

# Sport Sparks

By RON GEMMELL

Had my local contemporary in the sports writing field (a field which would produce more kernels to the paragraph were there more cultivating and less harvesting) been consistent in his observations of local softball all-star teams I would not feel obligated to write this. But because of his inconsistency I am forced to rise in defense of all-star teams in general and in particular of the annual official all-star softball teams that I last year caused to be an actuality for the first time since the Salem Softball association has been active.



Joe All-Star

Since I began the practice of choosing an "official" all-star from the summer softball league at its conclusion, it would seem inconsistent on my part if I did not give answer to criticism of it, especially when the critic's end is lost amid the inconsistencies of his means.

These three contradictions appeared in the last Wednesday afternoon edition of the local evening daily, under the bylines of Mr. Fred Zimmerman:

1. He chose a personal all-star team after relegating all all-star teams to the bottom of the heap as necessary evils when he wrote: "The silly season, or the time of year when all-star selections are in fashion, is here. We have not changed our mind concerning the value of such nominations, but since there seems to be a popular demand for a sports writer to point out nine softball players who are superior to their mates, we have acted accordingly."

2. He chose Squee Kitchen at SECOND base on his personal all-star team after stating: "Regardless of how many games he participated in, in our estimation, Squee Kitchen is the best FIRST baseman in the community."

3. He chose Ed Eisminger at FIRST base on his second team personal all-star although stating in the accompanying story: "Since it is almost impossible to keep Eisminger off the list, we have assigned him to an OUTFIELD berth."

"Official" All-Stars Have News Value Because I believed, and continue to believe, that all-star teams have a very definite news value to fans and players alike (and whether they agree with "official" selection or not makes them only the more interesting and newsworthy) I last year asked league umpires and Official Scorer R. D. Blatchford to choose an all-star team.

I did not vote on that official nine, despite the fact I had seen and scored nearly every league game and believed myself as competent to name it as anyone. I refrained from voting as I felt it would be doing an injustice to those players who had performed in a majority of the games to even consider players who had been seen in action less than half of the league games.

When voting upon that all-star, we faced the problem of what consideration to give such outstanding players as Squee Kitchen, who had not played a majority of the league games. We decided, (and Mr. Zimmerman's opinion was solicited by Scorer Blatchford), that it would be doing an injustice to those players who had performed in a majority of the games to even consider players who had been seen in action less than half of the league games.

Averages Are of 90% Importance Not for an instant do I intend to criticize anyone for picking all-star teams, and least of all my worthy contemporary, I think choosing such on the merits of the respective players is not only of vital interest to the fans, but it is good, clean fun.

However, when a man in a measure repudiates an all-star he helped create by choosing another after putting the whiggle on all all-stars, it involves so many contradictions and inconsistencies as to leave me aghast.

In making his all-star selection (a selection he had ever right to make) Mr. Zimmerman said he made it after "consulting several authorities" and that in no instance had he taken the records exclusively as a basis for his findings.

Whether he intended to imply that the official all-star team was chosen strictly from the record book or not is something, I can't answer, but I do feel the implication to be there. If so, it is untrue for neither Girod or Oravec availed himself of Blatchford's carefully compiled records before making his selection.

How much Mr. Blatchford studied his own statistics I have no way of knowing. That I studied them thoroughly I'll confess, but I believe I have played and witnessed enough baseball to know there are a few more physical and mental abilities to consider than the batting and fielding averages, although these assuredly are at least 90 per cent importance. I consulted no other "authorities," however, not even the so-called pioneer atop the state house.

Difference in "All-Star" and "Best" Teams A voter must confine his choices to what each individual did in that league or tournament when choosing mythical all-star teams from a league or tournament, and not what he thinks each is capable of accomplishing. Therefore the cold, statistical averages are extremely difficult to stare down when making such selections.

While ground coverage, throwing, and base-running ability, etc., are prime considerations in the big leagues, it is those cold, factual batting and fielding percentage marks that get the big consideration when prospective talent is given the once-over-twice.

Were I choosing a team from the local softball league with the idea in mind of fielding the very best club possible, it would probably be quite a different lineup than the all-star selection I handed "Doc" Blatchford. Why? Because the all-star team I chose was made up of those players whom I believed out-played their competitors at the respective positions for the season.

As an example, had I chosen the team I would like to have playing for me, I couldn't have overlooked Bob Dunn of the Papermakers for the shortstop slot. Bob plays a lot better than anyone else in the circuit, despite what the averages show. He handles balls no other shortstop in the loop would get a hand upon, chiefly because he knows the probable spot to which every hitter is likely to hit providing he knows where the pitcher is going to pitch. But to place Dunn on the official all-star when he hit little better than .150 for the season was impossible.

