

"Trying to Break Me May Be the Last Thing You Do"



EDITORIAL PAGE

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'National Pastime' Is Dying Fast

Editors' Note: Bob Mullin is a Senior at the University of Oregon, majoring in Journalism. His home town is Oswego. This guest editorial was developed from his thesis entitled: "Baseball is Dying Fast."

By BOB MULLIN
University of Oregon

Two friends meeting on the street:
"Hey Fred, Let's go to the baseball game this afternoon."

"Like to, Pete, but I want to watch the big league game on T.V. . . . Besides, the traffic."

"Yeah, guess you've got a point there. Maybe we can have a game of golf one of these days. Just got a new set of clubs."

And so two more Americans did not go to the ball park that day.

Organized baseball, still known as our "national pastime," is headed toward an inevitable death if the downward trend in game attendance throughout the nation continues.

The major and minor league leagues, which broke all-time attendance marks ten years ago, now actually face the possibility of non-existence within the next decade.

The home-town slugger, the seventh-inning stretch and the barking umpire may be just a memory by 1969 if nothing is done to halt the game's decline.

The minor leagues topped 42 millions in total attendance in 1949. But today they draw less than one-third that many through the turnstiles.

And even the major leagues, which have resorted to desperate franchise transfers since 1952, have fallen in annual attendance from 22 to 17 millions since 1948.

These figures, shocking as they may seem, do not represent the end figure of the decline.

Unless baseball men take a serious and objective look at the ever weakening condition of organized baseball, there is reason to believe that this downward attendance trend will continue until the game finally goes bankrupt.

Thus far, little action has been taken to put an end to the decline.

Baseball men must realize that the game's decline is caused for the most part by their own selfish actions and their stubborn resistance to reform.

The actions of major league owners is the biggest reason for organized baseball's current situation. In three ways these owners have, almost exclusively, caused the current plight of minor leagues.

First, they have invaded minor league territory with weekly telecasts of major league games.

The result has been that fans in minor league towns sit at home watching top-flight major league baseball on television while home town minor league clubs play in almost-empty parks.

Often, a minor league team ends a season with a completely altered lineup from that with which it opened.

This not only disrupts the organization of a minor league club, it tends to discourage fan loyalty, with serious consequences to attendance.

Third, five of the big league owners, in an effort to keep their own teams from losing money, have moved to former minor league cities.

Such moves have forced large-scale shuffles in the minors and thus have hurt attendance figures for the smaller clubs. And there is talk of still more big league franchise moves.

In addition to major league actions that have hurt minor league attendance, all of organized baseball has suffered financially from changing cultural conditions in post-war America.

Along with population increase in most American cities, there has been a distinct rise in suburban living. And these increases have gone hand in hand in discouraging attendance at baseball games.

For the suburbanite, the ball park is too far away, for the city dweller, the ball park is too difficult to reach because of increased traffic and parking problems.

Furthermore, a high post-war prosperity has given the potential fan the opportunity to participate in a wider range of leisure time activities.

Finally, many ball park neighborhoods have deteriorated to the point where fans feel it is "risky business" being near them.

All these factors have contributed to baseball's present predicament and baseball men must recognize them in order to attack the problem of halting attendance declines.

They must keep in closer touch with the problems which constantly confront the game at its different levels.

They must become more tightly knit. And they must give the commissioner of baseball more power so that individual and selfish interests do not have a chance to exploit the game.

If these things are done with the best interests of baseball as a whole always in mind, then organized baseball can and will continue to entertain America as our "national pastime."

Barbs
Mom will be taking the kids to a vacation resort this summer and keep right on being tired out.

It's all right to say that spring reigns, but more like it to spell it "rains."

In a bargain sale a woman may take the chance of ruining one dress in order to buy another.

Now comes the time when a wife will sweep the front room with a glance and then go out and have fun in the garden.

DREW PEARSON

Three Textile Solons Get Strauss Payoff

WASHINGTON—The day before the Senate commerce committee voted on his confirmation, Secretary of Commerce Lewis Strauss made a political payoff to three senators—Pastore of Rhode Island, Thurmond of South Carolina, and Cotton of New Hampshire—who helped salvage his one-vote victory. The payoff had to do with stricter controls of foreign textiles, especially Japanese.

