

Sport Sparks

By RON GEMMELL

Sunnyside up with a century of Salem sports, and wondering whatever has become of the "Little Man Who Wasn't There"?

Note from G. M.: "It's a good thing Salem and Portland aren't waiting until the end of the season to play their feud contest, for by that time both teams probably will have dug their way to China"

"What do you mean, we're one game back of the Pheasants and Kids?" belligerently questions Pete McCaffery, skipper of the Waits Meatsmen

Perhaps you wouldn't recognize the fact by what our Senators haven't been doing to it, but the Wenatchee pitching staff is supposed to be all shot to pieces

Strictly on their fighting record up to now, it begins to appear that the Dodgers have forfeited on their world series assignment

Big Danny Escobar, the Wenatchee outfielder now in our community to wreak what havoc he can upon Senator citizens

The young California Portuguese began as a pitcher, but unlike some of the other crooked arms, realized his mistake early and shifted to an outfield patrol

Now that Wade Williams has once again herded his Pharmacy kids of Portland into the finals, all four teams that will begin battling for Oregon's 1040 Junior Legion baseball championship

After taking the Scheffer ownership over the coals with unsparring adjectives, Will Connolly of the San Francisco Chronicle goes all out in his estimation of the entire Portland Beaver setup

"Sale of the franchise to other hands may jerk Portland from limbo, a critical situation that concerns the welfare of the entire league

"The Vaughan street park is a museum piece built of timbers carried cross country by the Meeker expedition

Although it has been rumored he wouldn't hold his job long, it will be hard for the Tacoma owners to demote Manager Bobby Garretson in light of the fact that the Bengals up to yesterday had won 25 games to 15 lost under the new skipper

Yes, I think our Senators are in a slump... For a while there I wasn't certain, but the evidence points pretty sharply toward such

Currently our Solons have a cleanup hitter not cleaning up anything with the possible exception of a few beer bars, a second baseman not hitting his hat, catchers and keystone combinations that seem to think the double steal is unstoppable

Our gentle chiding of Mel Cole for his bit of umpiring in Friday's game didn't keep that young gentleman from turning in a second base performance yesterday that is probably a league record

Strung out behind the three top hitters are Luke Appling, Chicago, .347; Taft Wright, Chicago, .341, a loss of nine points for this erstwhile leader; Hank Greenberg, Detroit, .333; Frank Hayes, Philadelphia, .333; Ted Williams, Boston, .332; Cecil Travis, Washington, .332; and Joe DiMaggio, New York, .326

Among the top ten. Aside from pitching and stolen bases, Detroit and Boston have all the individual leaders

Greenberg, knocked 19 more runs across the plate to lead with 93 and Jimmy Foxx of Boston hammered out two more home runs for a total of 33

NEW YORK, Aug. 3-(P)—Any day now there is liable to be a new face at the top of the National League batters if Harry "The Horse" Danning of the New York Giants doesn't get up speed

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Down Go 'Our' Senators, 5 to 4

It's Fifth Straight Defeat; Double Bill Skedded Tonight

By RON GEMMELL

Sad state of baseball affairs when our Senators can't even stop the cellar occupants with their ace flinger, isn't it? They absorbed their fifth straight setback yesterday afternoon, Wenatchee staging a three-run ninth inning to top them, 5 to 4, and go two up in the series that ends with a doubleheader beginning at 6:15 tonight

While the score, coupled with the fact that he did give up 13 hits makes Roy Helsler's fifth loss of the season look like a legitimate one, the books show something else again

Responsible for Two Actually, Helsler was responsible for but two of the runs and that is counting one that came in on yet another one of those double steal affairs that our Senators couldn't stop with the fourth army corps

Coming into the first of the ninth with a 4-2 lead, Helsler forced Pinchhitter Frankie Morehouse to dribble down a third, where Antelope Lightner scooped the bag and then tossed wide to Harris to allow Morehouse life

Baker Gets Win Then Cole singled and Arnold Traxler drove Morehouse home with a double to left, Helsler intentionally passed Escobar, the league's second high batsman, and then whiffed Bonetti for what should have been the third out

