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Sports Mirror by **John Mooney**
Tribune Sports Editor

Ex-Ute Bob Trumpy Stars In NFL's Play of Year

Utah had just ended its 1966 season with a 34-14 loss at Houston and Coach Mike Giddings was worried. His big tight end, Bob Trumpy, was eligible for the NFL draft and Bob was considering skipping his final year of collegiate football to get the pro money.

Bob Trumpy

Money talked louder than Giddings and Trumpy turned pro, currently ranking as the senior citizen, an 11-year man, on the Cincinnati Bengal roster.

When Trumpy entered the league, he was credited with revamping the play of the tight end, because he was big, but had speed to run the deep patterns, instead of the short-gainers over the middle.

Averaged 28 Catches

Trumpy averaged 28 catches a year since 1968, but this year he was the forgotten man with only eight receptions a couple of weeks ago.

"I wasn't aware there was an NFL rule against passing to the tight end," Bob noted.

And then a few days later, Trumpy was on the receiving end of the most sensational play of the football season.

In defeating Miami in the last three minutes a few weeks ago, the Bengals dusted off the "flea-flicker" popularized by Coach Bob Zuppke at Illinois and Andy Kerr at Colgate in my pre-college days.

The touchdown was Trumpy's first of the season, and it came about like this:

Quarterback Ken Anderson handed off to running back Archie Griffin, who gave it to wide receiver John McDaniel on a reverse. McDaniel flipped the ball back to Anderson who connected with Trumpy in the end zone.

"We don't even practice that play anymore," Trumpy laughed. "We've run it 100 times. And the play works, always."

I'd like to see the college teams try some dipsydo of this nature, instead of running the same old slants and sweeps, with the obvious passes.

Stuff 'n' Somesense

It was 49 years ago that Cantril (Flash) Nielson played basketball for Utah State, but age doesn't bother the former Aggie, who is coaching a junior 'M' Men team for Glendale Fifth in Arizona. . . . "Flash", and his Mrs. are in Japan with the BYU football team. . . . Morris Nuttall phones to say he's recovering from extensive surgery and recuperating by writing inspiration pieces for others who are under the weather. . . . Morris had a small outing place on Regent St. many years ago, before his son, Keith, became a national Golden Gloves champion and a professional. . . . Keith sold out his Col. Sanders Kentucky Fried Chicken franchise in Long Beach and owns four spots and is building a fifth chicken eatery in Brawley, Cal. . . . Bowling in Thursday Mixed league at the Ambassador Athletic Club, Bobby Wagoner rolled 252-206-248—706 a few nights ago. . . . Despite a new coach, a revamped and expanded stadium and the prospects of moving into the Pac-8 next fall, Arizona showed a 14.7 percent drop in its football attendance, but the biggest loser was New Mexico, down 18.1 percent. . . . UTEP, despite another losing year, boosted its attendance 33.8 percent, from an 11,233 average to 15,031. . . . Arizona State, up 16.4 percent, and BYU, up 11.3 percent, were the big gainers in the WAC. . . . When Robert (Red) Miller replaced John Ralston as coach of the Denver Broncos, he said a main goal was to make Denver a good second-half team, and he succeeded, as the Broncos have outscored opponents 61 points to 17 in the fourth quarter. . . . Tampa Bay Buccaneers escaped the record for the longest losing streak, held in the NFL at 25 games by the Chicago Cardinals and Card-Pitt combined team during the war years. . . . Cardinals dropped last six games in 1941 and went 0-10 and 0-10 as the Card-Pitt team in 1943-44 before winning the fourth game of the 1945 season.

Observation Ward

So many statistics are quoted by health crusaders I wonder if they follow the statistics to a conclusion, or if the crusaders adopt a conclusion and then seek statistics to support it.

"I've got it!" Brad Boyle (42) of East battles for ball with Skyline's Paul Rasmussen during action Thursday night in Salt Lake City prep basketball meet.

Skyline Drives By Leopards

By Roger Graves
Tribune Sports Writer

This was to be the year Skyline High would come crashing back down to Earth. It was predetermined by many that 1977-78 would be a rebuilding venture for the Eagles, with a no-name basketball team quickly making people forget those two straight 4-A state championships.

It didn't turn out that way. The "no names" are merely new names.

Skyline may not be the intimidating, dominating force it was in 1975 and 1976. But its 77-68 victory over East Thursday night in a Salt Lake Valley Basketball Tournament encounter proved the Eagles, circa 1977-78, are for real. The triumph also destroyed East's five-game winning streak and gave Skyline an invitation to the tournament finals Friday at 8 p.m. against host Highland.

Eagles Never Trail

The defending champion Eagles, who own a 16-1 tournament record stretch ing back to the 1975 state tournament, struck with piston-stroke regularity against East. Skyline led from start to finish, while the Leopards sputtered during the first half.

