

Leaders Toppled Monday In Major League Ball Games

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In case you haven't noticed, the major league pennant races are away to one of the closest starts in recent seasons.

No team has jumped off to a long winning streak. No team has fallen far behind. Today, after one week, only a game and a half separates first and last in the American League; just two games divide top from bottom in the National.

This early in the year the standings aren't too important. But a game won or lost in the first week counts just as much toward win-

MONDAY'S BASEBALL
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NATIONAL LEAGUE

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Philadelphia	4	2	.667	
Cincinnati	4	2	.667	
Brooklyn	3	2	.600	1/2
Chicago	2	3	.400	1
St. Louis	2	3	.400	1 1/2
New York	2	3	.400	1 1/2
Milwaukee	2	3	.400	1 1/2
Pittsburgh	2	4	.333	2

Monday's Results
Pittsburgh 7, New York 5
Brooklyn 9, Philadelphia 7
St. Louis 6, Cincinnati 3
Only games scheduled

AMERICAN LEAGUE

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Detroit	4	2	.667	
Washington	3	2	.600	1/2
Boston	3	2	.600	1
New York	3	3	.500	1
Chicago	3	3	.500	1
Philadelphia	2	3	.400	1 1/2
Baltimore	2	3	.400	1 1/2
Cleveland	2	3	.400	1 1/2

Monday's Results
Boston 2-0, New York 1-5
Chicago 5, Detroit 1
Washington 4, Philadelphia 3
Only games scheduled

ning the pennant as one in the heat of the September flag fever.

Much Juggling

Compared with the first week of the 1953 season the standings have undergone considerable juggling, particularly in the American League.

Detroit is leading the American by half a game over Washington. A year ago the Rogers were last, four games behind the old St. Louis Browns, and Washington was in seventh place.

Cincinnati, co-leader with Phila-

delphia in the National League, languished in seventh last year at the end of the first week while the Phils were tied for third.

Neither Brooklyn nor New York, top-heavy choices to repeat their 1953 triumphs, have been able to match their first-week pace of last season. The Dodgers already were in first with a 4-1 mark—they are third this time with 3-2—and the Yankees were second at 4-2. They're 3-3 this year.

Leaders Lose

The leaders all lost yesterday. Detroit was toppled by Chicago 5-1, Cincinnati bowed to St. Louis 6-3, and the Phils were clubbed by Brooklyn 9-7.

In other action the Yankees split a Patriot's Day pair in Boston, losing 2-1 in the morning and winning 5-0 in the afternoon with a brilliant hit by Jim Rice.

Donald Washington shaded the Philadelphia Athletics 4-0 on Eddie Yost's ninth-inning home run. Pittsburgh beat the New York Giants 7-5.

Baltimore and Cleveland in the American League and Milwaukee and Chicago in the National weren't scheduled.

McDonald's performance against the Red Sox was the best of his career. He walked five but struck out four and the only safety he allowed was a second-inning single by rookie Harry Agganis.

Mickey Mantle struck out four times in the morning contest, batting left-handed but he hit a home run right-handed. His first of the season, in the after-lunch encounter.

Yost got his home run, a 415-foot blast, as the leadoff batter in the last of the ninth at Washington. Rookie Art Ditmar was the victim. Morrie Martin joined Bob Shantz on the A's sore arm list. He started but had to give up after five innings.

Fails Again

Jack Harshman, the former first baseman who was the pitching sensation of the Southern Assn. last season, failed in his second start with the White Sox. But Harry Dorish slammed the door on the Tigers after taking over with the bases loaded and one out in the fourth inning.

Chicago collected 11 hits off loser Billy Hoelt and his successors, Dick Weik and Bob Miller. Jackie Robinson was the hitting

star in Brooklyn's triumph over the Phils. He broke a 5-5 tie with a home run in the seventh inning and finished the night with a 4-for-4 performance. The Phils drove Don Newcombe to cover in the third inning when they took a 4-1 lead but the Dodgers' 18 hit attack was too much for the ineffective Philadelphia pitching.

Musial Homers

Successive homers by Stan Musial and Ray Jablonski in the sixth inning helped Harvey Haddix win his first game for St. Louis. Haddix already has lost twice and he was lifted in the ninth inning last night when Cincinnati threatened. But Stu Miller and Al Brazle subdued the Reds.