Sad Sam Baker, former University of Washington lefthander the Chiefs signed some 10 days ago, received credit for the win despite the fact Elmer Singleton pitched the last half of the ninth after he was lifted for a pinch-hitter, Baker, showing a big hook that was especially bothersome to Salem's leftside swingers

Double Steal Again The Chiefs trotted in their first run on the double steal, Ratto counting it in the third as Barker's throw through to Griffiths hardly got as far as the pitcher's mound

Our Senators evened the count in the fifth, staging a whirlwind rally of two walks, an infield out to break a halt to get their score. It was terrific

Bloody Bludgeoning They went into the lead in their half of the seventh after the Chiefs counted once in their half on Jimmy Jewell's triple and Gene Spiker's single

Howard Anderson, Seattle, shot himself to victory for the first flight championship, winning 10 up on the 17th after being two down at the end of the 31st

Revised Industrial and Commercial leagues softball schedules were announced yesterday by Vera Gilmore, director

Chicago Continue Surge CHICAGO, Aug. 3-(P)—The red-hot Chicago White Sox reeled off their 13th victory in 16 games today by defeating Washington, 7 to 6, after taking an early lead on Rene Montezgado, Cuban righthander

Montezgado, Masterson (5), Krakauskas (7) and Ferrell; Knott, Brown (8) and Tresh

A's Defeat Browns ST. LOUIS, Aug. 3-(P)—Impotent pitching undid some good hitting by the Browns today and the Philadelphia Athletics pounded on them hard in three innings to walk off with an 11 to 7 decision

Bob Johnson and Dick Siebert hit home runs for Philadelphia and Don Heffner got one for the Browns

Philadelphia 11 16 9 St. Louis 7 18 3 Vaughan, Hemmer (4), Caster (8), and Hayes; Niggaling, Coffman (1), Lawson (2), Trotter (4), and Susce, Swift (4), Whitehead (9)

Coach Has Twin Sons ASHLAND, Aug. 3-(P)—Twin sons were born today to Mr. and Mrs. Al Simpson of Ashland. Simpson is coach of the local junior high school

Spokane Captures Title SHELTON, Aug. 3-(P)—Spokane captured the Washington state American Legion junior baseball championship today, defeating Shelton, 5-0 and 7-1 in the final doubleheader

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Cincinnati Catcher a Suicide

W. Hershberger Slashes Throat With Razor Blade

He'll Hurl for Red Cross

By FRANK E. CAREY

BOSTON, Aug. 3-(P)—The "Big Slug" made believe he was reading the newspaper. But he wasn't kidding anyone. The boys all knew that he was thinking—as were they—of the "Little Slug"

The Cincinnati Reds baseball players were sitting in the hotel room of Bill McKechnie, their manager. That is, they were all there but one, Willard Hershberger, their second string catcher

He had committed suicide a few hours before. Slashed his throat with a razor blade, the coroner said—of the "Little Slug"

"Hershberger" was the "Little Slug." He got that moniker out in Cincinnati, the boys said, where the town loved him as a scrappy pinchhitter. They called him that to distinguish him from Ernie Lombardi, the first string catcher. Ernie's the "Big Slug"

Passes Are Long Yeah, the "Big Slug" made believe he was reading a newspaper. He must have known the weather report by heart because his eyes were on it about ten minutes. But then, the "Big Slug" had something to do with his hands. The other boys didn't

Big, bronzed "Hank" Gowdy, the Reds' coach, just dived with his finger nails, and shook his head. A couple of the other boys started his memorizing the numbers on their hotel keys. They tapped the keys on the sides of their chairs during pauses in the talk. And the pauses were long ones

Remember when? Sure—Someone mumbled something about the time "Hershberger" was all excited about getting that new antenna. "Gee, he was a bug on radio"

"Great guy for collecting guns, too," said another. The keys tapped. "Big Slug" rustled his paper to make it look good. Bill McKechnie moved to another chair and threw his leg over it. He had tried all the empty chairs in the place

Because Bill knew all of the story he had had to tell it to everyone, the players, the boys from the newspaper and all the rest

Yes, said Bill, he had an idea something was wrong yesterday when Hershberger was catching the nightcap of the doubleheader

