

Browns To Meet Yanks In Crucial Pennant Race

McCarthy's Men Gain New Life

By CARL LUNDQUIST
NEW YORK, July 18.—(AP)—

Any resemblance to the New York Yankees of 1944 and their long line of championship predecessors is purely coincidental, yet they appeared well equipped today to wrest first place from the amazing St. Louis Browns in the year's most important baseball series.

Just a month ago the Yanks limped home after the worst road trip since Joe McCarthy became manager, losing 15 games in 21 starts. Their pitching had been a soft touch for practically every team, the fielding was shoddy and the famed Yankee batting punch was just a memory. Today after a rehabilitation period at the Yankee stadium, they are the hottest team in the American league, victors in nine out of 11 games, and challenging the Browns just two games off the pace.

What brought about the metamorphosis is hard to determine, but a big contribution was Harshel Martin, who has turned a mediocre outfield into a good one. And then the pitching took a sudden turn for the better.

The team's weak spots have been at third base and shortstop, and it appeared that McCarthy's worries regarding them soon may be over. Joining the team in its night opener at St. Louis tonight will be Frankie Crosetti, whose spirit was a driving factor when they were winning pennants a dozen years ago.

Restoration of long range hitting power gave the Yanks a big boost during their home stand, when they dropped 20 homers into the stadium seats and added three more in a short series at Philadelphia.

Both the Yanks and Browns have their pitchers well rested for the big series with McCarthy electing to start big Ernie Bonham, who has won three straight games since recovering from a back injury. For the Browns it will be red-haired Sig Jakucki, who lost a 1 to 0 shutout to the Yanks in New York.

In other American league games, Boston plays at Chicago, Washington at Detroit and Philadelphia at Cleveland. In the only national contests St. Louis is at Brooklyn and Pittsburgh at New York.

Arlington Classic To Be Run Off Without Betting

CHICAGO, July 18.—(AP)—Thanks to a unique little race yesterday, Saturday's \$50,000 added Arlington classic probably will be nothing more than another humiliation for Fennie, the Kentucky Derby and Preakness winner, by his super-stablemate, Twilight Star.

Warren Wright's crack filly yesterday whipped champion Pensive for the second time within a month and scored her 10th straight triumph in winning the \$5,000 Isolation purse which was "no contest" as far as bettors in the ladies' day crowd of 17,500 were concerned.

Setting something of a precedent, Washington park officials announced some four hours before the four-horse race there would be no wagering.

Armstrong-Joyce Battle Postponed

SAN FRANCISCO, July 18.—(AP)—The Henry Armstrong-Willie Joyce fight, slated here for next Monday night, has been postponed until Aug. 7, it was announced Monday by promoter Benny Ford.

Armstrong asked for the postponement after suffering a bruised hand while getting a draw with Slugger White in Los Angeles last Friday.

As a result of the postponement, there will be no fight card here next Monday.

HARNESS MARK SET

WESTBURY, N. Y., July 17.—(AP)—The most successful meeting in harness racing history ended Saturday night at the Roosevelt Raceway here with a record crowd of 10,055 wagering \$310,149.

Pro Grid Outfit's Prospects Good For Sparkling Season

By HUGH FULLERTON, JR.
NEW YORK, July 17.—(AP)—The football Tigers (ex-Dodgers) will begin training at Abilene, Tex., Aug. 6, and general manager Tom Gallery says he'll guarantee a weight reduction of 20 pounds per man—including himself—likely Tom would lose more only he'll have the privilege of staying in the air-conditioned confines of Hardin-Simmons U. while the athletes will have to venture out for morning and evening workouts.

Nomination Seconded
Announcing that he has signed heavyweight Tony Shucro to fight George Parks in Washington, July 24, Jimmy Johnston adds that his guy ought to get a medal.

... Tony stiffened the German Champ, Adolph Heusser, in 1938 "right in front of Goebbels and Goering, and he says he'd have done the same thing to them if he'd known what they were up to." ... But Shucro was dis-

Golf Tourney Pulls Leaders

SALT LAKE CITY, July 18.—(AP)—Golden began arriving today for the Utah open which opens Friday on the 6,375-yard Fort Douglas course with \$2,500 in prize money at stake.

