

# Eagles Face Texans in Palace Fray

By Dick Rosetta  
Tribune Sports Writer

The two hottest goaltenders in the Central Hockey League, one of whom was named CHL Player-of-the-Week for his netminding last week, match talents Wednesday night in the Salt Palace when the Salt Lake Golden Eagles entertain the league-leading Fort Worth Texans.

It will be Photo Album Night at the Palace with 6,500, 28-page albums of all the Eagle players being distributed to fans.



Doug Grant

Even though it's a mid-week game, one of the largest crowds of the season could be on hand. Anyone who knows hockey and the intense feuds which can build up between clubs with good goaltenders, will love this confrontation between Salt Lake's Doug Grant and Fort Worth's Don Cutts.

## Player of Week

Cutts will be playing his first game since being named the league's top player. The feisty Texan goalie logged a 3-1 mark last week, allowing six goals in the four games, one of which was a 1-0 shutout against Kansas City.

He stands 15-6-0 for the year with a 2.72 goals against average—tops in the CHL now that Eagle goalie Ed Stanowski has been recalled to the parent St. Louis Blues.

But Grant should be chomping at the bit to get in the rink with Cutts and the Texans. The lanky Eagle goalie, whose record for the season is 9-10-3 with a 3.01 goals-against mark, was in the nets for last Saturday's 3-1 Eagle defeat at the hands of Tulsa.

He was upset about that one, as well he should have been. He deserved better, but all three Tulsa goals were the result of breakaways. He stopped at least another three Tulsa breaks.

And Grant enters Wednesday's game knowing he is, once again, the No. 1 Salt Lake goaltender. The trade by the parent St. Louis Blues Tuesday which sent veteran Eddie Johnston to the Chicago Black Hawks, necessitated the callup of Stanowski.

## Played Regularly Early

Before Yves Belanger came down to Salt Lake two months ago and before Stanowski joined the club after Belanger was traded to Atlanta, Grant had played every game for the Eagles and he admitted he played better when he played more often.

He will have a chance to back up that statement because even when the Eagles get another goalie assigned, Mr. Grant is THE man now for player-coach Barclay Plager.

While Cutts was going 3-1 last week, Grant stands 3-1-1 in his last five games. The matchup should prove superb and fans are in for a double treat since Fort Worth stays in town to play the Eagles again Friday to conclude the Big Birds' eight-game homestand.

Wednesday also represents a big night for the hockey faithful who have followed veteran Lyle Bradley's career in Eagle colors. Bradley, who will be playing his 450th game as an Eagle, will be gunning for his 500th career point . . . certainly a coveted milestone for any player.

## U., Y. Eye Tilts

The University of Utah and Brigham Young University basketball teams will face the toughest tests of the Western Athletic season so far when they head into New Mexico and Texas this week.

The Cougars invade Albuquerque on Thursday for a game against the red-hot Lobos, while the Utes will test the University of Texas at El Paso. Then, on Saturday, Utah will meet New Mexico, while BYU meets UTEP.

The Lobos are the hottest team in the WAC at the moment, sporting a 3-0 record, and with all the wins coming on the road against Arizona, Arizona State and UTEP. New Mexico is ranked 12th in the UPI cage poll and 14th in the AP rankings.

Utah, with one WAC loss, and BYU with a 2-2 conference mark, will be gunning to improve their outlook in the WAC standings.

The BYU-New Mexico game will be broadcast by KBYU, Channel 11, and the Saturday game between Utah and the Lobos will be the area game of the week and will be televised beginning at 2 p.m. on KUTV, Channel 2.

## Larry Wilson Paid Price for Football Greatness

Can't remember the speaker but a rival coach or player once said of Larry Wilson, "Every tackle he ever made left its mark on his face."



Larry Wilson

Wilson, named to the Pro Football Hall of Fame Monday, popularized the "safety blitz" while an All-Pro defensive back for the St. Louis Cardinals.

