



# Sports Roundup

By MARK QUEEN

LAST WEEK'S PREDICTIONS in this space worked out pretty well, thank you. Our broad hint that the Soviet Union National basketball team would kick off its tour of the United States in mid-April right here in Las Vegas proved a "scoop" of international proportions.

Less than 24 hours after the VOICE headlined this imminent possibility, the major wire services issued the official announcement from New York that the Russian cagers would open their American invasion at the Las Vegas Convention Center against a picked team of collegian and AAU stars on April 19.

It was later confirmed by local AAU official Dave Pearl, the little giant of the handball courts, that Las Vegas would, indeed, be the smallest city to entertain the Russians on their eight-city tour of this country. And we might mention right here and now that Davey was almost single-handedly responsible for getting this great sports attraction for Las Vegas.

MUCH TO OUR REGRET, last week's suggestion that Nevada Southern's Rebels were doomed to failure in the Pacific Coast small college basketball playoffs at Seattle proved only too true. The Rebs gave it all they had, apparently, but obviously were in over their heads without Jerry Dick and Ron Wielochoski and Charley Payton reportedly off his feed, so to speak.

As predicted, host Seattle Pacific won the trip to Evansville, Ind., for the national tournament by rapping San Francisco State by some 29 points and handing our second choice, Fresno State, a sound trouncing in the finals by 15 points.

Nevada Southern never got going against Fresno State in its first game until too late and went down to a 13-point defeat after trailing by only one at halftime. It was much the same story the following night against San Francisco State, which had been clobbered by Seattle Pacific the night before. The Rebels permitted the Gators to build up a big lead of 21 points midway through the second half before closing the gap to four counters in the late going. San Francisco State then cashed in on Rebel miscues in the final few minutes to win by seven.

Nevertheless, it was quite a feat for the local team to make the playoffs in the very first year Nevada Southern was eligible to compete in the NCAA eliminations and the Rebs' overall record of 21-8 for the season was most creditable.

OUR VAGRANT HOPE that Eddie Machen could take Ernie Terrell in their 15-round fight for the World Boxing Assn. heavyweight title proved just that in a bout that was more vagrant than fragrant.

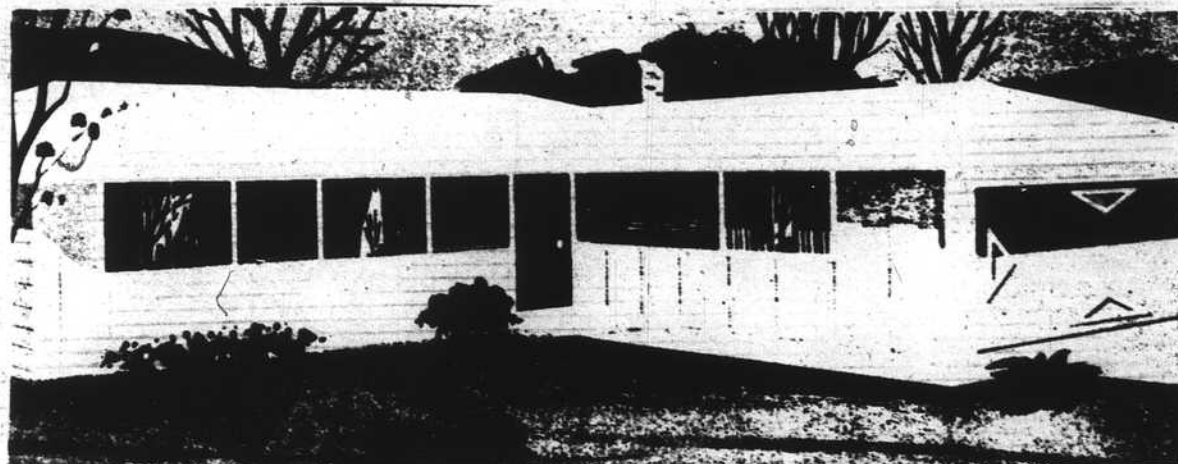
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# LAS VEGAS Voice

SECOND SECTION

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