

Big Seven Schools Favor Admittance of Chicks

But Still No Final Decision Made

By GEORGE CLARK
Courier News Sports Editor

If reaction of the present membership is to be the deciding factor, Blytheville's Chick-asaws can now consider themselves members of the Big Seven Conference.

A roundup of comment from officials of Big Seven schools today revealed that practically every school in the conference is willing to accept the Chicks in their group and will give them a spot on their schedules by 1956.

One In A Crowd

By George Clark
Courier News Sports Editor

Chicks Squarely on Spot But Big Seven May Be Answer to Problems

The favorable reaction shown the "feeler" letter of intent written to the Arkansas Athletic Association and members of the Big Seven Conference by Blytheville school officials has placed Blytheville High School squarely on the spot. But, on the other hand, this could turn out to be the Chicks' biggest break since this whole classification mess was dreamed up some seven years ago.

These, in our way of thinking, are the two schools of thought one can follow when one sits down and tries to decipher just what is going on.

Blytheville has been placed on the spot because actually the decision as to where to go from here rests squarely on the shoulders of our school officials.

As we understand the rule under which the letter was written, Blytheville can either quietly withdraw its request for an increase in classification and return to its present role of an athletic stepchild or go ahead and press its request for an opportunity to play with the big boys and take its chances on the future.

In either case, the decision is not going to be an easy one to make.

Every since 1949 when the whispering campaign against Blytheville got into full swing and the state's larger teams began snubbing the Chicks in wholesale lots, Blytheville's football fortunes have been virtually at a standstill.

The Chicks were forced to go out of state to get a schedule. Arkansas teams of Blytheville's classification shunned the Chicks because they said they couldn't compete with them. Most of the teams in the Big Seven refused Blytheville contracts on grounds there was too much travel involved or that they just plain didn't want anything to do with the Chicks' brand of football.

And, as the result, when all-state honors were dished out — which is about the only incentive a kid has for playing football these days —

Olympic Committee To Consider 1960 Site

NEW YORK (AP) — The special committee on sites for the 1960 Olympic games will meet here tomorrow to consider endorsing a single American city as a possible location for the winter sports.

Backers of Lake Tahoe-Squaw Valley in California and Reno in Nevada, will present their cases. The committee previously heard presentations for Lake Placid, N. Y., Colorado Springs-Aspen, and Sun Valley in Idaho.

The special committee has already selected Detroit as the American choice for the summer games in 1960. Ratification of both winter and summer sites must be made by the full United States Olympic Committee, but this is expected to be a formality.

Too Many Invitations
Insiders believe the United States has the opportunity to stage the 1966 games when a half dozen American cities presented invitations to the International Olympic Committee, which chose Melbourne, Australia, rather than attempt to decide between the American contenders.

Football Injury Proves 'False'

MYRTLE BEACH, S. C. (AP) — The Fort Mill high school football team reported that one of its members lost his front teeth in the ocean during a rough practice session on the beach here.

"It couldn't be classed as an injury, though," the coach reported. "The teeth are false."

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So far, only one Big Seven school is unheeded from. That is El Dorado where officials have not yet made public any comment they might have on the possibility of the Chicks joining the Big Seven.

Typical of the comment offered yesterday by Big Seven officials was that of Jess Matthews, principal of Little Rock High School. Mr. Matthews said: "We would be glad to have them. We could play them beginning with 1956."

Little Rock, incidentally, was one of the "doubtful" schools listed in speculation here yesterday.

N. Little Rock in Favor
Coach Raymond (Rabbit) Burnett who saw his North Little Rock Wildcats go down in defeat to the Chicks last fall said that he thinks Blytheville's entry in the Big Seven would give the league better balance.

Pine Bluff officials had about the same comment to offer. Sted White, coach of the Fort Smith Grizzlies said he would be "quite willing to play Blytheville" after the 1955 season. The Grizzlies, he said, have a full schedule for the 1955 season but would have an opening for the Chicks in 1956.

Texarkana, also listed as "doubtful" came through with a vote in favor of the Chicks.

Texarkana, too
Texarkana's athletic director Bob Ellen said he was "all for it". When asked about the travel involved in making a trip to Blytheville, Ellen pointed out that the 300 miles to Blytheville is no further than some trips Texarkana's team is now taking.

In announcing that he had filed a "feeler" letter of intent with the Arkansas Athletic Association and members of the Big Seven schools, Superintendent of Schools W. B. Nicholson said yesterday that he had also asked Big Seven schools for comment on the Chicks possible entry.

However, last night, Mr. Nicholson still maintained that no final decision has been reached in the matter and indicated that one is not forthcoming in the immediate future.

Eligible Now
He said that as of last night he personally had heard from only one Big Seven school and indicated that he was awaiting word from others.

Mr. Nicholson said that the letter filed makes Blytheville eligible for membership in the Big Seven since it was filed prior to Jan. 1 in accordance with regulations. However, he added that the final decision has not been made.

The final decision, he said, was rest with himself and members of the school board.

Reports from a reliable source last night said that some opposition to the Chicks entrance in the Big Seven has developed within the school.