Pittsburgh scored five runs with only one hit in the third inning against the Giants. Four walks, interference by catcher Ebba St.



BIG HORSE—Native Dancer will return to the races in a six-furlong allowance event at Belmont Park in early May, preparatory to the Metropolitan Handicap, May 15. (NEA)

Claire, and a hit batter aided in the spree. Johnny Hetki, in relief, was the winner as the Pirates triumphed for the first time since they beat the Phils on opening day.

Gladd Paces Bevo Battering Crew

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Hollywood shortstop Jack Phillips is leading the Pacific Coast League batting parade opening the third week of the 1954 season, official league statistics showed Tuesday.

Phillips hit safely 20 times in 43 times at bat in 11 games for a .465 average.

Averages of the top 20 by Statistician William J. Weiss include games of April 18:

	G	AB	H	Pct.
McDade, LA	2	1	1	1.000
Van Eman, SD	1	1	1	1.000
West, LA	8	6	4	.667
Koblovsky, Port.	4	4	2	.500
Phillips, Hwd.	14	37	20	.465
Jorgensen, Oak	11	40	17	.425
Peterson, SD	15	57	24	.421
Mallott, Sea.	5	17	7	.412
Long, Hwd	5	2	9	.409
H. Elliott, SD	15	59	24	.407
E. Malone, Hwd	4	10	4	.400
Essington, Sea	5	13	5	.385
Walls, Hwd	14	56	22	.393
Gladd, Port	8	23	9	.391
L. Davis, Oak	7	23	9	.391
Humphrey, Sac	13	21	8	.381
Austin, Port	14	61	23	.377
Chapman, Oak	14	58	21	.362
R. Wilson, Oak	14	56	20	.357
Zuvela, SF	9	26	9	.345

Averages of other Seattle and Portland players:

Restelli, Port	11	31	10	.323
Priddy, Sea	9	31	10	.323
Judnich, Port	14	50	16	.320
E. Krauss, Sea	3	10	3	.300
Thomas, Sea	17	57	17	.298
Gladstone, Port	14	56	16	.286
Zarilla, Sea	11	42	12	.286
Robbie, Port	9	7	2	.286
Lechen, Port	8	22	6	.273
Schmees, Sea	7	22	6	.273
A. Wilson, Sea	13	50	10	.273
Maddox, Sea	28	107	29	.271
Combs, Sea	8	34	8	.235
Tobin, Sea	14	60	14	.233
Rossi, Port	8	30	7	.233
Fernandez, Sea	8	22	5	.227
Reich, Port	8	14	3	.214
Eggert, Port	14	49	10	.204
Basinski, Port	13	47	9	.191
Grant, Port	5	6	1	.167
Wellman, Sea	4	6	1	.167
Art, Port	12	32	5	.156

Climbers Reach 16,000 Elevation

NEW DELHI, India (AP)—The California expedition seeking to climb Mt. Makalu in the Himalayas has established its base camp on the 27,970-foot mountain.

Dr. William S. S. of the expedition advised The Associated Press that the climbers battled heavy winds to reach a grassy shelf above the Barun glacier, at about 16,000 feet. His message, sent by runner to the nearest civilization, added:

"Our camp is comfortably located. Soon we shall be sending out reconnaissance parties to explore the east and west faces of Makalu."

"All members of the expedition are fit and well, but they owe much to the 150 porters who made an heroic struggle through the lower Barun gorge to reach the base camp on schedule. In particular they are indebted to Ang Tharkay, one of the most experienced guides in the Himalayas and a veteran of the French Annapurna expedition."

"One of our comforts is being provided by British trained Sherpas who set up a kitchen at 6 a.m., which helps to keep us on our toes for the rest of the day."

Emil Zatopek, Czechoslovakian track ace, holds eight world records; six, 10 and 15 miles, 10,000, 20,000, 25,000 and 30,000 meters and the one hour run.



