

FIRST MAJOR CAGE POWER TO HIT 20 VICTORIES THIS SEASON, SETON HALL'S PIRATES ARE HEADED FOR THE POST-SEASON TOURNAMENT PERIOD AS NO. 1 ATTRACTION WITH NO. 1 RATING AS THEIR GOAL....



# Dukes Doesn't Do All at Seton Hall; Mates Tough, Too

Speed and Defense Cited by Honey Russell as Big Factors in Many of Pirates' Triumphs

By JOE KING

SOUTH ORANGE, N. J.

Coach Honey Russell was only too glad to talk about the Seton Hall team which goes along with Walter Dukes, brilliant high scorer and rebound ace.



Honey Russell

"While Dukes is great," Russell opened, "we have a fine, versatile team in there with him. In fact, we can lay off Dukes entirely when they put two-three men on him and win by shooting from outside.

"Just remember that we won 25 and lost three last year when Dukes played only 60 per cent of the time. We lost those three, incidentally, by a total of only ten points."

The coach was not running down Dukes. Far from it. But he wanted to get across the "team" idea of the astounding outfit from South Orange, N. J., and distribute the credit.

"We win many of our games on defense," Russell resumed. "I look for speed and defense. We go back to the old pros for our defense, a real close man-for-man arrangement. This calls for superb conditioning, and that is the main strength of the squad. It is almost a 40-minute squad."

Ronnie Nathanic, six-three, and Henry Cooper, six-two, are the forwards, and Richie (The Cat) Regan, six-two, and Harry Brooks, five-ten, the guards who go with six-cleven Dukes.

## Hannon a Handy Guy to Have Around

The coach also pins a medal on Mickey Hannon, six-two, who is the spot man who can do almost everything. He can relieve for Regan, Brooks or Nathanic. He is one of the best shooters from outside, and can carry the game when the defense overshifts on Dukes.

Russell credits Hannon with pulling the Pirates out of their toughest game of the winning streak, which reached 22 with their 74 to 67 win over St. Bonaventure at the Garden in New York, February 5.

Fordham and St. Peter's are generally regarded as the most difficult foes for Seton in the early going, but Russell says it was Western Kentucky. "We were down 12 points at the beginning of the third period," he explained, "and Hannon had to pick us up. He took four shots and made three and that did it."

On attack, Regan, Brooks and Nathanic are splendid set shooters, and go to work, sometimes in combination with Hannon, when Dukes is covered. Regan is a play-maker and is also the key man on defense; he plays the other side's high scorer.

When Dukes is double-teamed, Seton hits the other pivot on Cooper or Arnie Ring.

Russell was delighted when Ring made up his scholastic deficiencies to re-join the club for the final nine games. He is six-three, and a good rebound man, and provides a reserve for Dukes, who had played virtually all the time.

With Ring and Hannon on the bench, Russell has two ideal men for emergencies. Hannon probably would have qualified as a regular had he not missed two years because of knee operations, after a 666-point freshman season. He has a lethal left hand.

This Seton Hall team surely was the surprise of the nation as it rose in recent weeks to No. 1 ranking, and it is absolutely the toast of the Metropolitan New York area, unaccustomed as it has been in the past few years to country-wide basketball glory.

## A Break for Garden

In fact, the Pirates were regarded as saviors by Madison Square Garden for the game played against St. Bonaventure. The advance for this game was better than for any other in the arena. Unfortunately, Seton booked into the Garden only three times this year. Had it been more, the arena's skimpy crowd figures might have been much higher.

When speaking about the success of Seton Hall, those in the trade always tell you not to forget Russell himself. The coach is accustomed to winning.

In ten years at Seton, up to this season, Honey had a record of 160-58. The old pro returned to the school in '49 after a four-year absence. Last year the Pirates lost to LaSalle, eventual winner, in the National Invitation Tournament in the Garden. The margin was four points, and no other club came as close.

The year before it took another winner, Brigham Young, to bump a sophomore team which had won 22, lost five, out of the NIT.

In his first span at Seton, Russell had two unbeaten records in the regular season. In '39-40, with Ed Sadowski as the star, the Pirates won 19 straight games.

With Bob Davies as the leader, they repeated that 19 in a row in '40-41 to extend their winning streak to 43 games before bowing to Long Island University in the second round of the National Invitation Tournament.

No one is surprised when Russell comes up with a winner, with or without a Dukes. It's an old South Orange custom with Honey in control.

## ALL-PREP

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way Mose described him. His coach, Harry Sockler, pointing out that his 17-year-old grid star had a B-plus school average, calls Spiller "a natural leader." Allen played offensive center on a team that lost only one game while sharing the Lamoine Valley Conference championship. He was a linebacker on defense.

At one of the guard positions, Don Manoukian of Reno (Nev.) High was a standout. Besides football, he excels at weight-lifting and wrestling, has excellent grades and is a good public speaker.

Ty Cobb, sports editor of the Nevada State Journal at Reno, calling young Manoukian a "terrific blocker and a powerful, smart and speedy player on both offense and defense," pointed out that Don led the balloting for two straight years for the Nevada all-state team, and was a major power in the Reno Huskies' drive to the championship. And Bill Gillis, sports editor of the Reno Evening Gazette, was just as enthusiastic in his comments, emphasizing that Reno's co-captain, besides kicking off for the team, was a tower of strength on the defense. In track and field, incidentally, he is the state shotput champion.