Early arrivals were Sid Harman, Walla Walla, Wash. pro who is here for the 19th consecutive year; Byron Nelson and Harold "Jug" McSpaden, who between them have won open tournaments in a half-dozen or more cities this season and George Von Elm of Los Angeles, former national amateur champ who placed fourth last year.

Richards Captures Northwest Tourney

TACOMA, July 18.—(AP)—Gordon Richards, Seattle, is holder of the Pacific northwest professional golfers' championship today and together with Neil Christian of Spokane and Chuck Congdon, Tacoma, will represent the northwest in the national P.G.A. tourney at Spokane August 14-20.

Richards put together rounds of 73 and 72 to finish a stroke ahead of Christian and Congdon who were tied for second.

Charlie Jefferson of Bremerton was last among the 12 pros with an 86-73-164.

Congdon was elected president of the sectional P.G.A. for the seventh successive year. Other officers are Roy Moe, Spokane, vice-president; Bob Connolly, Seattle, secretary-treasurer; Richards, 3-year trustee; Ted Longworth, Portland, 2-year trustee; Ray Hall of Tacoma completes the board of trustees.

Interscholastic Tennis Tourney Rounds Commence

RIVER FOREST, Ill., July 18.—(AP)—Bernie Bartzan, San Angelo, Texas, national interscholastic singles champion, scored two victories today in the opening of the River Forest junior open tennis tournament.

Bartzan advanced to the third round by defeating Herb Kiel, Hinsdale, Ill., in love sets and John Potel, Chicago, 6-1, 6-0.

Two other 1943 champions, Bob David, Chicago, and Kitty Hill, Brookline, Mass., survived first round matches. Miss Hill defeated Martha Miller, Hinsdale, 6-3, 6-4.

6-0. David reached the quarterfinal by defeating Rod Koehler, Hinsdale, 6-0, 6-0.

Pro Grid Coach Gets Use Of Coliseum

LOS ANGELES, July 18.—(AP)—Major Paul Schissler, March field football mentor, today awaited approval from the county board of supervisors to use the Los Angeles coliseum for a December 10 benefit football game between his flyers and Randolph field.

The city recreation commission, who shared the coliseum's control under an expired contract, yesterday approved Schissler's application.

Game proceeds will be divided between the welfare organizations of both fields and the South Pacific recreation fund, Schissler said.

Coliseum management has not been settled since expiration of the contract.

Aaron Perry Knocks Out Morris Reif

WASHINGTON, July 18.—(AP)—Aaron Perry, promising Washington welterweight, scored a seven-round technical knockout tonight over Morris Reif, of Brooklyn, before 8,261 fans at Griffith stadium.

Reif, badly hurt in the fourth round, was dropped for nine counts twice in the seventh before Referee Eddie Lafond halted the fight. Perry connected solidly with a right to the jaw for the first knockdown and again floored Reif with a right uppercut. The defeat ended Reif's string of 10 knockouts.

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qualified for what the German referee called "unfair fighting," so you can figure what would have happened if he had carried out the rest of the program.

Switch Pitcher Found
Henry (Bow) Franks, Tulsa U. coach, announces a "ceiling" price of five bucks for the accumulated wisdom of eight good grid tutors for his first coaching school next month. ... When John Lowe, 18-year-old pitcher for the Delta Rebels in New Orleans, came up with a sore right arm after pitching two no-hit games, he merely switched to southpaw hurling and won a five-hitter. ... Brian Bell, Jr., son of the late head of the Associated Press Washington bureau, has just entered the University of Virginia. He was a three-sport athlete at Washington's Western high school and editor of the school newspaper.

Coast League Fans Turn Out In Large Numbers; Park Marks Set

By NORMAN MONTELLIER
SAN FRANCISCO, July 18.—(AP)—

Pacific coast league baseball clubs today looked forward to a season attendance record of more than 2,000,000 as clicking turnstiles boomed the 1944 turnout well past recent marks.

With every club in the league reporting greatly improved attendance for the season—despite the admittedly poorer quality of play—president Charlie Graham of the San Francisco Seals predicted that the two million mark will be passed by the time the season ends. The average yearly attendance for P.C.L. parks has run around 1,400,000 for many years.

