

# It's A Big Job Converting A Floor From Ice To Wood

By FRANK WIDNER

HAMMERS ROSE and fell, perspiration dripped from the foreheads of sawmen, workmen scurried back and forth and a short, slightly heavy-set man in an overcoat and hat shouted orders over and over as he kept walking around like something akin to perpetual motion.

The place was the Indianapolis Coliseum, the busy little man was Dick Miller, manager of the huge building where everything from hockey to basketball can be staged.

It was hockey and basketball, in fact, which was causing all the work out there yesterday. Thursday morning there was an inch-thick covering of ice on the Coliseum floor—today, there is a hard-wood basketball court on it and tomorrow night the ice will be back and the Indianapolis Capitals and the Cleveland Barons will be sailing around at breath-taking speed in the final regular game of the season here.

All of which sounds like something of a modern "miracle" and it is just that.

THE BASKETBALL floor—in 135 separate sections—was brought down here from the Chicago stadium by truck and laid yesterday. Monday night it will be back in Chicago and the National Professional Basketball tournament will be played on its surface. The floor is the property of the Indianapolis Coliseum Corp.

The railing around the hockey rink has been removed and extra seats have been added to make a seating capacity of 11,531 for the basketball tourney today. Sections for the press have been erected. There are 3600 chairs in the Coliseum and almost 8000 other seats. By actual count, there are 3452 arena seats, 300 bandstand seats and 7779 others.

Following the game tonight—at approximately midnight—the workers will be back on the job, removing these extra seats, putting the railing back up, tearing down the press sections.

The brine in the central refrigeration plant will be chilled and it will be forced into 200 pairs of pipes under the concrete floor. This cools the cement and a stream of water is sprayed over the surface.

THIS QUICKLY freezes and presto!—you've got a hockey rink again. Regarding tomorrow's ice game here, it will mark the last game on the Caps' regular schedule before the start of the American league playoffs for the coveted Calder Cup next week. Another game with the first-place Barons on tap in Cleveland tonight.

The playoff dates are dependent on the hot race between Buffalo and Hershey for the top spot in the western division. They meet in home and home games this week-end. If first-place Hershey should win just one game or even tie one, then the Caps would play their first game at Buffalo Tuesday and the second tilt there Thursday. They would return for two games here next Friday and Sunday, March 24 and 26.

If the Bisons should edge the Barons out of first place by taking both contests, then the opening game between Indianapolis and Hershey would be here Tuesday and then the team would go to Hershey to play Thursday and Saturday. They would be back here Sunday, March 26.

## SPORTS...

By Eddie Ash

CHARLIE GRIMM, jovial and capable manager of the champion Milwaukee Brewers, thinks he is pretty well set for players for the American association's new season... His outfit is outstanding, consisting of four holdovers from the 1943 season.

The Brewer flycatchers—all heavy hitters—are Norbert, Norman, Peck and Secory... All 4-F in the draft... Grimm is not ready to size up his infield and battery, although it is known he is fairly fixed for talent... At this writing Milwaukee and Columbus are the league's standouts... by far.

Angelo Giuliani, 31, catcher at various times for three major league clubs and St. Paul and Minneapolis, has announced his retirement from the game to accept a position with a Minneapolis business firm... He recently was traded to the St. Louis Browns by Washington in exchange for Catcher Rick Ferrell.

Giuliani is giving up his favorite sport because of a serious back ailment which forced him out of harness for several weeks last season... He was rejected by the army because of the ailment, and is classified 4-F.

### I. U. Grid Star Gets Annapolis Appointment

BOB HOERNSCHEMAYER, Indiana university's 1943 football ace passer, probably will be in grid tugs again this year when the fall season rolls around... Reports come from Cincinnati, his home town, relate that Hunchy has received an Annapolis appointment, and is now stationed at an eastern preparatory school, getting ready for entrance examinations.

Since the first of the year, when he entered the navy, Hunchy has been stationed at Great Lakes... He is sure to make elegant backfield timber for the U. S. naval academy's 1944 football squad.

