

EMERALD Sports

Duck Tracks

By Jerry Claussen
Emerald Co-Sports Editor

Baseball fans in the Eugene area are getting their first taste of professional baseball since 1951 this season—and how they love it. The Eugene Emeralds, playing in the new Class B Northwest league, have really been giving their backers some excitement since they came home.

At the home opener Monday night, delayed more than a week because of rain which made Bethel park unplayable, the Emeralds reared up and smacked hapless Spokane, 12-1. It was a real recovery for the local team, which before that had slumped to fifth place after some shoddy playing on the road.

But Cliff Dapper's team apparently decided that it was time to quit playing around since they were before the home folks. And the lure of opening-night prizes for the usual firsts were also an invitation to start hitting with a little authority.

Storti Flings Two-Hitter

Although Eugene exploded for five runs in the very first inning and went on to win with more hitting power later, it was pitching that also played an important role in the opener win. George Storti, a relief hurler with only 2 2/3 innings of action before Tuesday, went all the way for Dapper's club with a two-hitter—the best performance by an Emerald chucker so far.

The opener really attracted a good crowd to watch this performance. About 4400 fans crowded into the rebuilt park to watch the game. There was plenty of difficulty getting the game underway—the power system went on the blink and the game started 22½ minutes late—but no one minded much.

Some of the parking space around the park is still unusable and cars spilled out around the park for blocks every direction. Shortly before 8 p.m. there was a line of cars the complete length of the highway overpass. Fans kept coming in until after 9 p.m.

Standing Room Only

At the game many people had to stand up, although there were several empty seats in the \$1.25 box section, which is merely several rows of chairs stretching around in front of the main stands. People that paid only 50 cents sat in them after the game started but no one seemed to mind.

For foul balls hit into the stands, the management sent ushers to quickly retrieve all of the expensive baseballs from fans—but they gave them cheaper balls autographed by the players in return. The Emerald Empire baseball club isn't missing a bet to keep their fans satisfied.

The field itself, which has been under the care of Bobby Doerr, former Boston Red Sox great at second base, was far from in top shape for the opener. The late spring rains and the cow-pasture quality of the land made the outfield still plenty rough—and caused lots of trouble with balls hit into the outfield.

Infield Sharp, Spirited

The team looked plenty sharp. The infield reminds us of the Oregon Ducks' fine infield, especially when they whip the ball for double plays. The whole team has pep and spirit and really talk it up.

Like most professional clubs today, the Emeralds have some foreign talent on the squad. Tico Houradou, utility infielder, and Granny Gladston, an ex-Portland Beaver and centerfielder, are both from Panama. Neither can speak English very well, but Gladstone, especially, has plenty of power and his shrill whistle can be heard all over the park.

Opening night fans got to see some good hitting from the Emeralds, but one of the disappointments was Catcher-Manager Cliff Dapper. He is one of the team's top hitters, but got only two walks, a strikeout, popout and groundout in five trips. He was a sucker for slow curve pitching but, as one fan put it, he gets paid for what he knows, not what he does.

Beavers Smash Cougars, 24-12, In ND Slugfest

NORTHERN DIVISION BASEBALL STANDINGS			
Team	W	L	Pct.
Oregon	7	0	1.000
Oregon State	4	0	1.000
Washington State	4	3	.571
Washington	4	6	.400
Idaho	0	10	.000

PULLMAN, Wash. (AP)—Oregon State combined 19 singles with three triples and a double to beat Washington State 23-12 in a wild, three hour and 25 minute Northern Division baseball game Wednesday.

The win leaves the Beavers with an unblemished ND record. Oregon has also had a perfect season so far.

OSC pitchers Al Guidotti and Lynn Mohler gave up 22 hits to the Cougars, but they were effectively scattered.

Jack Hardman hit a home run for WSC in the three-run seventh in a rally that fell far short of the seven runs OSC pushed across in its half of the inning.

OSC103 304 742—24 23 2
WSC020 010 342—12 23 6
Guidotti, Mohler (8) and Lovejoy; Webb, Freeman (4), Aiken (6), Smith (7), Hergert (8), Cavallini (9) and Rich, Golden (5).

Beavers Pick up Two Ballplayers

PORTLAND (AP)—The Portland Beavers of the Coast league obtained two players on option from the Kansas City Athletics Wednesday, and at once disposed of three other players.

The acquisitions were catcher Al Robertson, 24, and outfielder Joe Taylor, 29. Robertson is subject to 24-hour recall by the A's.

The Beavers sold outfielder Russ Sullivan to Columbus of the International league; optioned catcher Ron Bottler to Columbus, Ga., of the Sally league, subject to 24-hour recall; and released his brother, pitcher Bill Bottler, to Spokane of the Northwest league.

Taylor comes with the reputation of a power hitter. He batted .323 for Ottawa of the International league last year, and hit 23 home runs.

Sports Staff

Desk Editor: Jack Wilson.
Staff: Buzz Nelson and Jerry Claussen.

Sigma Chi Tips Phi Delt's, 3-2

A forfeit, a postponement, and a protested game marred Wednesday's final round of intramural softball action, but the one completed and uncontested game was a good one.

Sigma Chi edged past Phi Delta Theta, 3-2, to gain the League II crown with four straight wins. Jack Sherman's home run with no one aboard in the fifth inning won the ballgame for the Sig's. A walk to Doug Earلمان, and three-bagger by Keith Barker and a single by Kent Dorwin scored the first two Sig runs.

Rich Butler went the distance for the Sig's. Jim Briles tripled for the Phi Delt's.

Jack Robinson pitched the Sigma Nu's to an 8-0 win over Theta Chi in a game that was protested by Theta Chi. Robinson allowed no one past first base, and Ed Keegan homored in the Sigma Nu cause. The win gave Sigma Nu the League I championship.

A mixup in dates caused postponement of the French hall-Nestor hall tilt. A win for Nestor would give them the League V title, while a loss would throw them into a tie for first with Straub frosh.

Phi Gamma Delta grabbed a

forfeit win over Lambda Chi Alpha in the only other scheduled game.

In intramural track, Delta Tau Delta and Sigma Alpha Epsilon won by forfeit over Chi Psi and Hunter hall, respectively.

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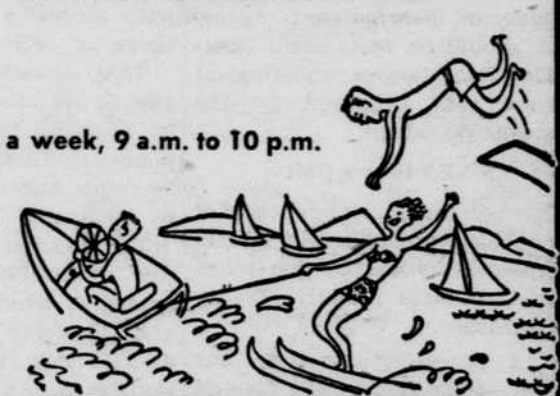
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