But when he received notification of his selection, he was typically Wilson: "I was too slow to be a running back or a corner back. I'm surprised at being elected. I never had a chance to play on a championship team like the rest of the guys."

Maybe he didn't play on a championship team, but Wilson certainly was a champion, on and off the field.

Remember the game he played with both hands broken, in casts, and he intercepted a couple of passes. And no defensive back tackled with the authority Wilson did.

Wilson holds the University of Utah record for most touchdowns scored in a single game—six, but there's a bit of a story in that feat which tells a lot about the man.

In the first game of the 1959 season, Larry's senior year, Wilson suffered a broken shoulder against Oregon.

Yet, five games later, Wilson scored his six touchdowns against Arizona. He played hurt and never complained.

He paid the price for everything he received in athletics and each of us shares in his joy over this last athletic honor.

## Stuff 'n' Senses

Help! Help! Fellow in New Jersey is eager to



Skyline's Eric Slaymaker (10) passes off in action against West. He was Eagle hero.



Slaymaker is framed here, firing same type of shot which won game in overtime.

## Skyline Nips West In 62-60 Drama

By Roger Graves  
Tribune Sports Writer

The temperature at courtside was a mild 70 degrees, but the "heat of battle" and tension surrounding the dramatic situation sent the mercury shooting right through the top of the thermometer.

Yet, Skyline High's Eric Slaymaker was as cool as an ice cube—and twice as slippery. And with one gentle flick of his wrist Tuesday afternoon, Slaymaker popped in a 17-foot jumper with four seconds remaining to elevate the Eagles to a 62-60 overtime victory over West in a wild Region Three encounter.

"The play was designed to go to our big men inside," assured Slaymaker, who should have been showering in champagne following his heroic game-winner. "But by the time I got the basketball, there wasn't time to get it inside to someone else. So I just shot. It was my kind of shot."

And so it was.

## Unusual Basketball Finish

Slaymaker's timely 17-footer from the left angle closed the books on one of the most eccentric finishes in the annals of basketball. It was a game Skyline and West each won and lost half a hundred times. It was a game replete with comeback after comeback, and one of the most unusual technical fouls in history.

The madness began after the shootout had been tied on 12 occasions, with Skyline clinging to a 58-56 advantage compliments of a Paul Rasmussen free throw with 12 seconds left in regulation time.

West, which badly needed a field goal to knot the contest, sent Arnold Slowman rushing downcourt. Slowman dealt the ball to Bart Butterfield, and Butterfield threw up an air ball from the left baseline. Skyline came up with the basketball on the miss and appeared safely home with the two-point verdict.

## Weber, Royals Take Victories

The odds pointed to Clearfield. Past performances pointed to Clearfield. But Weber pointed to the scoreboard in jubilation after edging the Falcons, 64-61, Tuesday night to assume sole command in Region One basketball circles.

The Warriors, who boosted their record to 7-0 while Clearfield fell to 5-2, overcame the Falcons' homecourt jinx to become the first foreigners to taste success in the Clearfield nest during the 1977-78 season.

And Weber did it with balance.

## Close to End

The Warriors completed the first half of the Region One season unbeaten by tipping to a 17-14 first-quarter lead, which, ironically, proved to be the final victory margin. However, Scott Wallace and Russell Florence rallied Clearfield to a 33-30 halftime advantage and the Falcons appeared ready to take the driver's seat.

But Weber outscored Clearfield 16-13 in the third period to tie the game at 46-46. Then, as the full house rocked with every basket, Weber's Ray Coleman and Steve Trawick closed out superb evenings by swishing both ends of one-and-ones during the final minute to supply the Warriors with the triumph.

Coleman, a 5-7 dynamo, and Mark Montgomery each popped in 18 points for Weber, while Trawick swished 16 points. Wallace topped Clearfield with 21 points, while Florence put in 14.