# Salem Gals Beat Stocktons 10-4

## 1600 Fans See P-B's Victors

Patty Carson, Dot Moore Club Homers as Crux of 13-Hit Fire

Clubbing 13 hits that included home runs by Patty Carson and Dorothy Moore, Salem's Pade-Barricks scattered Branch's Tommies of Stockton, California, by a 10 to 4 score on Sweetland last night, to prove for the second time this week a definite softball superiority over the Californians. The game was viewed by 1600 fans.

The P-Bs Wednesday night took the Tommies by an 8-1 count. Pitcher Rae Yocom and Third Basemistress Barbara Kurtz put enough punch together in the first and second innings to win the ball game, driving home five runs between them in those two heats. But, just to make things splendidly secure, the P-Bs put five blows and one error together in the third to tally three and splurged with five more hits, that included Carson's circuit clout with none on and Moore's round-trip mace with one ahead, to flash five more across in the fifth.

Yocom Hard to Hit As in their Wednesday meeting, the Tommies could collect nothing but singles off Rae Yocom, and the nine they got of those were well spaced. Singles by Curran, Ramorini and Garrow, interspersed by a fielder's choice and an error, gave them two tallies in the second, they scored once in the third on hits by MacGeorge, Widney and Curraus, and once in the fifth on the only walk of the ball game plus bingles by Mazera and Widney after two were away.

Rae Yocom not only whiffed five to win her ball game, but kept pace with Kurtz in hitting safely each of three appearances at the plate. Her pitching opponent, Erva Nason, said to be the Tommies' top tosser, showed a world of speed and a nice change, but the local lassies swung into her offerings with zest.

Catcher Is Good The greatest display of feminine catching ability ever seen at Sweetland was put on by MacGeorge, the academic rover. The little lady hauled down foul tips that would have defied lots of male wearers of the bird cage. Next on the Pade-Barrick list before the state tourney is a two-out-of-three series with Lind-Pomero of Portland for the Portland City league title, beginning here Tuesday night.

Pade-Barricks . . . 4 9 4 Hazel Dell . . . 10 12 2 Erva Nason and MacGeorge; Rae Yocom and Moa, Welch.

## Gruman Is Named Official Arbiter

Portland Man to Handle all Bouts at Armory for Comish

Ralph Gruman, veteran Portland referee, was yesterday appointed by the Salem boxing commission to officiate future boxing shows at the armory arena, and his first job will be to handle the state middleweight title scrap between Leo "The Lion" Turner of Portland and Walter Blackwell of Madefield Wednesday night.

Turner reigns a heavy favorite over the comparatively unknown Marshfield boy here. The dusky dynamiter won his way back into the esteem of local fight fans when he last month lifted the title from Buddy Peterson with a masterful boxing exhibition.

Logger Jack Hibbard of Klamath Falls has issued a challenge to the winner of the main go. He is willing to post any forfeit that the commission may see fit to set for the match, but was advised he had to beat his opponent on Wednesday's card, Walt Barrows, before he would be considered.

Dan Smith, Longview, Wash., loser, meets Art Strong, independent in the six-round special, while two four-rounders complete the card. They feature Johnny Woods of Amity against Jack Curley of Portland and Jimmy Davis of Vancouver against Lefty Reynolds of Salem.

## Riggs Gains Final For Grass Courts

RYE, N.Y., Aug. 12-(AP)—Playing with a careless ease Bobby Riggs of Chicago, the defending champion, followed Frankie Parker into the final round of the men's eastern grass court championships today by defeating Ladislav Hecht of Czechoslovakia, 7-5, 10-8, 6-4.

Hecht was an opponent worthy of any champion, but Riggs was just a little superior in every department of the game and vastly better at net play. The women's doubles championship was taken by the defending team, Alice Marble, Beverly Hills, Calif., and Mrs. Sarah Palfrey Fry, Brookline, Mass. They conquered Dorothy May Bundy, Santa Monica, Calif., and Mary Arnold, Los Angeles, 6-4, 7-5.

# SPORTS

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## Woodburn Wins in Legion Play

Woodburn Man Shapes Slugger Shillallahs



Here is Edgar Dodge, of Woodburn, shown with some of the 2000 baseball bats he has manufactured from native Oregon timber this summer. His is an infant industry, which he believes will have a rapid growth.

