

Cardinals Take 1 1/2-Game Lead In National Loop Race

Can the St. Louis Cardinals keep up their tremendous hitting long enough for Eddie Stanky to find out if he finally has solved his pitching problems? If they can, the skin-tight National League pennant race may soon start coming apart at the seams.

The Cardinals arrived home from the East today, a game and a half in front of the nearest of the closely bunched contenders. On the road they won 9 of 14 games, including a 17-4 runaway at Pittsburgh last night. Of even more importance to the Cards was the blossoming of Tom

Poholsky as a starting pitcher. The big right-hander was used twice on the trip. He lost a 1-0 heartbreaker in Brooklyn, where he allowed only three hits. And he went the distance again last night against the last-place Pirates.

St. Louis pitching, the club's biggest question mark from the very start of spring training, has left a lot to be desired. Manager Stanky has been using Harvey Haddix, Gerry Staley and Vic Raschi. Then he closes his eyes, pulls a name out of the hat and hopes.

At one time or another everybody except Raschi, the \$75,000 acquisition from the New York Yankees, has been blasted. Seven times the Cardinals' rivals have scored 10 or more runs.

No wonder Poholsky, fresh from two years in the Army, looks good. While the pitching has been shaky, the hitting has been amazing. The team batting average is .295 and five of the regulars are over .300, topped by Ray Jablonski at .374 and Stan Musial at .367, top men in the league.

Even Poholsky got into the hit-

ting act last night. He singled three times in three official times at bat, sacrificed once and drove in four runs. Musial drove in four with his 19th home run and a triple.

The Cardinals scored six runs in the first inning, one in the fourth, seven in the eleventh and three in the eighth for their highest total of the season.

Even though they lead the league by a game and a half, the Cardinals are all even in the "games

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS NATIONAL LEAGUE

| Team | W | L | Pct. | GB |
|--------------|----|----|------|-------|
| St. Louis | 19 | 14 | .576 | |
| Philadelphia | 18 | 14 | .563 | 1 1/2 |
| Brooklyn | 18 | 14 | .563 | 1 1/2 |
| Milwaukee | 15 | 14 | .517 | 2 |
| New York | 16 | 15 | .516 | 2 |
| Cincinnati | 17 | 16 | .515 | 2 |
| Chicago | 14 | 14 | .500 | 2 1/2 |
| Pittsburgh | 11 | 23 | .324 | 8 1/2 |

Thursday's Results
St. Louis 17, Pittsburgh 4
New York at Philadelphia, rain
No other games scheduled

lost" column with the seventh-place Chicago Cubs. The Cubs have lost 14 of 28, the Cardinals 14 of 33.

Jammed in between are Brooklyn and Philadelphia, tied for second; Milwaukee in fourth; New York, fifth; and Cincinnati, sixth. No other games were played in the majors yesterday. The Giants were scheduled in Philadelphia but were rained out.

The Friday action, as usual is almost entirely at night. The only day game matches Milwaukee against the Cubs in Chicago. St. Louis entertains Cincinnati, New York is at Philadelphia and the Pirates limp into Brooklyn.

In the American League the Yankees play their first home night game, with Boston furnishing the opposition. Baltimore goes to Cleveland, Chicago to Detroit and Philadelphia to Washington.

GAME CANCELED
The Douglas-Sutherland baseball game scheduled for Douglas Thursday was canceled by the visitors when they failed to field a team.



PEPPER GOMEZ appears in favorite role here again Saturday against the Proud Prussian, Kurt von Poppenheim, in top half of double main event. Second best of three falls or one hour contest pits TV idol Ricki Starr against newly crowned Coast Light-heavyweight champion Buck Weaver. Tickets on sale at Powell's.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

TENNIS
PARIS (AP)—Wimbledon champion Vic Seixas of Philadelphia turned back France's Jacques Sanglier, 6-0, 6-1, 6-3 and led an almost solid advance of Americans into the third round of the French International tournament. Tony Trabert, seeded No. 2, also advanced to the third round.

GOLF
BALTIMORE (AP)—Bob Toski of Northampton, Mass., took the first round lead in the Eastern Open with a 6-under-par 66.

11 Horses Set For Preakness Saturday

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
BALTIMORE (AP)—"Saturday doubtful" said the forecaster about the weather and it applied very well to tomorrow's Preakness, in which 11 young horses will whirl around old Pimlico for \$140,150 in prize money.

Although the supposedly well informed lean heavily toward either Robert S. Lytle's Correlation or Hasty House Farm's Hasty Road as the likely winner, this is a year so far in which it's a wide-open race for the best 3-year-old.

It began when such highly touted prospects as Turn To and Porterhouse were put out of action with injuries early. Then Determine came along, to win the May 1 Kentucky Derby, first of the triple-crown classics which bear heavily on selection of the 3-year-old champ. Determine's owner, Andy Cravallin, has left the door open now by keeping him out of the Preakness, saying he didn't want "to press his luck."

So tomorrow's winner of the 78th Preakness will be a strong claimant to the year's honor until the Belmont, last leg of the triple crown on June 12.

Correlation probably will be made the 8-5 betting favorite of the expected crowd of 35,000 tomorrow. This is despite his disappointing sixth in the Derby in the same role. Hasty Road was second in the Derby. But since then, Correlation headed off Hasty Road in the Preakness Prep Monday.

Expectations also are likely to be messed up if the rain of yesterday should be repeated Saturday. No one speaking for the 11 entries expressed concern over a slow track, but several admitted they weren't sure how their charges would react to one. Eddie Naley, trainer of Maine Chance Farm's Jet Action, in fact, hoped the rain would keep up. "I know we can run in it," he said. Trainer Woody Stephens of

Woodvale Farm's Goyamo also looked kindly toward a slow track. The other entries are Howard A. Jones' For Free, Mrs. Ada L. Rice's Ring King, Joe W. Brown's Gigantic, T. A. Sears' Nirgal Lad, Walmac Farm's Hasseyampa, E. M. O'Brien's Galdar and Sunny Blue Farm's Admiral Porter. The Preakness horse racing classic is scheduled for exclusive broadcast over station KRNR, Saturday beginning at 1:30 p.m.

EUGENE AHEAD
SALEM (AP)—Eugene headed into the last half of the annual state high school golf tournament Friday with a 15-stroke advantage. The nearest competitor in the field of 24 schools was Salem. Eugene had a 111 team score, Salem 326, Corvallis 327, Pendleton 328.

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and
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