"There was a swinging bunt that Hershberger could have fielded himself," he said, "but he let it go and the pitcher had to field it"

"Afterwards, I put my hands on his shoulders, and his eyes were just popping out of his head. "I said to him, 'Hershberger, d'ya see that tuft of grass. That's where Moore had to field that home run yesterday. Carried a baseball with him. And he said to me 'Yes, Bill, here's plenty. I'll tell you tonight'"

And Bill could remember, he said, how he took "Hershberger" into the grandstand after the game when the fans had gone home and tried to get the story. But no dice

Worried About Losing "He didn't tell me until last night just before dinner," said Bill. "Hershberger carried a gun with him. And then he told me he was worried about the club losing the games that he had caught"

"The poor kid. He was worked up particularly about that game we lost 5 to 4 to New York Wednesday night in the ninth inning. He said he thought he had called for the wrong pitches. I told him everything was okay, and he seemed all right"

"Then he went downstairs and ate a helluva dinner. Roast beef and everything"

Bill said that all the boys knew "Hershberger" kind of worried about colds and things. Carried a lot of medicine around with him

"But shucks," he said, "outside of that you'd think he wouldn't have a care in the world. He'd have been first string on many another ball club. He just bought a small home for his mother out in Three Rivers, Calif., where he lived. He was unmarried and had plenty of money. Just one of those things, I guess"

THREE RIVERS, Calif., Aug. 3-(P)—Maude Hershberger collapsed with grief today after receiving news of the death in Boston of her son, Willard Hershberger, catcher for the Cincinnati Reds baseball team

The morning mail had brought her a letter from him in which he said he was healthy and happy

League Baseball Senator Batting Averages

Helen 2 5 4 Griffith 2 5 4 H. Ave. Heler 274 95 346 Barker 176 60 327 Heler 287 123 348 Foster 80 4 300 Wins 120 44 328 Knoll 145 81 191 Lahr 284 115 328 Oliver 49 90 158 Poon 248 90 280 Kritch 15 2 128 Coont 122 111 279 Brewer 99 7 112

(American Association (By Associated Press) Toledo 5, Louisville 2, Kansas City 25, St. Paul 1, Minneapolis at Milwaukee postponed, rain

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Big Luke Crosswhite, who will be on the mound for the state penitentiary Greys when they meet the Carl Mays school nine August 12 in a Red Cross war relief fund benefit game at Waters park. It'll be the first time in 21 years that a penitentiary team has been allowed outside the prison walls.

Hutch and Gorsica Hurl Wins As Tigers Take Pair, Boston

American League W L Pct. Detroit 58 39 606 N York 49 44 519 Cleveland 58 40 593 Wash'n 45 57 454 Boston 59 48 531 St. Louis 40 59 404 Chicago 49 44 527 Philadelp 39 58 402

DETROIT, Aug. 3-(P)—Crack pitching by two youngsters and the old wallop at the bat carried the pennant-minded Tigers to a sweep of a doubleheader with the Boston Red Sox today, 6 to 4 and 14 to 1, before an exultant crowd of 28,150 fans

Raising to a game and a half their margin over the Cleveland Indians, who beat the Yanks in a single game today, the Tigers capitalized on stunch twirling by Freddie Hutchinson in the opener and a gilt-edged five-hit job by Johnny Gorsica in the nightcap

The Tigers, after wasting earlier chances, jumped on Jim Bagby for four runs in the seventh to give Hutchinson his second triumph of the season against three defeats. The heralded \$70,000 beauty from Seattle who was a debut last year allowed seven hits in 8 1/2 innings. Relief Man Al Benton helping him in the ninth

First game: Boston 4 7 1 Detroit 1 11 3 Haah, Terry (8), Mastakis (7) and Peacock; Gorsica and Tebbetts

Second game: Boston 14 14 3 Detroit 1 11 3 Haah, Terry (8), Mastakis (7) and Peacock; Gorsica and Tebbetts

Smith Stops Yanks CLEVELAND, Aug. 3-(P)—Al Smith and his southpaw pitching stopped the New York Yankees both hits today to give the Indians a 5 to 1 victory over the world champions

The Tribe climbed aboard Lefty Gomez for four runs in the first frame and from there on it was just a breeze for Southpaw Smith