## Schoens Blast Dairymen 20-0

Major League Club Makes Short Work of Minor Representative

There's a bit of difference between Salem's major and minor softball league, it was vividly shown on Sweetland last night as Schoens of the majors slapped a 20 to 0 defeat on Hazel Dell of the minors to thus earn undisputed right to play Square Deal for Salem's number two state tournament berth.

The Bakers combed Leon Moravitz for 15 runs on 15 hits in six innings and then drove five more across on five hits off Wilkinson in the seventh. Fifteen of the total of 20 were earned. Leading lacer was Mel Pillette, with a double and three singles in six trips, but all the Baker boys bounced the ball in bizarre fashion, while Kenny Larson let the Dairymen down with three blows.

The two-out-of-three play-off will begin Monday night, with Waits playing Rotary Bread in the preliminary. Hazel Dell . . . 0 3 4 Schoens . . . 20 20 0 Moravitz, Wilkinson and D. Gallagher; K. Larson and B. Larson.

## Red Sox Buy Hurler

BOSTON, Aug. 12-(AP)—The Boston Red Sox announced tonight the purchase of Pitcher Wilburn R. Butland, 21-year-old right-hander, from the Minneapolis club of the American association.

## Bats Are Just Bats to Most People, But to Edgar Dodge of Woodburn the Ash Shillalah Is a Two Year's Task

SILVERTON—To the average baseball fan the bat that starts the ball rolling for a home run is just a piece of wood. To Edgar Dodge of Woodburn it is at least two years' work, and Mr. Dodge should know because he has put out over 2000 bats this summer, and is preparing many more for the autumn season—as, strangely enough, most bats are sold in September and October for next summer's use.

Mr. Dodge, who is the father of Ray Dodge, former Oregon State college athlete, began his "batty" experiments five years ago. "For three years I tested out local woods, ash, dogwood, yew, maple and alder," he tells. "I tried various methods of seasoning, W. L. McGinnis of Silverton, veteran in both lumber and baseball worlds, was no end of help to me."

"At the end of three years I found a formula that proved quite satisfactory. Two years ago I began working on the thousands of bats I put on the market this year. Those I made last year will go on the market next year. Those I am making now," and he pointed at bats piled, stacked and standing all about him in his little shop, "will go out in 1941. Sounds funny, but that's the bat business."

Mr. Dodge told of the work from the growing tree to the finished, smoothly rounded product. He goes into the woods and selects the trees he wants to use. Then a boring test is made to see if the wood is good or if it is too brittle. Only the white part of the wood is good. The tree is then cut down and sawed into 40-inch lengths. The ends are treated at once with a special preparation to prevent checking. Mr. Dodge explained that it seemed difficult for people to understand that a tree which had been cut a long time before it is treated is no good.

After treating the 40-inch lengths are sawed into three-inch squares. Again the wood is treated with a special process to prevent case hardening. Two years go by in curing and tempering. Then the wood is ready for turning on the automatic lathe. Sanding and branding come next. Another 24-hour process of oil treatment is used and the bat goes to the buffer. Lengths are stamped on the handle, the neck is cut out and the ends treated to hold moisture content.

To the novice all bats may look alike. But there seem to be as many bat models as there are models in a beauty contest. Mr. Dodge says he has made a hundred different kinds himself. Some have slender necks, some heavier, some are long, some short. There are other differences, too. Players often carefully select their own bats and have their names stamped on the handles.

The brand on the bat should be turned upwards during battering, says Mr. Dodge. It won't break easily that way, he explains. He also says that many batters won't give the bat a fair chance; they hold it wrong.

"And one thing more," he grins, "fans don't give the bats their due either. They give all the credit to the player."

## Rainiers Solve Portland Jinx

Leaders Finally Manage to Win 5-3 From Second Division Club

SEATTLE, Aug. 12-(AP)—The Portland puzzle was finally solved by the Seattle Rainiers in the eighth inning tonight, and the Pacific Coast Baseball league leaders won 5 to 3 from the second division team that has jinxed them most of the week.

Starting strong, Seattle scored in the first inning, only to have Portland pull even in the third and go two runs ahead in the first half of the fourth on a double by Sweeney, singles by Federick and Hawkins, a walk and an infield roller.

Seattle picked up one run in its half of the inning, tied the score in the seventh and in the eighth scored the two winning runs. Campbell's walk and singles by Lawrence Grayman and Cochrant brought in the scores. Seattle had won only one of the previous four games with Portland this week.