However, one payoff backfired so badly that it made John Pastore, the bouncing little Democrat from Rhode Island, hit the ceiling and almost change his mind about voting for Strauss. What made Pastore mad was that Sen. Leverett Saltonstall of Massachusetts, Republican, not Pastore, Democrat, was permitted to announce the creation of a new governmental textile agency.

The whole inside story illustrates the ruthlessness with which Senate votes are sometimes bargained in a tough confirmation battle, and how such a battle can undermine an administration's foreign policy.

Here are the unrevealed highlights:

1. Because U. S. military bases in Japan are so important, the Eisenhower administration has refused to put mandatory controls on Japanese textiles. Instead, Japan itself has imposed voluntary control. Such a policy has been urged by the state and defense departments in order to keep Japan an active free-world ally in the cold war against Red China.

2. Because Admiral Strauss's confirmation as secretary of commerce is personally important to Strauss and politically important to Eisenhower, the White House agreed to a special agency to investigate textile imports, with expected stricter controls on Japanese products later.

3. Ex-Gov. Tom Dewey of New York, former GOP candidate for president, accepted a fee of \$100,000 a year to push Japanese textiles in the United States. Dewey is the man primarily responsible for nominating Eisenhower in 1952, and still has great influence at the White House. Dewey, incidentally, accepted the fee one day after the White House announced formation of the special agency on textiles.

Therefore two prominent Republicans, Dewey and Strauss, will be battling on opposite sides of the textile fence.

Backstage buttonholing—Admiral Strauss's backstage buttonholing among textile senators began some time ago. It was aided by certain big textile firms, notably Burlington Industries of North Carolina. In the middle of the Senate hearings over his confirmation, Strauss took a quick trip to Greensboro, N. C.,

to address a textile meeting where Spencer Love, chairman of Burlington Industries, called the Senate hearings an unwarranted "political vendetta."

Prior to that, Strauss dropped in on Senator Thurmond to talk textiles, told how he began his business career as a salesman in the Carolinas, how he had used his influence to set mandatory controls on oil imports into the United States. The implication was that he would do the same for the textile industry.

Senator Thurmond complained that the textile recession had hit South Carolina hard, said textile mills constituted 75 per cent of South Carolina's industry, that the defense department considered textiles second only to steel in terms of military essentiality.

At about the same time, Strauss had promised the three textile senators on the commerce committee that he would do his best to establish their proposed interagency board to consider the problem of textiles. This, however, was opposed by the state department and by President Eisenhower who feared such a board would be like waving a red flag at Japan.

When a group of New England governors called on Ike to urge such a board, the President turned thumbs down. Such a board, he told Gov. Christopher Del Sesto of Rhode Island, would establish a wrong precedent.

Wrong Announcer—However, as the time approached for the commerce committee vote on Strauss's nomination, the President began to shift.

The committee vote was due May 19. On May 18, Undersecretary of Commerce Fred Mueller, right-hand man to Strauss, went to the White House. The votes of two textile senators, Pastore of Rhode Island and Thurmond of South Carolina, next were essential. Cotton of New Hampshire, a Republican, would vote for Strauss anyway. But the two Democratic textile votes meant the difference between total defeat or partial victory.

So Mueller came back with a White House okay for the political payoff.

Next morning, just before the Senate committee voted, Senator Pastore read in the newspapers that the special textile committee was to be formed. This was what he had been working on for a long time. But Pastore was not pleased. Quite the opposite, in fact.

For who should make the announcement, but a Republican—Senator Saltonstall of Massachusetts. The White House, knowing Salty is up for a tough re-election fight next year, had given the announcement to him.

The bouncing little senator from Rhode Island finally curbed his resentment and went into committee to vote for Strauss. If he's confirmed, the textile senators expect big things from Strauss in the way of textile controls. But there'll be quite a battle between Republican Strauss and Republican Tom Dewey before its all over.

QUOTES FROM THE NEWS

WASHINGTON—President Eisenhower, on the death of John Foster Dulles:

"From the example of John Foster Dulles, brave in living, brave in dying, let us each hold with all fervor to the verities which inspired him."

GENEVA—Secretary of State Christian A. Herter, on Dulles' death:

"The death of John Foster Dulles will sadden all peoples devoted to the cause of peace with justice. He was a great statesman, firmly dedicated to high principles, who worked incessantly to promote the national interests of the United States, and a community of law among nations."