Profits In Store

The close race, more money in the pockets of sports fans, increased population in most P.C.L. towns and the desire of workers to get away from war worries for a few hours each week were credited with causing the boom.

Graham expects that the Seals will set a new record over the mark of 500,000 in 1931 when San Francisco opened Seals stadium.

The Seals have entertained over 450,000 fans already and with four weeks of home play still scheduled—including eight games with Oakland—seem a cinch to flood the box-office coffers.

The booming Sacramento Solons, who haven't been out of the cellar this year but not for the lack of trying, draw the plum for the greatest comeback with the fans.

A Baseball Town
A total attendance of 28,000 was recorded through 1943. The Solons this year—under home-town management—have checked in 105,462 customers, and are in a good position to come close to the all-time season mark of 290,000 set in 1928.

Yubi Separovich, Solon business manager, who came out of nowhere to help the club when it passed through a crisis early this year and produced one of the league's greatest surprises, looks on the rest of 1944 with a complacent view.

"I figure if we continue playing baseball as we have in the past six weeks, we'll go over 200,000, which will be about double the population of Sacramento. And that's doing pretty good."

Seattle is on the jubilee wagon with attendance climbing. The Rainiers have played before 232,397 fans so far, compared with 149,631 last year. Biggest day for the Rainiers in recent history was 16,750 in 1939, a mark not yet topped this year.

Hollywood has entertained 176,067 fans this season, well over comparable marks of 193,187 last year and 126,791 for 1941. The Stars had their biggest day July 4 when 11,349 fans jammed the park, while the same week against Los Angeles brought a seasonal series mark of 40,143.

Los Angeles is 5 per cent over last year to date. The club has played to about 95,000 fans, compared with 184,000 at this time last year. The figure is nearly 75 per cent over 1941.

In 6½ weeks at home the San Diego Padres drew 153,061 fans, considerable higher than last year's mark. The Oakland A's have drawn a 5½ week total of 111,724, also a jump over 1943.

The league is on the way to a great season and Don Steward, Los Angeles club chief, sums it up: "Everybody is having a good year. You can't beat the figures."

Musial On Top In Batting Tallying

NEW YORK, July 18.—(AP)—Stan Musial of the St. Louis Cardinals held first place by a three-point edge in the National league batting race today, but Pete Fox squeezed past teammate Bobby Doerr of the Boston Red Sox to take over the lead in the American league loop after 13 weeks of action.

Dixie Walker of Brooklyn closed in on Musial who lost 12 points during the week but the Cardinals outfielder had the edge on total hits, 108 to 107, with each at bat 305 times. Phil Weintraub of the New York Giants trailed the leaders in third place with 339. Figures included games of July 16.

Doerr skidded 13 points down the ladder, permitting Fox to take a two-point margin with his 329 average. The Red Sox rightfielder, now playing his 12th big league season, never has come close to the hit title although his lifetime average is .298. Thurman Tucker of the Chicago White Sox held third position at 330 and spent the week-end on the bench.

ALLEY PLANNED

SILVERTON, July 18.—(AP)—R. L. Garling, formerly of Portland, plans to open Silverston's first bowling alley Aug. 1.

ZURITA RECOVERING

MEXICO CITY, July 18.—(AP)—Juan Zurita, NBA light-weight boxing champion, said today he expects to fight again in 20 days. He accidentally shot himself in the hand a month ago.

History Of Crosetti With Yanks Bright

By OSCAR FRALEY
NEW YORK, July 18.—(UP)—Bringing with him the magic he learned from old Murders' Row, Frank Peter Joseph Crosetti made a fortuitous return to the Yankees tonight as the men of McCarthy prepared to open a blue chip series with the front-running St. Louis Browns.

The little holler guy, fresh out of a shipyard where he has been since the season opened, will be donned the Yankee flannel for the first time since he helped the erstwhile Bombers to the world championship last October. And despite his almost 34 years, the sagacious San Francisco Italian will be a welcome addition to the shaky New York infield.

An Old Veteran
It's a far different Crosetti from the wide-eyed kid who came up to the Yanks way back in 1932, awed at the prospect of playing with such greats as Ruth, Gehrig, Dickey and Lazzeri. The all-important legs aren't what they were through those golden years to 1941, when another Italian boy named Phil Rizzuto crowded Frankie out of the Yankee infield.