## Roy, Layton Prevail

While Weber took sole possession of first place in Region One, Roy grabbed second by cruising past Bountiful, 78-44, Tuesday evening. Layton improved to 3-4 with a 60-55 victory over Sky View, and Viewmont stymied Bonneville, 86-61.

Roy enjoyed a not-so comfortable 30-25 lead against Bountiful at halftime, but the Royals outscored the Braves, 17-6, during the third period to assure the victory. Jeff Scholte fueled the Roy fire with 30 points, while Mark Sindle tossed in 20 and Mike Nichols 10.

Close encounters of the heart-throbbing kind were the order in Region Four Tuesday night, as Woods Cross nipped Ogden, 69-68; Ben Lomond edged Bear River, 59-57; Logan came from behind to halt South, 62-56; and Davis humbled Box Elder, 59-43.

Logan ran its record to 5-0, but not without authoring an eleventh hour rally against South. Todd Pace and Kent Christie powered South to a 27-19 first-quarter edge, and the Cubs maintained the pressure by assuming a 37-30 halftime advantage. In fact, the Grizzlies had to roar from behind in the final five minutes to grab the triumph.

## 'The Fox' Covers Trail

Fred (the Fox) Snowden, the Arizona U. basketball coach, was the subject of an article in the December issue of Sport magazine. The article was very interesting but there was one mistake: Coach Snowden's record should read "Victories, 111; Games stolen by officials, 45."

The Fox has recruited well and been successful as a coach, but he does prepare his fans for the worst by establishing an alibi in their minds before the season starts.

The first couple of seasons, Fred cast racial aspersions to explain the losses.

Last fall, as the season began, he stressed the "bitterness" in the WAC over the departure of the Arizona schools for the Pac-10 next year.

And after losing to BYU and Utah on the road, Fred had the writers from Tucson convinced the WAC officials were picking on him and Arizona because this would give the officials "brownie points" with the WAC coaches for next year, because Arizona would be gone.

Watch for next year when The Fox establishes his ground game by claiming the Pac-8 is out to get Arizona because it's a newcomer to the league.

Fred is a good coach and he doesn't need to justify his very fine record with excuses or to offer an apology for his Wildcat players who play very fine basketball.

## Observation Ward

If everyone in Utah quit drinking and smoking we could cut the legislative sessions by half.

## Salt Lake Tribune Sports

Wednesday  
Morning,  
January 25, 1978

Second Section  
Page 25

## U. Coach Honored By S.L. Chamber

Jerry Pimm, who coached the University of Utah team to the first conference basketball championship in 11 years, was named Sportsman of the Year by the Salt Lake Chamber of Commerce Tuesday night.

Pimm received his award at the banquet in Salt Lake City.

Twice District Seven coach of the year, Pimm has the Utes in second place in the battle for the WAC championship, behind New Mexico and Colorado State, who are unbeaten.

According to Fred Ball, executive vice-president of the Chamber of Commerce, the award goes annually a person making the single most important contribution to Utah sports in the last year.

Previous winners were Zelmo Beatty of the Utah Stars (basketball), Steve Odom, Utah (Football), LaVell Edwards of BYU (football coach), Art Teece of Salt Lake (baseball and hockey owner) and Suzie Brasher (figure skating).



George Bajurin, left, representing TV Guide, and Fred Ball of S.L. Chamber, right, congratulate Utah coach Jerry Pimm on being Utah Sportsman of the Year.

**TRY A TACO!**

12 Taco Shells  
12 Taco Shells

**Lynn Wilson's**  
ALL AMERICAN

**the lift house**

SKI RENTALS  
SKIS • BOOTS  
BINDINGS • POLES

**\$380\***  
plus tax

\*With purchase of Rent-A-Weekend Card at one of these locations.

THE LIFT HOUSE COTTONWOOD  
3698 E. 7000 So.

THE LIFT HOUSE SOLITUDE  
at Solitude Ski Resort

THE LIFT HOUSE LOFT  
at Bob Reeves Western  
Sports Center 90th South off I-15 on  
FRONTAGE ROAD (255 West)