their title.

They play Illinois Friday and then close out their 1944-45 Big Ten basketball season against Indiana Saturday. The Illinois game is an all important one since a defeat for the Buckeyes would all but eliminate them from championship consideration.

It was a night for comebacks last night as Minnesota and Wisconsin—both second division teams—got blazing hot to almost scramble the Big Ten standings.

At Iowa City, the Hawkeyes barely escaped a torrid last half drive by Wisconsin, grabbing their victory on a free throw by Herbert Wilkinson. Murray Wier, 5-foot, 8-inch freshman forward, however, was the real hero.

Wisconsin jumped to a 12-3 lead when coach Pops Harrison substituted Wier who sparked Iowa to a 29-24 halftime lead. With big Clayton Wilkinson, Dick Ives and Wier carrying the point load, Iowa took a 53-45 lead with three minutes to go.

Veteran Ray Patterson, however, came to life to lead Wisconsin in a last-second rally which fell only one point short, a free throw which H. Wilkinson scored in the midst of the Badger rally.

Wisconsin's Bill Johnson led the game's scorers with 17 points followed by Patterson, C. Wilkinson and Wier, all tied with 14.

At Champaign, Illinois was all

but swept off the floor as Minnesota rolled to a 27-22 halftime lead and held it until Howie Judson and Jack Burmeister boosted the Illini to a 49-44 lead. Clarence Hermens, 6-foot, 7-inch Gopher center, tapped in a rebound and with 30 seconds left, Arnie Lehrman drove in for a setup but the Illini stalled the remaining seconds for victory. Each team made 20 field goals while Illinois held a one-point free throw advantage.

Hermens' 17 points was tops followed by Burmeister with 16.

Team	W	L	Pct.	Pts.	Op.
Iowa	8	1	.888	426	362
Illinois	7	1	.875	420	336
Ohio State	8	2	.800	487	409
*Purdue	6	6	.500	563	533
*Michigan	5	7	.417	507	561
Wisconsin	4	6	.400	442	476
Minnesota	3	7	.300	426	476
Northwestern	3	8	.273	495	488
Indiana	2	8	.200	457	550

*Season complete.

Today's Sports Parade

By JACK CUDDY
(Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.)

New York, Feb. 20.—(UP)—It seems to us that the midnight curfew on entertainment, which goes into effect nationally on Monday, will help boom sports generally.

However, the war-moment that makes necessary this "request" from mobilizer James E. Byrnes apparently spikes any lingering hopes that racing can be reopened in the spring.

The only sports enterprises now carrying on, that would seem to suffer from the curfew are bowling and billiard establishments. Their activities will be forced to cease at midnight.

Betting on sports probably will be increased considerably.

Sports like baseball, football, boxing, wrestling and hockey—most of which already are enjoying wartime prosperity—should boom under the new restriction for two reasons: (1) fans who normally "blow" a portion of their spending money in the late spots, like night clubs and saloons, should have more available now for sports; and (2) persons who are denied late entertainment may turn to sports for diversion.

Although there is little similarity between the curfew and prohibition, which was supposed to prevail in the United States from 1920 to 1933, it is recalled that the "golden decade" of sports came during that "dry" period. Speakeasies flourished during that decade; but nevertheless it was much more difficult for the ordinary fan to blow his dough in the "joints" than it has been since repeal. The plentitude of money available for sports in those days was just as important in causing the "golden decade" as were the great performers who featured it—Jack Dempsey, Babe Ruth, Bobby Jones, Bill Tilden, Earl Sande, etc.

Wisconsin's Bill Johnson led the game's scorers with 17 points followed by Patterson, C. Wilkinson and Wier, all tied with 14.

At Champaign, Illinois was all

Picks Jeffersonville To Win State Title

By James E. Walters
Indianapolis, Feb. 20.—(UP)—Jasper's Wildcats were the consensus choice of the United Press sports staff today, but Jim Walters rides with the Jeffersonville Red Devils to capture the 1945 Indiana high school basketball championship.

Admittedly, Jeff has the toughest tournament road of any of the major title contenders. Admittedly, it lost to Jasper by a 12-point margin—and on Jeff's own floor.

But that 49-37 Jasper victory was early in the season and since the start of the new year, when season performances really start counting, the Red Devils have not met defeat. They finished with 16 victories and two losses.

