

Duck Tracks

By Jim Larimore
Emerald Sports Writer

It looks as though the Hot Stove league is on the way out and the Hot Chili Pepper league is on the way in since winter baseball south of the border is spreading through the Latin countries and thriving.

At the present time there are 40 teams competing in nine organized leagues in Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia, Cuba, Puerto Rico, Panama and the Dominican Republic. The winter leagues have an agreement with the National Baseball association and restrictions are made on the number of major leaguers on a club as well as the number of games each major leaguer may play.

A committee composed of major and minor league general managers and owners headed by George Trautman, president of the National association, has been appointed to study the possibility of the winter leagues joining the NA.

Major Leaguers Migrate

In recent years the number of major league players coming from south of the border is growing by leaps and bounds. Stars including Bob Avila, Cleveland second baseman and 1954 batting champ; Vic Power, Kansas City first baseman; Minnie Monoso of the White Sox and Chico Carrasquel, now with Cleveland, have made good with a bang in the big show.

The Washington Senators have paved the way for Latin talent and one third of their roster is composed of Spanish speaking athletes. Cheerful Chuck Dressen tells many a story of his managing trials and tribulations with the Cubans and Puerto Ricans on his squad. The Nats kept one player on the team chiefly because he could speak both Spanish and English and could interpret for Charlie.

However, the interpreter wasn't around one day in Kansas City last season, when Dressen was coaching from the third base box. Carlos Paula, husky outfielder, had tripled with two away. The Kansas City pitcher was dawdling on the mound and Dressen said, "Go with the next pitch." Paula merely grinned. The pixie-faced Dressen again told Paula, who can fly on the basepaths, to steal home. This time Carlos scratched his head and looked puzzled. On the third pitch Dressen gave up but Paula finally got it and took off for home plate. By this time A's catcher Joe Astroth had figured out what was going on and Paula was a dead duck. Needless to say, Washington lost, 4-3.

Latins Show Promise

Despite the language barrier, which is not widespread, several youngsters from below the border have shown major league promise. Pitchers Camilio Pascual and Pedro Ramos along with shortstop Jose Valdivielso of Washington; Vic Power of the Athletics; Luis Arroyo with St. Louis and Ramon Monzant of the Giants all have star potential.

The winter leagues have also given many major league clubs a chance to give rookie pitchers experience. The St. Louis Cardinals have sent Wilmer (Vinegar Bend) Mizell and Gordon Jones south to get needed work. Mizell had gained control to match his corking fast ball and, after a two-year tour in the Army, he could become a top hurler.

Detroit has two young pitchers, Jim Bunning and Paul Foytack, playing with the Mexico City Reds in the Veracruz league and both have been doing well. The caliber of ball is good, but not considered major league in this respect. Jim Lemon of Washington; Joe Altobelli, Cleveland first sacker; and Forest "Spook" Jacobs of the Athletics have all been starring down south.

There are a number of good local players which make up the bulk of the rosters and some ex-major leaguers are still going strong in winter ball. Veterans Johnny Lipon, former Detroit infielder; Gene Bearden (Cleveland); and Al Sima, (Athletics), find the warm sun beneficial to their creaking joints.

Baseball is very popular with the fans in the land of sun-burn and heartburn, and they take the game seriously. Recently, in Maracaibo, Venezuela, fans lowered a barrage of pop bottles upon former Pittsburgh shortstop Clem "Scooter" Koshorek, manager of the local Espadons (appropriately known by the full name of the Espadon Liquorers) after he had opened the gates of defeat with an error.

Fans Jump Manager

Disappointed with their poor aim (Scooter must have been a Dodger) a group of men invaded the American players' quarters and challenged Koshorek. Scooter, a man with the courage of his convictions, said he'd take them on one at a time. But they all jumped him and U.S. players came to their manager-shortstop's aid.

A report had it that the besiegers were three disgruntled gamblers, another that they were five Venezulean players. The desired result was obtained when Scooter tendered his resignation the next day and prepared to leave for the U.S.

"I don't know why the fans don't like my ways of managing," complained Koshorek, "but I don't want to go home inside of a black box."

Trotters Due Monday; Ducks Bill Road Games

Vandals, Indians On Hoop Agenda For UO Cagers

Oregon's Ducks go after their first victory of the season on an opponent's court this weekend with a two-game series against the Idaho Vandals at Moscow which may do much toward setting the Webfoot hopes of moving up in the PCC standings.

Following the series at Idaho, the Ducks spend their second weekend away when they travel to Stanford for games on Jan. 27 and 28, with the second game set for regional television over the CBS network. The Webfoots completed a long home stand, in which they won five of seven games, against the California Bears and were forced to settle for a split in a pair of games which were decided by only three points. The Ducks won the first, 63-62, and the Bears the second, 67-65.

