

Mantle Gaining In Batting Race

By BEN OLAN

NEW YORK (AP) — By last season's standard, Mickey Mantle is having a poor season. But how long will they be able to keep the New York Yankees' slugger from challenging for the batting, home run and runs batted in leads?

Mickey is gaining ground fast in all three categories. Last week he moved into third place in both the batting and homer competition. He collected seven hits in 15 times at bat (a .467 pace) and the output also included two home runs and five RBIs.

For 27 games, Mantle shows a batting mark of .356, seven circuit blows and 15 RBIs. In as many 1956 games, the Yankees' star had a league-leading .400 average (40-for-100), 13 homers and had driven home 27 runners. Mantle's fast start carried him to the triple crown.

Mickey still has to go some to overtake Boston's Ted Williams and Detroit's Reno Bertoia in the batting race. Williams is the top American League hitter with .394 followed by Bertoia's .364. Both slumped in last week's action, Williams dropping 26 points with eight safeties in 25 trips and Bertoia losing eight points on 7-for-21.

Williams remained on top in home runs with nine followed by Roy Sievers of Washington with eight. Sievers has the most runs batted in, 26.

Hank Aaron, unlike Mantle, is off to even a better beginning than he had last year. The Milwaukee outfielder, who won the '56 batting title, leads the National League with a .366 average, 11 home runs and 29 runs batted in. In 28 games, Aaron has 45 hits in 123 at bats.

In his first 28 games last season, Aaron was fifth in batting with a .352 mark (38-for-108). He had only six homers and 19 RBIs.

Aaron's closest batting competitors are Frank Robinson, George Crowe and Don Hoak, all of the league-leading Cincinnati Redlegs.

Robinson, at .361, tailed off 37 points last week. Crowe collected 13 hits in 25 official efforts and boosted his mark from .299 to .359. Hoak, second a week ago, fell 26 points to .356.

Duck Golf Coach Takes Local Title

The coach beat his pupils Sunday at the Laurelwood golf course as Oregon golf coach Sid Milligan parred the sudden death playoff hole to edge golf team member Bob Prall and ex-team member Don Kreiger for the "Champion of Champions" golf title.

The trio finished the regulation 36-hole tourney in even par at 142 which forced the playoff.

Prall shot a 72-70 for the two rounds. Kreiger scored a 70-72, and Milligan carded a 73-69, but it was a birdie and an eagle by Kreiger and Prall on the par-five 18th hole that sent the match into a playoff.

Milligan is an ex-Webfoot golfer who took over the reigns of coaching in 1947. Since then, his teams have won ten Northern Division dual-match titles and three ND tourney victories.

Milligan will be pulling for Prall and his Webfoot teammates in the ND tourney Friday and Saturday at Pullman, but he gave the lessons Sunday.

IM Track Slated Today

The final intramural competition of the year gets underway this afternoon when the IM track and field season opens a three day stand.

Preliminaries in the field events are due to begin at 4:30 p.m. today with the running events

highlighting the show Thursday. The finals are on tap for Tuesday, May 28.

Twenty-six teams are slated to take part in the festivities which include the shot put, pole vault, high jump, broad jump, 75 yard dash, 330 yard run, ¼ mile run,

3 x 75 shuttle relay and 70 yard, 39 inch hurdles.

Scoring is on a 19-8-6-4-2-1 basis with no single competitor eligible for more than three events.

Last year Phi Delta Theta won the crown.

Legal Eagles Win IM Tennis Crown

The Legal Eagles won the intramural tennis championship on the Alder St. courts Monday by edging Sigma Nu, 2-1. The Eagles easily won the first two matches in two sets before losing the finale in three.

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