

Duck Tracks

By AL HYNDING
Emerald Sports Editor

Those Red Sox

They say one swallow doesn't make a Spring, and the Boston Red Sox, by the same token, aren't admitting they have the American League pennant sewed up—yet.

BUT A QUICK LOOK at the standings indicates that Boston is the hottest baseball team in the American League. They are in second place, have been knocking off the leaders with consistency, and will probably be in the thick of it for some time to come.

The Bean Towners have been doing it the hard way too. Patterning their attack after Chicago's aged pennant winners of last season, the Bosox have been winning the big ones with castoffs from other major league clubs. Such supposedly washed-up athletes as Bobby Thomson, and Vic Wertz, not to mention 41 year old Ted Williams, have been doing much of the recent damage to the other seven major league clubs.

Then there's the Boston pitching staff. There were supposed to be serious weaknesses here, too. Such veteran hurlers as Tommy Brewer and Frank Sullivan, who had not shown sparks of their former brilliance in nearly three seasons, were all the Red Sox had.

BUT JUST YESTERDAY, Brewer wrapped up a neat two-hitter against the league leading White Sox for a three game sweep over the front runners. At this writing, Boston is only one-half game out of the lead, and showing mild symptoms of pennant fever, even in May.

The rest as expected

If the Red Sox are doing their best to upset the form sheet, though, the rest of the league is rounding into shape as expected.

IN FIRST PLACE are the White Sox, as predicted. Joining them in the first division are New York and Cleveland, also as predicted. As for the American League cellar, last year's seventh and eighth place clubs, Kansas City and Washington, are again fighting it out for their familiar berths.

The only exception besides Boston is Detroit, which has bounded back from ten straight losses, with two successive extra inning 1-0 victories, and again seems destined for its usual .500 finish.

Those poor Yankees

Back in New York, they are beginning to wonder again about what is happening to the Yankees. Although not unanimous choices to bounce back to their number one perch in the American League, the men of Casey Stengel were at least supposed to go down like Yankees, to make a tough fight of it all the way, especially in those extra inning contests.

BUT LOOK at the results in New York's last three contests. They have all been extra inning losses, and all at Yankee stadium.

Last Sunday the Yankees looked like the champions of old, for a while, rallying for two runs in the ninth to tie Chicago. But in the tenth, Chicago turned the tables, scoring five runs of their own. The New Yorkers couldn't match that.

The same thing happened all over again Monday. The Yankees rallied to tie the score against Cleveland at the end of nine, then fell behind by four in the tenth and lost again 5-1.

HAVING IT HAPPEN three days in a row though, appeared to be out of the question to veteran fans with any kind of memory of past Yankee greatness. But sure enough, it happened again yesterday. New York bowed again to Cleveland 3-2, this time in 11 innings.

A new twist

In one other respect, these aren't the Yankees of old. It used to be that one team a season would come up to consistently knock off the front running Yankees while the rest of the league rolled over and played dead. Now it's different.

The Yanks are 10-8, have lost three so far to Cleveland, and have also dropped games to three other clubs.

The hitters

Turning to individual performances, a nobody and an established batting star are among the leaders in the AL batting race.

The nobody is Jerry Lumpe, a Yankee cast off who is currently third in batting with .370 and is making Kansas City a tough team to handle.

The established star is Pete Runnels. One of last year's top five hitters and runner up in 1958, Pete is second in batting so far, hitting over .400.

THE BIGGEST SURPRISE though, has been Yankee Roger Maris. Despite the current Yankee slide, it looks like George Weiss and Co. have come through with a smart trade with Maris. He was picked up in one of the numerous Yankee-Kansas City deals of last winter and so far this season, has been showing up his more widely publicized outfield mates, Bill Skowron and Mickey Mantle.



IN DAYS OF YORE... 1956, to be exact, Oregon's touchdown hopes rested on quarterback Tom Crabtree and all-time leading ground-gainer Jim Shanley, both of whom will be on hand for the first Varsity-Alumni game Saturday at Hayward Field. Ticket prices for students are 50 cents apiece. The strong Alumni team will be coached and quarterbacked by Philadelphia Eagle star Norm Van Brocklin.

Ducklings split doubleheader with Linfield

By CRAIG McEWEN
Emerald Sports Writer

The Oregon Frosh pushed over the Linfield J.V.'s 4 to 2 in the first game of a double-header at Linfield Wednesday, then dropped a tedious pitching dual 1 to 0 to put their record back to the 500 mark, with four wins and four losses.

IN THE first game John Livingston smashed a home run as the game's second batter, then drove in two runs in the third inning with a triple, and soon scored the fourth run on a fielder's choice.

Jerry Lyslo held the opposition to five hits and one earned run to record his second win without a loss. Linfield put three hits together for one run, and scored the other on three errors.

The second game featured a standout pitching performance by Mel Moe of Linfield as he allowed only two Frosh hits, struck out seven, and walked no one.

RON STEVENS and George Spencer held Linfield hitless until an insignificant single in the sixth inning, but their seven walks, plus two infield errors, put them in trouble during several innings.

The third was such an inning, as Linfield scored its decisive run on an error, a walk, and a fielder's choice.

TODAY THE Frosh return to
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