And while there was no official word to this effect, it is believed that this opposition may delay any decision on the matter for several days.

SeMo Teams In Action Tonight

By SONNY SANDERS
CARUTHERSVILLE — All but one of Femsicot County's basketball teams are slated for games tonight. However, only two games will be played within the county tonight.

Hayti's Indians will journey to Braggado for a doubleheader. Both the A and B teams are supposed to play there.

The Bragg City team will play host to Hal Rhee's Cooper cagers. Here are the out-of-county games:

Caruthersville's Tigers journey to Poplar Bluff for a twin bill. Both the A and B teams will play ball.

Wardell's Eagles will go to Parma, Mo.
The Steele Bulldogs will travel to Senath and Holland will go to Arbyrd.

Tonight's inactive team is Deerling.

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NO JOKE — Peter Mueller, middleweight import from Germany, draws plenty of laughs, but his authentic clouting — which produced a KO over Ernie Durando — has set him up for big money shots. (NEA)

Caruthersville Golden Gloves Finals Tonight

By SONNY SANDERS
CARUTHERSVILLE — The last of three nights of Golden Gloves boxing matches will be held at the Armory here tonight beginning at 8.

The bouts are sponsored by the Caruthersville Junior Chamber of Commerce.

After tonight's matches the local boxers will begin training for the Sikeston, Mo., tournament, which will be held next week.

Boxers from Cape Girardeau, Canolou, Charleston, Sikeston and Senath participated in Wednesday night's opening competition along with Caruthersville boxers.

In an exhibition bout 145-pound Dale Davis, Middlesboro, U. S. Open welterweight Golden Gloves champion last year, boxed Londo Diaz, 166, of Cape Girardeau. Davis lives at Senath.

John McClellan, 112-pound Sikeston Negro, won a decision by a technical knockout over Curtis Jackson, 112-pounder from Concord, The T.K.O. in the flyweight contest came at the end of the second round.

That match was one of the two sub-notice bouts of the evening. All others were in the novice division.

Lavelle Sliger, 122, Sikeston, technically knocked out Eddie Hall, 121, Caruthersville Negro, late in the second round of their featherweight match.

Theodore Wilson, 130-pound Caruthersville Negro, won a unanimous decision from Bill Hayes, 135, Charleston, in a lightweight bout.

Dunker Wins
Dunker Douglas, 147-pound Cape Girardeau Negro, was technically knocked out by Leamon Joe, 143-pound Caruthersville welterweight Negro, in the opening round.

Doug Dunker of Cape Girardeau won over Dean Harvey of Caruthersville. Dunker won by a T.K.O. in the third round. Both welterweights weighed in at 135 pounds.

Franklin Howard, 135-pound Sikeston Negro, won an unanimous decision over Willie Phillips, 135-pound Senath Negro.

Cape Girardeau's R. J. Billhaver won a unanimous decision over Charlie Anders of Senath. Both boys weighed 136 and are welterweights.

In a heavyweight battle, 175-pound Floyd Owen, a Caruthersville Negro, technically knocked out Don Schmidt of Cape Girardeau in the first period.

133-pound Joe McCoy of Caruthersville won an unanimous decision over John Henry Lewis, 137-pound Sikeston Negro.

John T. Robinson, Caruthersville Negro, lost to Don Ashworth, Sikeston Negro, as the result of a technical knockout in the second round. Both welterweights weighed in at 145.

Taylor Gets Decision
Willie R. Taylor, 147-pound Sikeston Negro, won a decision from Clayton Morgan, 147-pound Caruthersville Negro, in a welterweight match.

Robert Lee Johnson, 148, Caruthersville Negro, won a split decision from S. R. White, 147, Sikeston Negro.

L. F. McClellan, 137-pound Sikeston Negro, beat Roosevelt Hall, 133-pound Caruthersville Negro.

Glenn Hatzlip, 100, Senath, tangled with Johnny Summers, 90, Canolou, in an exhibition bout. They are both in the sub-novice class.

Arthur Pinson, 160-pounder from Sikeston, knocked out Charles Causey, 175-pounder of Caruthersville in the first round of their light heavy contest.

Thomas Head, 180-pound Sikeston Negro, technically knocked out

Big 10 May Force Showdown In NCAA TV Squabble Today

By MURRAY ROSE

NEW YORK (AP) — The rebelling Big Ten may force an all-or-nothing showdown today in the NCAA convention over the dynamite-laden football television problem — a showdown that possibly could wreck the 49-year-old organization.

H. O. (Fritz) Crisler, University of Michigan athletic director, yesterday demanded more liberal television along national-regional lines, or else the Big Ten might go ahead on its own. The Big Ten plan calls for nine regional and four national telecasts.

And another Big Ten figure said he planned to ask the NCAA membership to vote today on a resolution for regional TV.

"If the convention turns it down, my school will go ahead and arrange to televise its games on its own," added the representative, who asked anonymity.

Such unilateral action normally would result in expulsion from the NCAA and force the national organization to order its members not to compete with the insurgent. Thus, the school would not have anyone to play with let alone telecast a game. But the Big Ten apparently wants to get the explosive issue settled now instead of two or three months later if normal procedure were followed.