### Four Gibbons Boys in Service

GENE GIBBONS, son of Mike Gibbons, the former prize-fighter, was cited with a marine company for bravery in the Marshall Islands... Two of Mike's other sons, Jimmy and Danny, also have been in the thick of the fighting in the South Pacific... Bob, fourth son to enlist, shipped out of Ft. Snelling, Minn., this week for basic training at a southern camp.

CHUCK ALENO, former Indianapolis third-sacker, this year is getting his third trial with the Cincinnati Reds... He reported at the Bloomington camp 25 pounds over playing weight, and is trying to sweat off the surplus by running... Chuck, who is 4-F, evidently found a surplus supply of food during the off-season... He is an infielder-outfielder.

The Reds now have 16 players who are 4-F, over age or not subject to draft, because they are not U. S. citizens.

ANY civilian able to run and throw has a chance to make a league ball club this year.

## 10,000 Are Turned Away From Garden as Jack Whips Davis

By JACK CUDDY

United Press Staff Correspondent

NEW YORK, March 18.—Brown-skinned Beau Jack proved to the boxing world that he has a granite chin last night as he shook off the explosive left hooks of Al (Bumby) Davis in the early sessions and battled on to win an easy 10-round decision over the Brooklyn Dynamiter before a sell-out crowd of 19,963 at Madison Square Garden. Mounted police turned more than 10,000 away from the Garden's closed doors before Jack, the lightweight champion from Augusta, Ga., gave his impressive demonstration of ruggedness and ruthlessness for a gate of \$132,823—largest indoor take in the history of "little" boxers.

Though Jack, Dixie's ex-boot black, entered the ring a 12-3 favorite, his victory was doubly sweet because it was so lop-sided and because it was achieved against the same Davis who knocked out Bob Montgomery a month ago in 63 seconds of the first round. The same Montgomery of Philadelphia wrested the lightweight title (New York version) from Beau Jack two weeks ago.

### Only One Knockdown

For four rounds, it was one of the most thundering brawls any fight fan ever witnessed; then Davis faded, and for the remaining six sessions, it was just a question whether the Brooklyn blond could last the full 10 rounds.

Davis, a welterweight who outweighed Jack 142½ pounds to 138, shot all of his bolts in the first four sessions and was beaten so badly at the end of the fight that he was floored for no-count just before the final bell. Jack registered the lone knockdown of the bout with a left hook that dumped Davis backwards to the canvas. Bumby was up at no-count, just as the game sounded ending the 10th round. He was up; but his face was puffed on both cheeks, and he was bleeding from a gashed left brow and from cuts inside the nose and mouth.

Davis, his putter working like a magic wand, carried 11 one-punt greens and dropped several long ones for birdies.

Bob Hamilton of Evansville, Ind., winner of the recent North-South Open at Pinehurst, was tied with four others for eighth place. All had 72s.

## 103 Report for Practice at N. D.

SOUTH BEND, Ind., March 18 (U. P.)—Spring football practice at the University of Notre Dame was officially under way today after 103 gridiron hopefuls turned out for the opening St. Patrick's day session.

The first practice, under the guidance of Ed McKeever who is in charge of the squad while Head Coach Frank Leahy is on tour for the U. S. O., was devoted to light workouts and exhibitions before scores of cameramen.

Eight letter winners and seven reserves from last year's squad will form the nucleus of the 1944 Irish team.

## HOCKEY

CLEVELAND vs. INDPLS.

Sun., Mar. 19—8:30 P. M.

NOTICE!

NO SKATING

TODAY

Because of

Basketball Tournament

COLISEUM

## Hockey Standings

AMERICAN LEAGUE

WESTERN Division

Cleveland . . . W L T G OG Pts

INDIANAPOLIS . . . 18 18 16 149 162 72

Pittsburgh . . . 18 18 16 149 162 72

18 31 9 140 181 33

Eastern Division

Hershey . . . W L T G OG Pts

25 18 12 156 161 62

25 15 12 156 161 62

25 18 12 156 161 62

Providence . . . 25 18 12 156 161 62

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