Portland . . . 3 6 0 Seattle . . . 5 12 1 Hilcher and Fernandes, Turpin and Campbell.

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 12-(AP)—Taking a 3-0 lead in the second inning, San Francisco started off a ninth inning Hollywood rally tonight to win 6 to 5 and make it three straight over the Stars.

Dominic DiMaggio hit a home run with one on base to make the Stars' lead 5-1 in the fourth inning. San Francisco . . . 6 7 3 Hollywood . . . 5 10 2 Powell, Ballou (8) and Woodall, Fleming and Brenzel.

SACRAMENTO, Aug. 12-(AP)—Tony Freitas, Solon southpaw, broke a pitching record that has stood in the Pacific Coast league since 1905 here tonight when he ran his string of consecutive scoreless innings to 38, two over the record. The record was established by Jimmy Whalen of the San Francisco Seals, hurling 36 innings without allowing a run.

Freitas, however, was knocked out of the box in the seventh inning by a San Diego batting attack that yielded a 7 to 1 Padre victory. San Diego . . . 7 13 2 Sacramento . . . 1 4 1 Herbert and Starr, Freitas, Hermann (7) and Griik.

OAKLAND, Calif., Aug. 12-(AP)—A big seventh inning, in which four runs were scored, 2 hits, gave Los Angeles a 6-3 victory over the Oakland baseball team here today. The Oaks still lead the series, 3 to 2.

Los Angeles . . . 6 8 3 Oakland . . . 2 6 4 Steln, Barry (7) and R. Collins, Cantwell, Darrow (7), Fallon (9) and Raimondi.

## 'Unknown' Badman Will Wrestle Here

Masked Mystery Muscleeer to Meet Kitzmiller on Tuesday Card

He'll stalk into the ring with a mask but no one will know him; he'll drop in from nowhere and will be recognized by no one; he'll be the muscle man of mystery.

For it's the Unknown who next Tuesday night headlines the razzle-dazzle card at Salem's armory. All that is known of him is that he is a man, that he is a razzler and that he will have come to Salem to razzle.

The Unknown will move in against George Kitzmiller, who has demanded that Promoter Herb Owen get him a grappler who will be some competition. Kitzmiller, after winning last week's match, a battle royal, said: "There's no glory in that kind of victory; these mugs are no competition."

If the Unknown is as mysterious with his ring actions as he is with his name, perhaps giant George will have an adequate adversary—or, perhaps more than for which he bargained.

"They'll come to grips over the one-hour, two-out-of-three falls route, with Elton Owen the third man in the ring. Supporting bouts include a 45-minute mace between Ernie Piluso and Bob Cummings, the latter the newcomer from Montana, and a 30-minute opener between Ernie Roberts and Hugh Adams.

## REDS RECEIVER By Jack Sords



## Bridge Is Winner In Coast Golfing

ASTORIA, Ore., Aug. 12-(AP)—Dr. K. K. Bridge, Portland, defeated Arne Groth, Portland, 3 and 7 today to win the 22 years division of the Oregon coast golf tournament.

Jessie Miller, Astoria, beat Lillian Schassen, The Dalles, 5 and 4 to take the women's title, and Leon Hansel, Portland, halted Russell Fissett, Portland, 3 and 2 for the over 22 crown.

## League Baseball

Coast League (Before Night Games)		
W	L	Pct.
Seattle	75	.556
Los Angeles	75	.556
San Francisco	68	.523
Sacramento	67	.519
Portland	58	.457
San Diego	40	.322
Oakland	31	.253
Hollywood	20	.151

  

American League		
W	L	Pct.
New York	72	.572
Boston	65	.527
Cleveland	54	.452
Chicago	51	.433
Detroit	50	.424
Washington	47	.413
Philadelphia	36	.343
St. Louis	30	.294

  

National League		
W	L	Pct.
Cincinnati	56	.447
St. Louis	56	.447
Chicago	51	.433
New York	51	.433
Brooklyn	51	.433
Pittsburgh	49	.420
Boston	42	.358
Philadelphia	30	.268

## WRESTLING

The Unknown vs. George Kitzmiller

1 Hour

ERNE PILUSO vs. BOB CUMMINGS

45 Minutes

ERNE ROBERTS vs. HUGH ADAMS

30 Minutes

### SALEM ARMORY TUESDAY 8-30

Lower Floor 50c, Balcony 40c, Reserved Seats 75c (No Tax)

Tickets: Cliff Parker's and Lyle's - Ampires American Legion Herb Owen, Matchmaker