Cleveland 11 13 3 Gomez, Hadley (2), Sundra (8) and Rosar; Smith and Hamaley

Chicago Continue Surge CHICAGO, Aug. 3-(P)—The red-hot Chicago White Sox reeled off their 13th victory in 16 games today by defeating Washington, 7 to 6, after taking an early lead on Rene Montezgado, Cuban righthander

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Derringer Is Winner of 16

Reds Split With Boston; Players Shocked at Teammate's Death

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BOSTON, Aug. 3-(P)—Big Paul Derringer registered his 16th victory of the campaign today as the Cincinnati Reds won the first game of a doubleheader with the Boston Bees, 3 to 1, but the National League leaders fell apart in the nightcap and lost, 5 to 2

The split gave the last place Bees three out of four thus far in the six-game series. The Reds increased their lead on the lead on the lead by a half game, putting them six and a half games ahead of the threatening Dodgers

Manager Bill McKechnie of Cincinnati left the park in the third inning of the second game on learning of the suicide of Willard Hershberger, second string catcher. The news shocked the players

Sibby Sisti was Boston's hero in the second game, blasting out a homer in the second inning with two men aboard to advance the Bees' four-run rally

First game: Cincinnati 3 6 0 Cincinatti 3 6 0 Boston 1 11 3 Derringer and Lombardi; Poseidel and Berres, Maasi (8)

Second game: Cincinnati 5 2 2 Boston 5 2 2 Hutchings, Riddle (2) and Baker; Piechota, Sullivan (4) and Berres

Cubs Decision Dodgers BROOKLYN, Aug. 3-(P)—Southpaw Red Hershberger hit the Dodgers down with five hits today in hurling the Chicago Cubs to a 2 to 1 victory over Brooklyn

Raffensberger didn't allow a man to get by first base until the ninth inning. Red Hershberger sent a long fly into left field and a spectator leaned over the grandstand railing and caught the ball. It was ruled a homer, despite the Cubs' protest

Chicago 3 10 1 Brooklyn 1 11 3 Derringer and Lombardi; Poseidel and Berres, Maasi (8)

Brown Blanks Phils PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 3-(P)—A combination of Mace Brown's three-hit pitching and Walter Kirby's "Jinx" gave the Pittsburgh Pirates an 8 to 0 victory over the Phillies today

Brown was in top form, facing only 30 batters. Pittsburgh 8 14 3 Philadelphia 0 3 0 M. Brown and Davis, Fernandez (8), Highbe, Beck (1) and Warren

Yards Clout Giants NEW YORK, Aug. 3-(P)—The St. Louis Cardinals climbed all over the fading Giants today for a 2 to 1 victory to give Lon Warneke his fourth straight win

The Cards clubbed Carl Hubbell, Daffy Dean and Roy Joiner for 17 hits, including homers by Ernie Koy, Pepper Martin and John Mize

St. Louis 2 17 2 New York 1 9 2 Warneke, Joiner (8) and Owen; Hubbell, Dean (3) and Danning, Odea (7)

Bend Sportsmen Plan Some Drastic Action BEND, Aug. 2-(P)—Sportsmen planned today to do something drastic about the appetites of the Mirror Pond's carnivorous German brown trout, sometimes called the Loch Leven

Fishermen saw ducklings and cygnets disappearing from the pond and later found the small, young birds in the big fishes' stomachs

May moved up slightly from .329 to .331

The rest of the field of possible batting contenders was bunched about the same distance behind, where one of them might easily take advantage of any uncertainty by the present pacemakers

Nicholson Is Third Bill Nicholson of the Chicago Cubs continued in third place with a .321 mark. Then came Frank Gustine, Pittsburgh, Chicago, .317; Frank McCormick, Cincinnati, .315; Dixie Walker, Brooklyn, .314; and Babe Young, New York, .313

McCormick and Young remained the standouts in other hitting departments, the Cardinal first baseman running his string of home runs to 30, placing second in triples with ten and taking the lead in runs batted in with 77 as well as tying for the most runs scored, 71

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Vancouver's Win Streak Is Ended

Spokane Stops Capilanos in Time to Keep Them From Tying Salem

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