Will Stick to Guns
Crisler, in making his dramatic pronouncement in a 25-minute talk, said his powerful and influential conference would stick by any member forced to break ranks by state legislative pressure.

In such an event, national controls on TV would be finished and the gates to unrestricted television would be wide open. This is what Notre Dame and a number of other schools have been advocating for several years.

Crisler made his statement in a round-table discussion of six possible plans for telecasting this fall. After the oratory, the members voted in a secret straw ballot. The results of the poll were not to be disclosed and were to be used for the guidance only of the 1955 NCAA TV Committee to be chosen today.

This committee, normally, would digest the information, delve into every angle of the situation, and then offer a television program to be voted on by the members via the mails.

Compromise Possible
But Father Edward P. Joyce, vice president of Notre Dame, said he will ask that the vote be disclosed today so that the sentiment of the membership will be known.

Even with all of the bitterness engendered yesterday, one source said he believed that a compromise TV plan still had a chance of being put through.

Crisler, a member of the 1954 TV Committee which mapped out last year's national "Game of the Week" program, started the convention by saying:

"If any plan like last year's were adopted, we (the Big Ten) would be forced to reject it. . . . would abstain from participating in it and

refrain from participating in it and would be forced by legislative pressure, to televise within the conference."

Change Forced
He said the Big Ten had swung around to the regional side over a period of years after various bills had been submitted to state legislatures to force state institutions to televise all of their games. Nine of the Big Ten schools are state supported.

"We have doubt as to how much longer they can resist," Crisler said. "If one such bill passed in our conference, I think no doubt the other nine institutions would stand by the college affected and accept the consequences from the NCAA. We feel the situation is serious. We're in trouble on television and if we are in trouble, everybody else is."

South Rules Six Point Choice in Senior Bowl

MOBILE, Ala. (AP) — A massive but mobile line studded with All-Americans and backed up by some of the fiercest tacklers in the nation make the South a touchdown favorite in tomorrow's Senior Bowl game.

With both squads loaded with sharp-shooting passers and explosive runners, the defenses thrown up by North Coach Paul Brown and his opponent Steve Owen could very likely spell the difference in the 25-man clubs.

Owen, who has yet to win from Brown in the classics, has All-Americans Bud Brooks, Arkansas guard; Rex Reedboggan, Mississippi tackle; Kurt Harris, Oklahoma center; and Frank McDonald, Miami (Fla.) end, in his line.

Become Pros
The players become pros in the game, with each member of the winning team receiving \$500 and \$2,000. Expected

Brown coached the North to victories in the last three games, 20-14, 28-13 and 20-8 after being the underdog in each. Owen, South coach in all five games, won the first two 19-18 and 22-13.

The heaviest advance ticket sale in the game's history indicates a crowd of more than 30,000 will see the game to be broadcast by CBS.

Bragg City too Much And Wardell Falls

WARDELL — Wardell High School's basketballers got a dose of their own medicine — hot shooting — last night and as a result they suffered their third loss of the season, a 36-27 setback at the hands of Bragg City.

Wardell's Jerry Burnett kept up his hot scoring pace with 39 points but his efforts just weren't good enough to cope with Bragg City's well balanced attack.

Howen hit 35 to lead Wardell while Frels got 19, Swink 18 and Feaster 14. Redmond and Jerrolds make it a three-man show for Wardell as they hit 19 and 13 points respectively.

Tonight Wardell goes to Parma for a game.

| Bragg City | Pos. | Wardell |
|----------------|------|--|
| Frels (14) | F | (39) Burnett |
| Howen (35) | F | (19) Redmond |
| Houser (8) | C | (13) Jerrolds |
| Swink (18) | G | (2) McPherson |
| Feaster (14) | G | (1) Bullock |
| Substitutions: | | Bragg City — Salls (7), Wardell—Boran (3), Cain. |

Mrs. Elizabeth Arden Graham is dividing her Maine Chance racing stable this winter for a low-cost campaign. Half of her horses will be in Florida and half in California.

Advertisement For Bids

Sealed proposals will be received by the Board of Commissioners of Drainage District No. 17, of Mississippi County, Arkansas, in the office of the District in the First National Bank Building, Blytheville, Arkansas, until 11:00 o'clock A. M. (CST), January 12, 1955, for excavating approximately 28,709 cubic yards of material (ditch clean-out), at which time and place the proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud. Any bid received after closing time will be returned unopened.

Copies of the plans, specifications and other proposed contract documents are on file in the office of Drainage District No. 17, at Blytheville, Arkansas, and are open for public inspection. A set of such documents may be obtained from C. G. Redman, Secretary of the District, upon deposit of Five Dollars (\$5.00), which deposit will be refunded to each actual bidder upon return of such documents in good order within five days after receipt of bids.

The character and amount of security to be furnished by each bidder are stated in the above mentioned documents.

Bidder must be licensed in the State of Arkansas, and no bid may be withdrawn after the scheduled closing time for receipt of bids for at least thirty (30) days.

The Board of Commissioners reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive informalities.

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