Jeffersonville's 10-game winning streak is the hottest thing in major Hoosier prep case circles and the amazing thing about it was that Bill Gedding missed most of those games.

A great floorman and fine shot, Gedding was sidelined early in January by a head injury. For a time it was feared he was lost for the season. But he has seen limited action in the last two games and coach Edwin Yskowski expects to have him ready for full-time duty when Jeff opens sectional play against Little Laconia at 9 a. m. Friday.

Gedding's injury, coming as it did on the heels of the army induction of Captain Von Hisey, would have shattered a lesser team.

Jeffersonville, however, had only begun to fight. Frank (Buddy) Clegg and Bob Scott stepped into the gaps at guards and on Jan. 11 the Red Devils proved their greatness by getting off the floor to down the veteran-loaded Evansville Boese Bulldogs, 26-23. Boese's defending state champions had a 16-1 lead at one stage of the game.

The Red Devils' biggest weakness, if it can be called a weakness, is that they depend on "Big Charlie" Meyers for most of their rebound strength. A speedy, muscular, six foot five inch center, "Big Charlie" is the brains of the Jeff club when on the floor and he can be counted upon for anywhere from 10 to 20 points a game.

None of the other first five men reach six feet. But what they lack in height they make up in clever ball handling and accurate shooting.

U. S. BOMBERS

(Continued From Page One)

they had caught the Germans in the midst of a huge troop movement.

Not a single German fighter rose to challenge the raiders, and some of the American fighters ranged ahead to strafe rail and road traffic as far as Munich.

Nuerenberg previously had been attacked twice by the eighth air force.

The number of commercially-hatched chicks produced last October was about one-third less than the number produced in October, 1943.

Victory Bar Reopens Tomorrow.

Before yesterday's announcement OK the curfew, hope had been increasing among racing men that the Christmas-eve ban might be lifted by spring, permitting the hordes to go into their golden gallop again. But the war situation necessitating the curfew seems to blast that hope definitely.

It is true that the curfew was suggested primarily as a means of saving fuel, because of the coal shortage; but Byrnes said he believes it also would help conserve transportation and manpower. He said he was convinced that the public will gladly accept the curfew "in view of the fact that in the period just ahead of us, those in the armed services will be making greater sacrifices than ever before."

Last week, after returning from the Crimea conference, Byrnes said that more men will be in combat during March than ever before. These statements, combined with the drastic curfew measure, leave little hope of re-opening the tracks until the European war is ended, at least. Because, apparently, the momentum of war will be constantly stepped up until that goal is achieved.

Betting has increased tremendously during the past 10 years, and particularly during the war. It seems certain that much money which ordinarily would be spent in the late spots, will be diverted now into betting channels, booming the bookie business throughout the country. Although the horse plants are closed, the public is wagering actively on other sports. Baseball will get a terrific bettingplay when the season opens.

We know of no reason why midnight closing should curtail night baseball, boxing, etc. Rarely have regularly-scheduled night games lasted past midnight; and professional boxing shows never do.

HAGG COMPETITION

By Jack Sords



Fifth Army Improves Positions In Italy

Rome, Feb. 20.—(UP)—American troops of the fifth army improved their west flank positions in the mountainous country west of the Pistoia-Bologna highway, headquarters said today, while patrols continued active elsewhere on the fifth and eighth army fronts.

