

EMERALD Sports

Duck Tracks

By Allen Johnson
Emerald Sports Writer

The tragic accident Monday leading to the death of veteran driver Manuel Ayulo has perhaps cast a sobering shadow over the Memorial Day 500-mile automobile race, but the sports classic is expected to draw its customary 100,000 spectators with the fastest race yet anticipated.

Ayulo's mishap ironically occurred just two minutes before he would have completed his qualifying run around the 2½-mile oval track. The 33-year-old driver, second-ranked in the nation in 1954, thus became the 45th fatality in the arena's history since its opening in 1908.

More than just a speed competition, the 500 is an annual test of men and machines. The extreme expense of entering a car in the select 33-man field is often underwritten by auto manufacturers in hopes of finding new and improved methods for commercial car construction.

Vukovich Seeks Third Win

Interest in the 1955 event will be centered around Bill Vukovich, the 35-year-old hotshot from Fresno, California, who will be shooting for his third consecutive win in the classic. This feat has never been achieved, and only racing immortals Wilbur Shaw and Mauri Rose have managed to win a pair of 500's. Shaw won in 1939 and 1940 while Rose captured the four-hour grind in 1947 and 1948.

Vukovich has been guiding racing cars for 17 years and has yet to be involved in any sort of accident in big-car competition. Twenty-six of his driving friends have been killed since 1947, but Vukovich has been injured only a few times while driving stock cars and midget racers. He received a cracked vertebrae in the 1954 Pan-American road race.

1952 Accident Costs Win

A comparative unknown until 1952, Vukovich jumped into the spotlight by nearly winning the 500 in his first try. He was leading with just nine laps to go when his car slammed into a wall on the northeast turn and spun out. Troy Ruttman, 19 seconds behind, passed him and eventually won. A broken steering pin was blamed for the accident, which cost Vukovich a sure victory.

In 1953, Vukovich came home a clear winner and last year set a new 500-mile speed record, averaging 130.840 miles per hour. This was in spite of a dust storm that held the field down under a yellow flag caution signal. He held the lead on 195 of the 200 laps and went all the way without relief, one of the six drivers to finish.

Vukovich will drive big cars only at Indianapolis, though. The rest of the year he remains in Fresno with his family and maintains a three-man gas station which he operates himself. Refusing to make other appearances in dirt-track races, Vukovich has made just five personal appearances since his 1954 victory.

New Racer Entered

The Kurtis-Kraft Fuel Injection special in which Vukovich won in 1953 and 1954 is already obsolete. In this year's race, Vukovich will drive a \$60,000 new Kurtis-Kraft which eats up gasoline at the rate of three miles per gallon. The Blue Crown Specials, winners in 1947-49, covered ten per gallon.

This year's race should bring on the fastest field yet. With qualifying speeds expected to be in the 140-mile-per-hour brackets, the speed of the actual race should be at an all-time peak. Vukovich's new car should be a contender all the way, along with other new machines designed expressly for the 500.

Sigs, Hale Kane Get IM Victories

Sigma Chi edged Delta Tau Delta and Hale Kane took a forfeit win from Cherney hall in Wednesday's intramural track competition.

The Sigs tallied 35 points to 33 for the Deltas in the only meet staged.

Oregon and Washington State traded 66-65 decisions in the first two track meets ever held between the two schools—in 1924 and 1927.

IM Schedule

Thursday
Softball Semi-finals
4:00 Sigma Chi vs. Legal Eagles, north field.
Phi Kappa Psi vs. Phi Kappa Sigma, south field.
Track
4:55 Hale Kane vs. Cherney, intramural field.
Delta Tau Delta vs. Sigma Chi, intramural field.
Tennis
4:00 Hale Kane vs. Chi Psi, courts 4, 5, 6.
Golf Finals
Hale Kane vs. Phi Delta Theta, Oakway.

ND Batting Race Led by Forbes

Norm Forbes, defending Northern Division batting champion and Oregon rightfielder, continued to hold his hitting lead with a .667 mark going into weekend's final games.

The ex-Duck pitcher is now playing the only part time for Coach Don Kirsch's league-leading Webfoots, but it hasn't stopped his hitting prowess. Forbes has knocked out 10 hits in 15 times at bat for a sensational pace in nine games.