Skyline broke away from a 6-6 deadlock early in the game, with Steve Clark, Brandon Bonnett, Greg Snyder Eric Slaymaker and Paul Rasmussen each swishing jumpers to power the Eagles to a sudden 14-6 advantage. Slaymaker continued his accuracy from 20 feet to lift Skyline to a 23-13 lead after the opening eight minutes.

Rasmussen, a 6-2 junior marksman, popped in three successive jump shots from the right angle to elevate Skyline to a 41-29 halftime edge. It was then that East made its only major comeback. Brad Boyle, a 6-5 junior, poured in 10 consecutive points to begin the third quarter to pull the Leopards within eight at 48-40.

However, East coach Dick Milne was nailed for a technical foul which disturbed the Leopard momentum. Slaymaker cashed in on one of two technical tosses and Rasmussen connected on another fielder to lift Skyline out of danger at 51-40. The Eagles then coasted into winner's row, with only some poor free throw shooting (13 of 27) allowing East to edge as close as the final score in the waning moments.

Slaymaker, Rasmussen Star

Slaymaker, the playmaker, poured in 21 points to pace Skyline, while Rasmussen chipped in 18 during his most successful outing of the young season. Clark also hit double digits for the Eagles with 13 points. Boyle topped East with 24 points, which included 16 in the second half, before fouling out.

East now meets West Friday at 8 p.m., with third place at stake.

Granger stayed alive in its quest for the tournament consolation crown by stopping rival Kearns, 61-58, Friday evening. The Cougars enjoyed a 32-29 halftime advantage, but Granger's Richard Black exploded for 10 fourth-quarter points and 18 in the second half to captain a Lancer comeback. Black finished with 24 points, while Clay Clardy added 11, 10 in the first period. Brad Staker led Kearns with 18 points.

Granger now takes on Jordan Friday at 4 p.m. for the consolation trophy.

Phoenix 'Out', CHL Will Alter Slates

The Phoenix Roadrunners' two-month-old tenure in the Central Hockey League came to an official end Thursday when CHL president Bud Poile announced that the league "would not be able to operate a Phoenix team for the balance of the 1977-78 season."

Phoenix management dropped a bombshell Monday when Roadrunner president Mike Leonard announced he was terminating the club's membership in the league. Tuesday, the CHL Board of Governors enjoined the Roadrunners from dropping from the league, but Thursday's announcement ended any chance of resurrecting the Roadrunner club.

No Operations

"Due to a failure on the part of the Veterans Memorial Coliseum officials in Phoenix to provide the CHL with adequate playing dates to their building, the CHL will not be able to operate a Phoenix team there," Poile said.

The CHL czar also revealed the official pe..ition of the Cleveland Barons and the Colorado Rockies, the National Hockey League parent clubs of the Roadrunners.

"Officials from both Cleveland and Colorado said they could no longer operate the franchise in Phoenix under the conditions and demands proposed by Roadrunners' president Mike Leonard."

Poile said the schedule for the balance of the week in the CHL would be Friday—Dallas at Salt Lake, Kansas City at Fort Worth; Saturday—Salt Lake at Fort Worth, Tulsa at Kansas City; Sunday—Salt Lake at Tulsa; Wednesday—Kansas City at Dallas.

Obtaining Dates

"The CHL is now obtaining dates from the five remaining clubs so that a schedule can be drawn up among the five clubs for the duration of the 1977-78 season.

"The schedule will not be altered insofar as the number of games is concerned," Poile emphasized. "It just requires us to move some games around so that teams can play each other more times to make up for the Phoenix games that will be lost."

That means, to the Salt Lake Golden Eagles, that there are still 36 home games remaining on the schedule, but dates now on the schedule may be altered. Eagle officials assured fans Thursday that "new dates will be announced as soon as they are solidified."

The most immediate problem for the Eagles is travel accommodations. The club is scheduled in Fort Worth Saturday and in Tulsa Sunday, but from Tulsa, the club was to have gone to Phoenix for a pair of games.

Headed for Phoenix?

We apparently have no way, at the present time, to go anywhere except Phoenix when we leave Tulsa Monday morning," Salt Lake publicist Chuck Schell said Thursday.

"The airlines are completely booked up. Our reservations are good from Tulsa to Phoenix and then out of Phoenix Friday morning to Salt Lake. But, of course, that means a four-day layover in Phoenix. We are making every effort to make alternate reservations, but then again, they depend on what the CHL decides to do in rescheduling games for late next week," Schell added.

One thing seems a certainty for the Eagles and that is that a heavy January-February-March schedule will become even more hectic with at least two makeup games (those against Phoenix next Tuesday and Thursday) having to be played.

Chris Fargis, right, of East is well guarded by Skyline's Paul Rasmussen and Dave England. The Eagles won contest by 77-68.