That was a tough summer in 1941, as he gathered splinters on the bench and watched the scouters fill his spot. And it was the same in 1942 when Frankie finally got into one world series game—but at third base. Then Rizzuto went into the service and, with the incomparable Flash Gordon at second, the Yanks groomed Snuffy Stirrweis for shortstop. But Snuffy was a second baseman and Manager Joe McCarthy finally called on the veteran Crosetti. They didn't find him wanting.

And who was it that stole their thunder in the first game of the classic to send the Yankees off in first place? Why Frank Peter Joseph Crosetti, the veteran called back because the kids had gone to war. The score in that first game was tied at two-all in the sixth when Crosetti led off with a single and advanced to second on a single. Then Max Lanier let loose a wild pitch that hit in front of the plate, caromed off Walker Cooper's shinguard and bounced high in the air. And Crosetti was off with the pitch. But the "old man" didn't pull up at third. As Cooper scurried after the ball, he kept right on winging for home and crossed the plate with the winning run as the Cards looked on in amazement.

That's why they're so glad Crosetti's back. He's a great competitor, a link with the great Yankee teams of the past, and bound to be a steady influence on the whole club. And they know too, that there's still plenty of baseball left in the "old man." Swapping those shipyard overalls for Yankee flannel is regarded by the McCarthymen as a sort of penitential insurance.

Pep Troupes Manuel Ortiz

BOSTON, July 18.—(AP)—Featherweight champion Willie Pep's superior speed and ring craft carried him to an easy 10-round decision tonight over Manuel Ortiz, the bantamweight king, who suffered his first defeat in nearly three years.

More than 9000 fans in Braves' field saw Pep, the slender wiry of the wisp from Hartford, Conn., do a first class "painting" job on his smaller California-Mexican opponent in the early rounds and stun him with a savage barrage to the head in the ninth.

Ortiz, whose last defeat was in August 1941, tried desperately in every session to nail the Hartford Hurricane with a knockout punch. But only in the eighth round did little "El Socko" from El Centro, Calif., hurt his elusive opponent. In that round, Ortiz staggered Willie with a left hook to the head, and then blasted him back onto his heels with a straight to the chin; but dead panned Manuel failed to take advantage of this golden opportunity. He waited for Pep to lead, hoping to deliver a finishing counter punch. But Pep didn't lead—he merely did some fast feinting until his head cleared.

What will probably turn out to be the climax of the local wrestling season will take place at the college of Pacific field Saturday and the "Grand Old Man" eyes gleamed as brightly as ever as he looked forward to another big-time gridiron season.

With three veteran stars back from last year's outstanding eleven, Staggs was pointing for one of the toughest schedules in COP's history. An incomplete slate already has listed games with such formidable opponents at St. Mary's pre-flight, U. S. C. University of California, and U. C. L. A.

For such a powerful group of foes, the nation's oldest and most widely-known coach was banking on the outstanding play of Fred Klemenok, Bob Muenster and Jim Turner to form the nucleus of the 1944 club. Klemenok is expected to more than fill the shoes of Johnny (Presto) Podesta in the backfield; Muenster, who was a running guard on last year's aggregation, will be shifted to blocking back this season; and Turner, a six foot, four inch giant, will be either at end or tackle.

One guess, at least, may be safely hazarded about this match—it will be a reasonably clean affair, and it will be tough, fast, and bruising from start to finish. What the Finnish champion doesn't know about wrestling could be put into a thimble and lost and no one would know the difference. But Parks is like a jumping jack when he climbs on to the mat—he doesn't leave an opposing grappler time in which to even bare his teeth—and he beat Katonen fairly and squarely in a non-title match at the Arena two weeks ago.

But a title and a non-title embargo are two different matters altogether, and Katonen has too much grappling skill to display all his wares in a single bout. Anyhow, whatever the result, local railbirds may expect to see just about everything in the way of the ancient Greek art with all its modern variations tossed at them when they convene Saturday night.

Parks eliminated George Wagner from consideration for a title bout two weeks ago. Katonen has beaten Wagner several times, the last two by decisions that are extremely questionable. The abilities of the two men stack up as being about as even as one could possibly hope for, and the determination and fighting spirit of both has been tested too often to leave any doubt as to the lively quality of the match. Katonen is one of the most powerful light-heavies in the game, but Parks' speed and ginger may more than make up for this disadvantage.