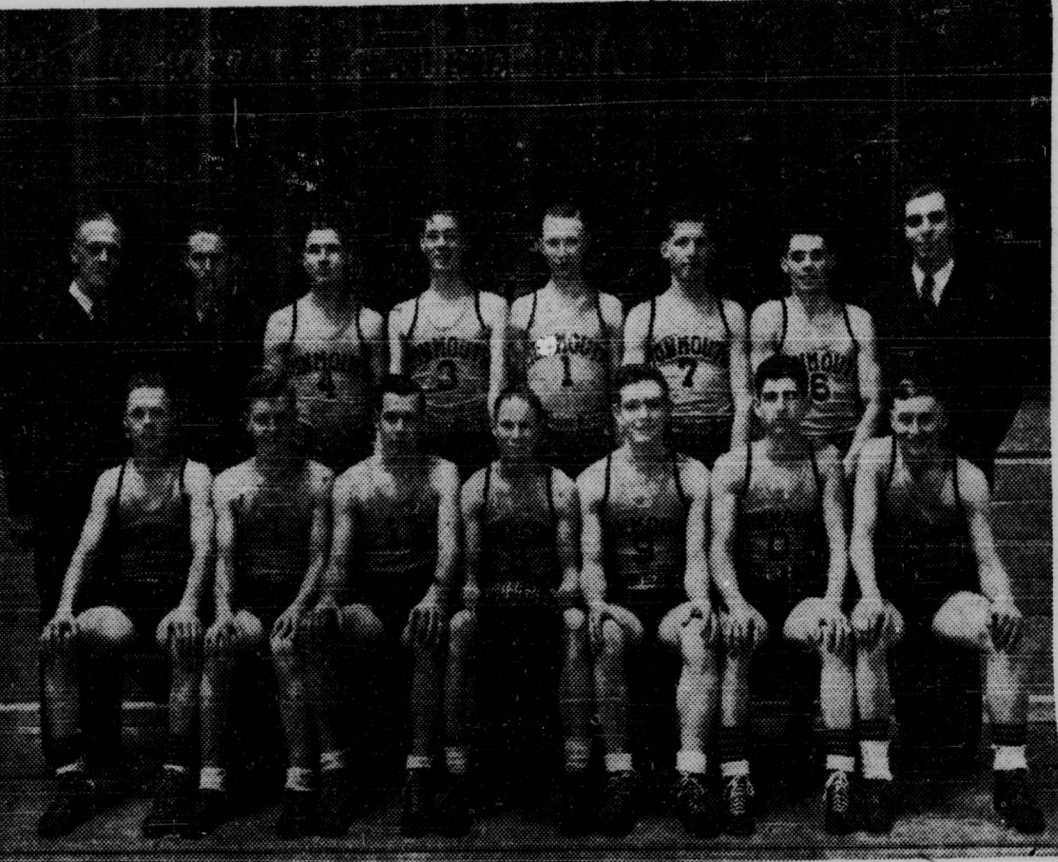
The doughboys encountered strong defensive fire near Monte Cappelluso but they overcame mortar and machine gun positions to strengthen their hold on a ridge running southwest of the park.

Township Trustees And Assessors Meet

The township trustees and assessors met this morning in the auditor's office with E. J. Worthman, Adams county assessor, who outlined plans for annual assessing of personal property in this county, beginning March 1.

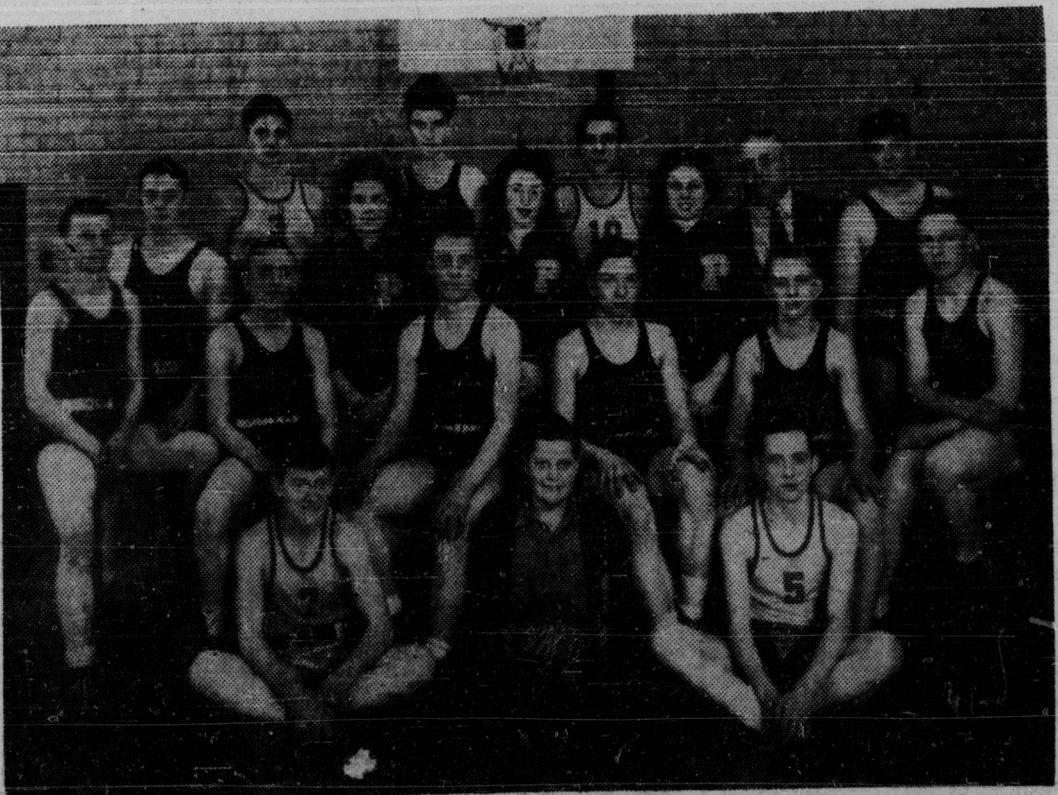
Lee Highlen, state tax board representative, talked to the assessors and explained certain policies to be followed in assessing personal property. He said that in the case of pin-ball machines, slot machines, music boxes and the like, that these