Ute Cagers Favored In Tourney

Special to The Tribune

KNOXVILLE — The experts were tabbing Utah as the team to beat in the Volunteer Classic, which opens here Friday night, despite the fact host Tennessee has won 50 of its 51 tournaments.

Utah is scheduled to play unbeaten Texas Tech Friday at 5 p.m. (MST) in the opener while Tennessee plays Dartmouth in the night cap.

Winners play Saturday at 7 p.m. (MST) and the losers two hours earlier.

The Utah Raider game matches two All-America candidates in Jeff Judkins and Mike Russell. Russell, a 6-7 forward, is averaging 21 points and eight rebounds while Judkins, now listed as a guard, is averaging 20.2 points and 9.2 rebounds.

Host Tennessee has lost only to nationally-ranked San Francisco 71-70 in its 4-1 season. The Vols will be bolstered by the return of point guard Johnny Darden, who missed all but one game because of a swimming accident.

Utah's opponent, Texas Tech, has beaten Oklahoma Baptist, New Mexico State, McNeese State, Air Force and Southern Alabama. The big victory was beating New Mexico State on the road.

Coach Jerry Pimm probably will go with his normal starting lineup of Buster Matheney, Greg Deane, Judkins, Danny Vranes and Earl Williams.

But there may be some changes since the Ute guards have had trouble bringing the ball down court.

However, after this tournament Utah swings into its intrastate rivalry against Weber State and Utah State before the WAC opens, so the juggling will have to end and a solid five picked pretty soon.

Bowler Rolls '300' Game

Bowling's "300 Club" gained another member Thursday night as Salt Laker Chuck Van Hoosen put 12 strikes together in the YMCA League at the Boulevard Bowl, 2590 South Main.

The remarkable fact about Van Hoosen's gem was that he is only a 150 average bowler. But the 36-year-old fielder, performing for Valley Christian Church, put 11 strikes "right in the pocket and not lucky on the other one" on his historic night.

Van Hoosen noted that his previous best effort was a 236 game. "I thought that was the top of the world until to night," he added.

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Snow Plasters N. Utah Ski Areas

Northern Utah ski resorts were cheering loudly Thursday night as a major winter storm swept through the area, improving skiing for the "haves," and raising the prospects of the "have nots."

Only eight of Utah's ski resorts were in operation on Thursday, while the rest were waiting, watching and hoping as a blizzard blasted across the northern mountains.

Snow Basin is a prime example of the "have nots" resort. The popular Ogden Valley area had a couple of feet of snow high on the mountain, but not much at the base.

"We had some rain here that really wiped out the snow at the base," said resort spokesman Don Wilson Thursday afternoon.

The resort recorded three inches of snow Thursday afternoon, and was getting slugged with a good coating of the precious white stuff Thursday night.

Another popular resort that had a decided lack of snow prior to Thursday's storm was Sundance, in Provo Canyon.

The area had but 6 to 10 inches of snow on the ground before Thursday.

"But it is snowing here, and hard," a Sundance spokesman said Thursday afternoon. "We've got a couple of inches of new snow, and we hope there's a lot more where that came from."

Meanwhile, in drought-stricken southern Utah the word wasn't so bright.

"The weatherman is promising snow Friday or Saturday," a Brian Head spokesman said, "and we're hoping."

Late Thursday evening it had not been snowing in the Cedar City area, however.

"We did have a little storm on Cedar Mountain late this afternoon," the Utah Highway Patrol dispatcher reported, "but not much."

Brian Head has about 36 inches, with another foot or so required to open the resort that is east of Cedar City.

At Mt. Holley, east of Beaver, the story is about the same, except that the area had received about six inches of new snow Thursday, and was hoping for a lot more.

At the same time the "haves," the resorts that have been in operation for awhile, were welcoming the Thursday snow.

Alta reported 31 inches before the snow hit Thursday evening, while Brighton had 44 and Snowbird 44. All reported some snow early in the day Thursday, and it was snowing heavily Thursday night.

Park City reported 44 inches in Jupiter Bowl, but only 10 inches at the Angle Station, but that resort he was getting plastered with snow Thursday night. Park West reported 40 inches at the top of the hill.

Powder Mountain, also in Ogden valley, had about three feet of snow, with several inches of snow during the day, and a lot more Thursday night.

Beaver Mountain, with 35 inches on top of the hill, figures to add considerably to that total, while Solitude had 44 inches.

In Idaho, Sun Valley Resort reported Thursday that it was ready to begin full operation. The area reported good skiing with a base of 35 inches at the bottom. Sun Valley also picked up some snow Thursday afternoon, and it was snowing there Thursday night.

The latest series of storms has dropped over two feet of snow, and all 12 lifts on Bald Mountain will be open this weekend.

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