10,000-TO-1—Nita keeps a sharp eye on her twin colts, foaled at La Jolla, Calif. Farms, and considered a 10,000-to-1 chance among thoroughbreds. The sire is Atavistic. (NEA)

Coach Oliver Continues Dollar Quest From Sidelines; Resigns

CHICAGO (AP)—If Bevo Francis and New Oliver ever get together on just what they're fishing for, high-scoring star Bevo may be professional basketball's next big attraction.

The Harlem Globetrotters' impresario, Abe Saperstein, has been approached by Oliver, the headline-conscious little guy who coached Bevo and Rio Grande College into national prominence.

Object: That good old Yankee Dollar.

Saperstein isn't sure just what Oliver has in mind about working with him. Oliver has been trying to make connections for the young man who averages almost 50 points—much more than passing, as far as basketball is concerned—every time he appears on the court.

Saperstein says Oliver has souped him out "several times" and that he is interested in seeing if something can be worked out. He and Oliver have arranged a meeting in New York April 26.

Meantime, Oliver officially joined Bevo on College basketball's sidelines. He resigned Monday night as Rio Grande's coach and athletic director, saying "I can't take it any more down here."

HUSKIES TURN OUT

SEATTLE (AP)—Eighty-two men took to the field Monday as coach Johnny Cherberg opened spring football drills at the University of Washington with a declaration 1954 slating assignments were wide open.

Is That So!

THE OPOSSUM has gotten top billing as an animal which when cornered can feign death; that is, instead of taking to its heels or fighting back as most other animals do, it "plays dead" by going limp, falling down, allowing its mouth to gape with its tongue



lolling out, while its breathing almost ceases.

However, many other animals play possum and among them are several actors who put on a much better ground show. These include the fox, the wild dog of Australia, birds, snakes, toads, spiders, potato beetles, and walking sticks.

THE FOX'S DECEPTION has at times been so well carried out that hunting dogs have been taken in by him. When his foes have departed, the mauled deer has been seen to get up slowly, and cautiously make good his escape. He has even deceived observant humans. In one instance, a fox was surprised in a hen house. Unable to escape, the trickster fell inert and remained limp even while the man carried the "body" outside the henhouse and dumped it on the grass. Freedom gained, he dashed away into the woods. His temporary captor, a wiser man thereafter, was the former president of the Association for the Advancement of Science.

As for the dingo, there is a record of this wild dog, a truly rapacious beast, not giving a sign of life while being beaten even to having its skull broken. Yet it crawled away when it was unobserved.

AMONG BIRDS, owls are notorious death feigners and so are buzzards. For that matter, the broken-wing dikes of many female birds to lure enemies from their young are well known.

But like the opossum, fox, dingo and owl, reptiles too fake death. When in danger, an African lizard flips on its back, grabs a paw in its mouth, and lies motionless in this absurd position. Doing what comes naturally, the giant African toad, the bufo, assumes any

position in which it happens to be. Here in our country, when the puffing and hissing of the hog-nosed snake fails to rout an intruder, it turns over on its back and pretends to pass out with its mouth wide open and its forked tongue hanging out—looking for all the world as though it had just died an agonizing death. The only mistake it makes, when picked up, is as a rag or a Dall watch, and dropped right side up, is that it almost invariably turns over upside down and quite quickly.

Spiders and insects play dead, too. Touch the leaf of a potato plant infested with potato beetles and in the blink of an eye, they roll off and lie still for some time. A walking stick, however, remains "frozen" like a stick, which it resembles, for hours on end in astonishing postures, especially during daylight when the slightest movement might betray it to an always hungry bird.

Is this "acting" conscious or unconscious? Some claim this "feigning death" is due to a paralyzing glandular secretion or a state of a shock which wears off in time. But why, why does the hog-nosed snake turn over? And surely, the "broken limb" performance of the bird evidences some awareness of its predicament.

The value of feigning death is readily apparent in lower forms such as the potato bug. In the higher forms, one may wonder. But of this one can be sure: in nature, whatever is, is useful. To appear dead and unattractive to predatory enemies who react only to live and moving prey must be of more life-saving value than to attempt to run away—at least, it has proved valuable enough to have this trait handed down through the countless generations of opossum, foxes, dingoes, owls, buzzards, lizards, toads, hog-nosed snakes and potato bugs.

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