SAN MARCOS, Tex.—Senate Democratic Leader Lyndon B. Johnson, proposing a "meeting of the many" of all non-Communist nations:

"Where the Soviets have sought a meeting of the few, let us initiate a meeting of the many. Let us—as a new dimension of our own foreign policy—invite the many nations of the great non-Communist world to a meeting at the summit here in the new world."

ST. LOUIS—Douglas C. Draper whose son was torn apart by a pack of wild dogs:

"I've seen those dogs 100 times and wanted to shoot them but didn't want to get in trouble."

NEW YORK—Israeli Tseretelli, 77, a Social Democratic Party leader in Russia from 1906 to 1917 and opponent of Nikolai Lenin, died Friday of cancer.

He left Russia in 1920 and lived in Paris until 1950, when he came to the United States. He had been writing a history of the Russian revolution.

CHAPLIN, Conn.—Dr. Ernest A. Back, 78, noted entomologist who helped eradicate the citrus fruit fly, died Thursday.

LARCHMONT, N.Y.—Harvey Manss, 73, a former president of the Bayer Co. Inc., aspirin maker, died Friday. Manss also was a director of Sterling Drug Inc., of which Bayer is a division. He was a native of Cincinnati, Ohio.

Earthquake Kills 8-Year-Old Girl

MEXICO CITY (UPI)—A strong earthquake shook central Mexico Sunday, killing an 8-year-old girl and injuring eight persons. Some buildings were badly damaged.

The Tacubaya Seismograph Station at Mexico City reported that the tremor reached a strength of five on the Mercalli scale. The epicenter could not be located.

Two church steeples were toppled at Elia, Oaxaca. One of them crushed little Olivia Ferrat.

At Actlan, in the state of Puebla, a brick shaken loose from a church struck a young girl on the head and knocked her out but she was not seriously injured.

Ten old buildings at Oaxaca were severely damaged by the quake.

'First Aid Plant' Used By Indians

LA JOLLA, Calif. (UPI)—Baja California Indians have a "first aid plant" which they claim stops bleeding, cures sore throats and gets rid of warts.

Biologist Conrad Limbaugh of Scripps Institute of Oceanography said he recently learned of the plant while in Baja California when a young Indian cut his hand.

The youth walked to the plant, which looks like a geranium, broke its stem and squeezed its milky sap into his wound. The bleeding stopped immediately, Limbaugh said.

He said the Indians call the plant "lomboy" and claim they have been using it since ancient times. He said its scientific name is *Jatropha cinerea*.

URGES DEFENSE EXPANSION—JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (UPI)—The nation's civil defense mobilization director said Thursday every community should enlarge local civil defense operations to prepare for a surprise nuclear attack. Virgil Couch said all first aid programs and communications of local units should be expanded in preparation for such attacks.

Eisenhower Leads Nation In Mourning For Dulles

WASHINGTON (UPI)—President Eisenhower took the illness and death of John Foster Dulles as one of the major emotional blows of his life.

Out of personal sorrow as much as formal respect he put aside most official engagements today and invited the country to join him in national mourning for the former secretary of state.

The President showed his sadness in other ways—his dejected expression when he called at the Dulles home late Sunday; his handwritten public tribute to his old friend; and his resentment at the inevitable publicity given Dulles in his last days of suffering life.

In a formal proclamation to the nation, the President said: "From the example of John Foster Dulles, brave in living, brave in dying, let us each hold with all fervor to the verities which inspired him."

Pencil Personal Feelings—Sunday morning, while the townfolk of Gettysburg, Pa., streamed

toward their churches, the President sat alone on the porch of his farm home, scribbling in pencil on a long yellow pad a statement of his personal feelings at the passing of Dulles.

The President jotted down that Dulles in his opinion was "one of the truly great men of our time."

"He was a foe only to tyranny," Eisenhower wrote. "Because he believed in the dignity of men and in their brotherhood under God, he was an ardent supporter of their deepest hopes and aspirations."

"From his life and his work, humanity will, in the years to come, gain renewed inspiration to work ever harder for the attainment of the goal of peace with justice. In the pursuit of that goal, he ignored every personal cost and sacrifice, however great."