Grapplers, Swimmers Perform

In other sports action this weekend the undefeated Oregon varsity and freshman wrestling teams face tough competition. Klamath Falls high school meets the Ducklings at 1 p.m. Saturday at McArthur Court and Washington State takes on the varsity two hours later. Oregon's freshman basketball team travels to Corvallis to meet the Rooks Friday at 6 p.m., and the swimming team travels to Vancouver, Wash., for the annual Northwest AAU meet Saturday and Sunday.

The travel list for the Idaho series includes Ray Bell, Bill Moore, Charlie Franklin and Quincy Powers at forward. Co-capt. Max Anderson, Hal Duffy and Frank Werner at center, and Phil McHugh, Co-capt. Jerry Ross, Wimp Hastings, John Lundell and Don Belboh at guard. If Ed Bingham, who pulled a leg muscle three games ago, returns to the active list, he will replace Werner on the Idaho trip.

Anderson Top Scorer

At the end of 12 games Anderson continues to lead the Oregon scoring with 204 points while Jerry Ross has accounted for 152 points. The other top scorers include McHugh (102), Bell and Franklin (82), Moore (65) and Lundell (27).

Ross is top field goal shooter with a .393 average and all but Bell among the regulars are above .330 for the year. Anderson is also the top rebounder with 155 while Bell (91) and Franklin (89) have also been effective on the backboard.

The Webfoots will fly to the Idaho series, leaving here on Thursday and returning Sunday. It will be the first home series for Idaho, which is 0-4 in PCC.

Seattle AAU Five Plans Orient Tour

SEATTLE (P) — The Buchan Bakers, Seattle's topnotch AAU basketball team will fly to Alaska and the Orient at the end of this month to appear in Anchorage, Tokyo and the Philippines.

Coach Frank Fidler and Business Manager Warren Howard said the jaunt will start Jan. 29. Seventeen players will make the trip.

The first game will be Jan. 29 in Anchorage against either the Panhandle Flyers or Elmendorf Air Base—two teams which are meeting this week for the right to oppose the Seattle quintet.



J. C. GIPSON
Lanky Globetrotter

Mont Takes Terrapin Job

COLLEGE PARK (P)—Tommy Mont, strictly a home grown product, was chosen Tuesday to direct the football empire built at his University of Maryland by Jim Tatum in the past nine years.

The 33-year-old Mont has been an assistant coach since 1951 to Tatum, who abdicated on Jan. 8 to return and coach his alma mater, North Carolina.

Mont was given a three-year contract.

William W. Cobey, who has been graduate manager, was named director of athletics, a post Tatum also held in addition to head football coach.

Mont is from Cumberland, Md. He quarterbacked University of Maryland football teams, played for the neighboring Washington Redskins for three years after graduation in 1946 and helped coach the pros in 1950.

His rapid selection in the wake of Tatum's decision to leave showed that Dr. Wilson H. Elkins, university president, had wasted no time talking to outside coaches.

Mont steps into a whale of a record to uphold. Taking Maryland from out of virtually nowhere in college football in 1947, Tatum coached the team to 73 victories, 14 defeats and four ties in regular season play.

Sports Staff

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Famed Hoopsters Meet Hirsute Five In Mac Court Tilt

Probably the most famous traveling basketball team in the world, the Harlem Globetrotters will tangle with the House of David in an exhibition basketball game, in McArthur court, Monday night. Game time is set for 8 p.m.

Entering their 29th season of world-wide traveling, Abe Saperstein's Trotters have a 28 year record of 5,041 wins and 283 losses, easily the greatest record established by any sports aggregation in history.

For the third successive winter, the Globetrotters in 1954-55 won all of their games from some of the strongest teams in the United States, taking 163 decisions without defeat. Taking on an array of College All-Stars, including LaSalle's great Tom Gola, in the sixth annual Basketball World Series, the Trotters rang up 14 wins against 10 losses.

With some of their players exceptionally tall, basketball-wise, the Trotters have constantly concentrated on a razzle-dazzle type of ballplaying that has long since captured the imagination of fans over the world.

Tallest player on the Trotter roster is J. C. Gipson, a 6'8" product of Thomas Jefferson high school in Los Angeles, where he was named the outstanding prep player of the year, two years ago.

Halftime entertainment accompanying the Globetrotters is Ray Wilbert, renowned expert at juggling hoops. Admission to the Trotter-House of David ballgame will be \$1.80 for reserved seats, \$1.20 general admission and a special student price of 50 cents.

IM Schedule

Wednesday Basketball

3:50 Beta Theta Pi B vs. Alpha Tau Omega B, court 40
4:35 Phi Kappa Sigma B vs. Sigma Nu B, court 40
5:15 Kappa Sigma B vs. Delta Upsilon B, court 40.

Handball

4:00 Hale Kane vs. French hall, courts 42, 44, 46.

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