Monmouth Eagles



Seated, left to right—Thieme, Bulmahn, Selking, H. Oetting, Bienz, Singleton, Bird. Standing, left to right—Principal C. E. Striker, C. Oetting, student manager; King, Crosby, Schumann, Kukulhan, Rice, Coach Myron Lehman.

Pleasant Mills Spartans



Front row, left to right—Ray, McCullough, student manager; Daniels. Second row, left to right—Geyer, R. Miller, Sprunger, Werling, P. Speakman, L. Speakman. Third row, left to right—Sipe, (Bebout, Bailey, Myers, yell leaders), Strayer. Rear row, left to right—Whitacre, C. Miller, Teeple, Albert Coppess, coach.

Minesweeper Is Lost In Philippine Area

Washington, Feb. 20.—(UP)—The navy today announced the loss of the small minesweeper in the Philippine area as the result of enemy action. The Minesweeper, the YMS 48, was the 262nd naval vessel lost in this war.

The vessel carried a normal complement of 30 men. Lt. Howard A. Kaiser, 30, New York, was skipper of the vessel and is a survivor.

Divorce Trial Is On In Circuit Court

The divorce trial of Paul B. Gould, who seeks a divorce from his wife, Alice E. Gould, will be concluded late this afternoon. The trial started yesterday.

In addition to the principals involved, the witnesses today included Roy Chilcote and Robert Hill, city police officers, and Miss Francesca Everett. H. R. McClenahan represents Mr. Gould and Ed A. Bosse is attorney for Mrs. Gould. Judge J. Fred Fruchte is hearing the case. The Goulds formerly lived in Union township, north of Decatur.

Commuting GI

Fort Warren, Wyo.—(UP)—Sgt. C. J. Munn, assigned to the signal corps at Fort Warren, believes he has established some sort of a commuter's record. Sgt. Munn lives at Fort Collins, Col., which is about 50 miles from the post, and estimates that he has traveled about 50,000 miles the past year in commuting between his home and the post.

Meeting in Pacific

Texarkana, Tex.—(UP)—Swain George W. Winkle, cruising around the South Pacific, recently ran into his brother-in-law, Pvt. Kenneth B. DeHart. It was not exactly a reunion. They had never met before.

WORTH CROWING ABOUT
A FRESH CIGARETTE MAKES A BETTER SMOKE
ROLLED RIGHT... MILD AND LIGHT... NO BITES
MARVELS
The FRESH Cigarette of Quality



COMMANDER of the Third White Russian Army, 37-year-old Gen. Ivan D. Chernyakovsky, died of battle wounds and will be buried in state at Vilna, capital of the Lithuanian Soviet Republic, Moscow has disclosed. Chernyakovsky last June launched the Red drive west of Smolensk, which caused the German collapse in White Russia, and last month he was in command of the Soviet forces striking across northern East Prussia in an offensive which carried to the Baltic. (International)

Democrat Want Ads Ge. Results

BRITISH PLEDGE

(Continued From Page One)
in Algiers, the announcement. The president told De Gaulle he "hoped very much to meet him" but "official business" prevented his going to France.

The invitation concluded "an expression of real hope" the alternative proposal for ending in Algiers would be sent to the French leader.

He was most disappointed. White House added, when that "official business" did not permit the general to come to the United States.

The announcement came in indication of when the White House would return to the White House.

Democrat Want Ads Ge. Results

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& "HI BEAUTIFUL"
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Baseball's a riot when the tenement terrorists go batty!
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