### Like Father, Like Son

At the other guard position, Fred Sington, Jr., son of the former University of Alabama All-America tackle and later a major league outfielder, had a great year for Ramsay High in Birmingham. Though Fred, Jr., played most of his games at tackle, he was shifted to guard on the All-America team because of the abundance of good tackles nominated to the squad.

Max Moseley of the Montgomery (Ala.) Advertiser declared: "Sington was positively sensational all season long."

Byron Beams, a 48-minute player and an all-state selection, was a vital cog in Ada (Okla.) High's Class A state championship triumph with his brilliant play at tackle. Big, fast, aggressive and alert, Beams blocked well, and performed equally as brilliantly on defense as offense. An exceptional student, he edits the school's year book and is a leader on the campus.

Paul Schramm, 238-pound lineman for

### Old Stuff to Lattner

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla.—Johnny Lattner, Notre Dame's star half-back, has the distinction of winning All-America honors both in high school and college. Johnny was named on the National High School All-America team for 1949 while a student at Fenwick High School in Chicago. Last season, at Notre Dame, he was chosen on virtually every All-America.

Purcell High of Cincinnati, took the other tackle berth, and one of his biggest boosters was Pat Harmon of the Cincinnati Post, who in past years was one of the outstanding football writers in the Big Ten while a member of the staff of a Champaign, Ill., publication.

The ends, Joe Bosse of Central Catholic, Lawrence, Mass., and Jack Stovall, St. Mary's High, Phoenix, Ariz., came highly recommended. A good student, the 17-year-old, 210-pound Bosse was described as "this area's outstanding player" by SportsCaster Ernie LaBrauche of Station WCCM, Lawrence, who further pointed out that he is an honor student and was chosen on the All-Catholic High School All-America team.

Fred B. Cole, sports editor of the Lawrence (Mass.) Eagle Tribune, in naming Bosse as his No. 1 candidate for All-America honors, declared: "Besides being named to the All-America Catholic High School team, Bosse also made the All-Boston Catholic League selection. He has been watched by West Point and other college outfits. He was the Barons' leading scorer."

Stovall, pride and joy of Coach E. P. (Chink) Coleman at St. Mary's High, Phoenix, Ariz., was a great defensive player and above the average as a pass-catcher. He received the accolade from Ben Foote of the Phoenix Gazette while Ray Odom, sports director of Station KRIZ, stated: "He's an All-America; a tremendous athlete!"

Voting was brisk this year and many of the players who failed to make the first team missed by scant margins. George Volkert, pride of Isaac Litton High of Nashville, Tenn., for instance, was just one vote short of the coveted goal. Hubert Bobo, star of Chauncey-Dover High at Chauncey, O., who led the nation in scoring with 327 points, and may enroll at Notre Dame, wound up on the second All-America team, missing the No. 1 spot by a narrow margin.

## Bradley Races Back on Big Point Spree

By BOB RUSSELL

PEORIA, Ill.

Despite drastic de-emphasis, Bradley University is on the road back in basketball.

The Braves spent 12 years building a basketball empire, only to see it collapse under their ears in 1951 when All-America Gene Melchiorre, Captain Billy Mann and several lesser lights were exposed as "point-shavers."

Bradley officials moved quickly to put their athletic houses in order, following the "fix" revelations. The cleanup was quick and complete.

Then Forrest (Forddy) Anderson, Bradley's young coach, began what was expected to be a long and tedious task of building a brand-new basketball team.



Forrest Anderson

A mere two years after the purge, the "beardless Braves" are threatening every scoring record left behind by the infamous teams of a few seasons ago.

"This is as good a scoring team as we've ever had," says the 33-year-old Anderson. "The new one-and-one free throw rule is one reason we're higher, however. It has added ten points a game to every game's total."

The de-emphasized Braves scored 1,253 points in their first 16 games this year. That gives them a 78.9 average, twenty-first in the nation in the latest National Collegiate Athletic Bureau major-college statistics.

The tainted team which finished second in both the National Collegiate Athletic Association championships and National Invitation Tournament in 1950 set a record with a 68.9 average, then increased it to 73.3 a year later.

### New Team Winning Back Fans in a Hurry

When the news of the basketball "fix" scandals hit Peoria two years ago, the people who had lived and breathed the game were shocked. Many declared they were through with basketball.

But the terrific teen-agers who make up Bradley's de-emphasized team won them back in a hurry. Now capacity crowds of 8,300 are common again at every game in A. J. Robertson Memorial Fieldhouse.

One of Bradley's unheralded youngsters is threatening the all-time school scoring records set by Paul Unruh, an All-America center of the immediate pre-"fix" era.

He's Bob Carney, a wiry six-foot one-inch junior guard from West High School of Aurora, Ill.

In the Braves' first 16 games, the versatile 20-year-old averaged 18.9 points, 6.8 rebounds and 5.8 assists. Equally effective as a shooter or a playmaker, he led the team in both scoring and assists.

"Bob's floor play is just as great as his scoring," points out Anderson. "He has a unique change of pace and direction in his dribbling. He's a good passer, a fine defensive player and a quick, alert ball-hawk."

The Braves have been barred from the NCAA championships this year as a punishment for the school's past recruiting and subsidizing sins. But they'll be back next year.

By then the young Braves may well have grown up to tournament stature. Only Ott and Dick Goelzer, 6-4 reserve center from Milwaukee, Wis., will graduate this spring.

"We built character last year. This year we're building for next season," Anderson explains. "These kids are a good team now and they'll get better."