Baseball Play Set

PORTLAND, July 18.—(AP)—Two berths remained to be filled today for the American Legion's state championship baseball tournament here Aug. 4-6. Albany and Commercial Iron, winner of the Portland district's first half play, already are in. Their opponents will be the second-half Portland winner and the victory of play-offs involving McMinnville, Woodburn and Milwaukie.

Grid Star Back

PORTLAND, July 18.—(AP)—Capt. John Kitzmiller, former University of Oregon all-American halfback, arrived here Saturday night by plane after 26 months in India. He said the army has placed him on its inactive list and that he will return to his former war job in Dallas.

Savold, Baksi May Stage Title Bout

CHICAGO, July 18.—(AP)—The Illinois boxing commission has sanctioned a heavyweight match between Lee Savold and Joe Baksi for Aug. 7 and will recognize the winner as the world's "duration" champion, promoter Jack Kearns said today.

The bout will be held at Wrigley field and in event of rain will be held the following night.

Savold is rated No. 2 challenger for Joe Louis' crown and Baksi is the No. 1 challenger of the national boxing association. In their two previous meetings, each won a decision.

KRESSLER VICTOR

NEW YORK, July 13.—(AP)—Milton Kressler, 144½, Brooklyn, outpointed Tiger Nelson, 145, Washington, 8.

Kuppenheimer Clothes

The Man's Shop
BYRON & KNEELAND
22 East 10th

Washington Wins Track Meet; Pitman Stars

SEATTLE, July 18.—(AP)—The University of Washington Saturday night captured the Pacific Northwest A.A.U. track and field meet, compiling 58 points to defeat other colleges, service men's, and industrial contingents.

Evert Pitman, Washington track captain, was high individual scorer with 11½ points, winning the 100 and 220 yard dashes and anchoring the victorious 440 yard relay team.

Taylor, former USC track man, who holds the national high school 440-yard dash record, Bennie Novicki, former Trojan ice hockey ace, and Tex O'Neal, holder of the Texas state high school 220-yard low hurdles record, and no mean trackster in his own right.

And one of the spectators during part of the making of the movie was Lt. Tom Harmon, former University of Michigan backfield star and all-American for two years, who was in the movies himself before going into the air corps.

Harmon Teaches
Harmon is currently an instructor for army pilots at the metropolitan airport in Burbank, Cal., where part of the scenes of "Objective Burma" were made.

Still going strong in the movies is Taran Johnny Weissmuller, Olympic swimming champion, while Buster Crabbe, another swimming great, and Johnny Mack Brown, ex-football star, make frequent movie appearances.

Jim Thorpe, all-time great football star and Olympic champion, is currently making another of his occasional bit appearances, playing in "Bowery to Broadway" at Universal, while all-American Johnny Kimbrough once gave the movies a whirl too.

Champion Trotter To Be Spared In Order To Stud

LAKE GENEVA, Wis., July 18.—(AP)—Volo Song, the four-year-old harness champion who fractured a front leg in the recent trotting race at Elkhorn, is going to live, his owner said today, although it was reported that had the horse been shot his owner would have realized \$35,000 on the insurance.

The owner, E. J. Baker, St. Charles, Ill., decided to save the horse for breeding purposes, although the brown stallion which won the 1943 Hambletonian will never be able to compete again.

The broken leg will be placed in a cast.

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IRON JAW—Joe Grim, famous middleweight whose chief ring asset was his ability to absorb punishment without wincing. Among those who failed to knock him out were Bob Fitzsimmons, Jack Johnson, and Joe Gans.

Title Brawl Slated For Mat Railbirds

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North Beaten By South, 7-1

By Associated Press
Portland and Seattle, who teamed last night to lose a 7-1 verdict to the combined San Francisco-Hollywood aggregation in a war charities contest in Seattle, exchange last week's opposition tonight with San Francisco meeting the Rainiers and Hollywood crossing bats with Portland in Pacific coast league play.

In other league play leading Oakland meets the cellar-dwelling giant killers, Sacramento, on the Acorn home field. Los Angeles opens against San Diego with a doubleheader tomorrow.