The drugged, painful end of the man Eisenhower called "champion of freedom" colored the President's emotions heavily for days before he received the death

news by telephone early Sunday at his Pennsylvania farm.

The President had followed Dulles' battle with cancer on a daily, sometimes hourly, basis as the doctors reported from Walter Reed Army Hospital. Several times a week the President went to the hospital to do what he could to cheer his friend.

Eisenhower did not want his most valued adviser in government to succumb to the idea that his usefulness was at an end. Even when Dulles was numbed by pain-killing drugs, the President patiently outlined world events and asked the falling statesman his views.

For at least the past 10 days, the President checked first thing in the morning to learn how Dulles had passed the night. Sunday, Eisenhower was up early at his farm preparing to attend 8:30 a.m. services at the Gettysburg Presbyterian Church where he had prayed on other Sundays for Dulles' recovery.

Doctor Telephones News—Shortly before 8 o'clock, the telephone rang. It was Maj. Gen. Howard McC. Snyder, the President's physician, in Washington. Dulles was dead. Press Secretary James C. Hagerty called a moment later with the same sad tidings, and the President told him to come to Gettysburg.

The saddened President then reached Deputy Secretary of State C. Douglas Dillon and asked that he telephone the news at once to Secretary Christian A. Herter in Geneva. He also told the Secret Service to call the church and tell the pastor he was not coming to services. He looked out the window and asked that his flag be lowered to half-staff.

Then the pensive Eisenhower picked up a pencil and note pad and walked out on his porch where a late spring sun poured through the glass panels.

Hagerty reached the farm and the President turned over to him the penciled draft. Hagerty typed it, himself, then read the statement to White House reporters waiting in Gettysburg.

The President told Hagerty that both he and Mrs. Eisenhower would attend the funeral in the National Cathedral. The President, at least, will go on to the cemetery for the interment.

Unemployment Study Points Up Need For More Benefits

WASHINGTON (UPI)—Labor Secretary James P. Mitchell said today a new study of unemployment underlined the need for improved jobless benefits and federal aid to distressed areas.

Mitchell summed up the charts and statistics in a 40-page Labor Department booklet in these words:

"The economy in general is making a sustained and vigorous recovery, but there remains people and places which are not sharing that general prosperity."

He sent copies of the report, entitled "The Unemployed—Spring 1959," to every member of Congress and all state governors to dramatize the need for legislation to attack problems created by long-term joblessness.

Today's report followed disclosure by the Labor Department Thursday night that 14 major industrial centers have been removed from its list of areas of "substantial unemployment."

The department said a brisk pickup in hiring in the last two months probably would continue through mid-summer in most of

the nation. But only slight gains were foreseen in auto and steel plants.

Mitchell ordered the special study on the unemployed to obtain a detailed breakdown of the national unemployment figures announced monthly by the Labor and Commerce Departments. Here are highlights from the report:

—About 1,400,000 persons have been jobless for at least 15 weeks and 700,000 of these have been job-hunting for six months or more.

This group of long term unemployed is concentrated largely in the Northeast and north central states and includes a high percentage of Negroes, unskilled and older workers.

"This is the most serious aspect of the current problem of unemployment, Mitchell said.

Compensation Not Adequate—One-third of the 3,627,000 unemployed in April were out of work for five weeks or less. They were apparently changing jobs or entering the labor force.

The existing unemployment compensation system "is not adequate" because too many workers have exhausted their rights to benefits and two-fifths of all jobless persons last month were not covered.

Laborers and semi-skilled workers account for two out of every five unemployed workers while those in white collar jobs had a relatively low rate of joblessness.

The booklet shows that unemployment has dropped by 1,300,000 in the year since business recovery started but has not yet fallen to pre-recession levels.

Little Rock Recall Vote

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (UPI)—A record turnout expected today in a recall election for the six-member school board, split down the middle between segregationist and racially moderate factions.

The voters will re-elect or defeat the three members who fired 44 school teachers and three other members considered racially moderate.

The election climaxed a bitter fight between a citizens' group formed in opposition to the firings of the teachers, called "Stop This Outrageous Purge" and segregationist groups.

School board members have clashed over the racial question. Three of them are staunch segregationists. The other three are "moderates" on the racial question and oppose Gov. Orval Faubus, who closed the city's four high schools last fall to block Supreme Court-ordered integration.