Beavers Head Sluggers

Although an Oregon man heads the list of top ten batters, Oregon State dominates the batting averages. The second-place Beavers have seven men in the top bunch of batters with All-American First-baseman Jay Dean heading the list with a .563 average.

Three other conference batters are hitting over the .400 mark through Tuesday's Washington-OSC game. Beaver Phil Jantze boasts a .526 mark, OSC Shortstop Bobby Buob is hitting .448 and Idaho's Ron Braden has a .432 average.

Dean Brings Runs

Dean is by far the most dangerous hitter with men on bases as he leads the runs-batted-in column with 17. Jantze has 20 hits to lead that column.

Oregon's ace sophomore pitcher, Terry Maddox, is leading Northern Division hurlers with four straight wins against no defeats. He is a likely first-game starter against Oregon State Friday.

	AB	R	H	RBI	BA
Norm Forbes, OSC	15	5	10	5	.667
Jay Dean, OSC	32	15	18	17	.563
Phil Jantze, OSC	38	15	20	8	.526
Bobby Buob, OSC	29	12	13	7	.448
Ron Braden, Idaho	26	8	11	3	.423
Jack Balard, Wash.	43	9	17	7	.378
Dan Lovejoy, OSC	33	5	12	8	.364
John Frederick, OSC	34	11	12	4	.356
Jerry Exley, OSC	32	11	11	6	.344
Terry Campbell, WSC	32	4	11	10	.344
Home runs—Neil Marlett, Oregon, 3; Phil Jantze, OSC, 2.					
Triples—Neil Marlett, Oregon, 3; Phil Jantze, OSC, 2.					
Doubles—Jay Deal, OSC, 6; Jack Brady, Wash., 4; Norm Huletz, Wash., 4.					
Stolen bases—George Shaw, Oregon, 6; Jim Johnson, Oregon, 4.					

Halbrook to Play Industrial Ball

WICHITA, Kan. (AP)—Wade "Swede" Halbrook, 7-foot-3 center for Oregon State college has announced plans to play basketball next season for Vickers Petroleum in the National Industrial Basketball league.

Halbrook, 21, has one year of college eligibility left. The high scoring Pacific Coast player was due here Wednesday to work out final arrangements. Vickers is a recent entry in the NIBL.

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Indians Wallop Red Sox, 19-0

By The Associated Press

Cleveland's Indians awoke to the fact they were in friendly Fenway Park Wednesday and smacked the Boston Red Sox for 11 runs in one inning in a 19-0 romp that spread the Tribe's American League lead to 11-2 games.

The New York Yankees took over second place from Chicago, beating the White Sox in a slug-ging duel 11-6. Fourth place Detroit got three runs in the 10th to beat Baltimore 6-3 and Washington scored four in the first to coast past Kansas City 7-2.

Afternoon action in the National saw Cincinnati spill Pittsburgh to a seventh straight defeat 5-1. And Chicago beat Philadelphia 3-2 and 7-5 in a twilight doubleheader.

The Indians, whose record of 11 straight victories in Boston was halted Tuesday, got back into the swing of things behind the three-hit pitching of rookie Herb Score, who fanned nine. A grand-slam homer by Vick Wertz, Ralph Kiner's pinch-hit home run and Dave Philley's two-run triple highlighted the 11-run fifth that routed Willard Nixon.

Wertz also singled home a fifth run in the fatal fifth, falling just

one short of the modern major league record for runs batted in for a single inning.

At New York, Vern Stephens homered twice and Jim Rivera and Clint Courtney once for the White Sox, but a grand-slam by Mickey Mantle and a solo shot by Eddie Robinson gave it to the Yankees.

Outfielder Minnie Minoso, the White Sox' hard-luck guy so far this season, was struck in the head by one of Bob Grimm's pitches, but although carried from the field he did not lose consciousness. X-rays proved negative and he's expected to be able to play Friday.

Grim was the winner, although failing for the seventh time to go the distance. Virgil Trucks, first of four Chicago hurlers, was the loser.

Detroit rookie Frank Lary no-hit the Orioles for five innings but Baltimore tied it at 3-3 in the sixth on two walks and a Billy Cox triple. The Tigers finally grabbed it in the 10th when Al Kaline singled home the tie-breaker.

At Cincinnati, rookie Rudy Minarcin pitched a six-hitter in his first major league start, retiring 16 Pirates in order at one stage.

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