The anti-Faubus group initiated the recall election following the May 5 school board meeting when board members Robert W. Laster, Ed I. McKinley and Ben D. Rowland purged the teachers whom they accused of being in "sympathy with integration."

The rest of the board, Everett Tucker Jr., Russell H. Matson Jr. and Ted L. Lamb, walked out of the meeting when the segregationists proposed the firings. The firings then proceeded.

Shortly after the "Stop" group proposed the recall of Laster, McKinley and Rowland, the segregationist Mothers' League of Central High gathered enough signatures for a recall of Tucker, Matson and Lamb.

Tucker, Matson and Lamb were once branded "integrationists" by Faubus but he held off until Friday before actually taking sides.

Faubus went on television to warn that if the segregationists did not win the election, violence of the type which accompanied integration of Central High School in 1957 might return.

Of integration Faubus said, "I will resist with all my might and it will pass only by trampling over my prostrate form."

Lumber Mill Damaged By Fire At Tillamook

TILLAMOOK (UPI)—Fire caused about \$125,000 damage to the huge Buehner Lumber Company mill here late Saturday burning two kilns, a planer mill, a large amount of lumber, four trucks, a boiler house, machine shop, cooling shed and other equipment.

The blaze's cause was undetermined. Parts of the fire, controlled in about an hour and a half by firemen, continued to smolder Sunday.

Louis Plans Moscow 'Toot'

VIENNA (UPI)—Louis "Satchmo" Armstrong's gonna toot his trumpet in Moscow even if certain folk are blown hot and cold about the idea.

"Those persons are more interested in money than in good will and prestige," he said Friday before leaving for Munich. He hinted that "those persons" were in his hand.

"They say we won't be able to take rubles out of Russia if we play there," said Satchmo.

"But I'm not interested in money and I think that the good will my band will create in Poland and Russia will more than compensate what money we would lose on the venture."

Satchmo was a sellout here. He said that he is determined to cut through "all this unnecessary red tape" to achieve the sane behind the Iron Curtain and "to prove to the world that Russia and Poland have the same soul for music as other countries."

Playmate's Rifle Takes Boy's Life

PRINEVILLE (UPI)—An eight-year-old boy was killed instantly Saturday when a gun held by his playmate accidentally discharged.

Killed was Mickey Green, son of Mr. and Mrs. Neal Evans, Prineville.

Police said that Robin Smith, also 8, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Snow, was showing his playmate a gun that his parents had given him about two weeks ago.

The .22 caliber rifle discharged when the child took it from a gun cabinet. The bullet penetrated the boy's chest and came out his back.

Kuchel Predicts Nixon In: 1960

LONG BEACH, Calif. (UPI)—Sen. Thomas Kuchel (R-Calif.) has predicted Vice President Richard M. Nixon will be the Republican choice in 1960, without opposition from New York Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller.

Addressing the annual spring conference of Southern California

Wagon Train Facing Test

BRIDGEPORT, Neb. (UPI)—One of the most rugged stretches of the original Oregon Trail lies just ahead, members of the Oregon Centennial wagon train were told here Sunday night.

Paul Henderson, local historian, briefed the fifty-niners on about 250 miles of eastern Wyoming wilderness that caused the real pioneers many hardships. The stretch might result in 15 days or so of isolation, Henderson said.

"It's going to make us or break us," one of the modern pioneers gaped.

The wagon train set out today for Bayard, Neb. The only other scheduled stop in Nebraska is at Scotts Bluff. After that the wagons head into Wyoming.

Early Sunday the Bridgeport Chamber of Commerce and Lions Club took members of the train on a tour in antique cars of Courthouse Rock and Jailhouse Rock, local spots of interest.

Another highlight of Sunday's activity was a present of a pair of rattlesnake earrings to each woman member of the train. The earrings were given by Mr. and Mrs. John Clausen of Dix, Neb., whose son Bruce lives in Beaver-ton, Ore.

DARE PANTY RAID

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (UPI)—Four freshmen coeds were suspended Friday at Vanderbilt University for telephoning freshmen boys and daring them to stage a panty raid.

United Press International Editors Saturday night, the whip for the GOP in the upper house said:

"Nixon is way out in front in popularity."

Rocketteller, he pointed out, has said before he would not be a presidential contender.

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