

Miller Lumbermen In Semi-Pro Finals

Hayes Blanks Reliable, 3-0

Johnny Dunn Bats in Two Runs With Double

PORTLAND, Aug. 1.—The Miller Lumbermen of Eugene and the power-packed McElroy's Ballroom of Portland clubs entered the finals of the 1944 Oregon semi-pro baseball tournament here at Vaughn Street park Monday night.

The Lumbermen, the five-hit pitching of Archie Hayes, defeated Reliable Shoe of Portland 3-0 in Monday night's finale, after the Dancers had walloped Commercial Iron of Portland, 6 to 2 in the opening semi-final clash.

Winner of Tuesday night's game will qualify to represent Oregon in the National semi-pro tournament at Wichita, Kansas, according to Ray Brooks, tourney director and state representative for the semi-pro baseball congress.

The Eugene club, 4-3 victor over Virginia Dare in 10 innings in the quarter-final round Sunday night, scored in the first and fifth innings to advance into the finals against the Dancers who are expected to pitch Larry Jansen, considered the best hurler in the state.

More Scores In First
Bill Maye doubled and scored on Jack Walton's single in the opening frame. After three scoreless innings, Del Hoff singled in the fifth and advanced when Elbert Dixon was safe on Wilson's error at short. Maye gained first on another error, filling the bases. Johnny Dunn then came through with a timely double, scoring Hoff and Dixon ahead of him.

Hayes, who along with Johnny Dunn and Doc Taylor was loaned to the Lumbermen by the Giustina Reds, pitched masterful ball. His left-handed deliveries completely baffled the Portlanders as he racked up 10 strikeouts.

Hayes had a little difficulty in the seven-inning tilt by allowing three free bases, but perfect support aided in scoring the shutout. The only threat by Reliable Shoe came in the first inning when Pitcher Kenny Sax doubled.

Although every Miller player except Hayes collected one hit, Nig DiSordi, catcher for the Springfield Cardinals last season, was the leading hitter of the game with two singles.

Simpson Leading Hitter
Chet Simpson, the curveball artist from Lebanon who was slated to hurl in the championship game, is the current hitting leader of the tournament. The Lumberman, who has played in the outfield, has collected three hits in five trips to the plate. He is closely followed by Maye and Hoff, loaned to the Lumbermen by Hills Creek, with "three for seven."

Box score:

RELIABLE SHOE	AB	R	H	E	PO	A	E
Krieger, cf	4	0	1	0	0	0	0
Bloray, 2	4	0	1	2	4	0	0
Maye, ss	4	0	1	1	0	0	0
DiSordi, c	2	0	2	2	0	0	0
Kahut, 3	3	0	0	1	2	1	0
Wondolfe, lf	2	0	0	0	0	1	0
Schwab, rf	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wilson, ss	3	0	0	0	1	1	0
Sax, p	2	0	1	2	2	0	0
Johnson, lf	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	26	0	5	13	3	3	0

MILLER	AB	R	H	E	PO	A	E
Hoff, c	3	1	1	0	3	0	0
Dixon, 1	3	1	1	4	0	0	0
Maye, ss	3	1	1	1	0	0	0
Walton, cf	3	0	1	1	0	0	0
J. Dunn, 3	3	0	1	1	0	0	0
Simpson, lf	3	0	1	2	0	0	0
Baxter, rf	3	0	1	0	0	0	0
Merrill, 2	3	0	1	1	2	0	0
Hayes, p	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	27	3	8	21	6	0	0

Reliable.....100 000 0-3
Miller.....100 029 0-3

Runs batted in by—Walton, J. Dunn 2; Doubles—Maye, Sax, Dunn, Stolen bases—Dixon, Walton, Struck out by—Sax 5, Hayes 10, Walker off—Hayes 2, Paced balls—DiSordi, Hoff, Earned runs—Miller 1, Unplaced—Rogers and Westover.

Haegg, Andersson Run In Near Record Times
GAVLE, Sweden, Aug. 1.—(UP)—Gunder Haegg, the flying fireman, and Arne Andersson, world's mile champion, turned in close to record times yesterday in the 1500 meter and 2000 meter distances.

Haegg, performing before home town fans, ran the 2000 meters in 5:12, coming within two-tenths of a second of his own world record of 5:11.8 for the distance. Andersson ran his specialty, the 1500 meter distance in 3:51.2, or 7.2 behind his own record time of 3:45.

Heavyweight Lee Oma Upset by Unknown
NEWARK, N. J., Aug. 1.—(UP)—Lee Oma, Detroit heavyweight, was outpointed by obscure Billy Nitchy, a Buffalo steel-mill worker, in one of the biggest fistic upsets of the season here Monday night. Oma took a string of 19 straight victories into the ring, but from the start he was unable to cope with the steady punching Nitchy.

Mell Ott Injured in Sprinting to First
NEW YORK, Aug. 1.—(UP)—Mel Ott, manager of the New York Giants and the leader in the major league home-run derby with 22, wrenched his right ankle sprinting to first base in the seventh inning of his team's victory over the Cincinnati Reds last night and may be out two weeks.

Highclimber

By DICK STRUTE

Frankie Fassett, with the aid of Orin Snellstrom's interest and the lumber company's wallet, has provided the Cascade baseball league and Lane county sports followers with one of the most interesting teams in recent years—and if the "breaks" had gone his way, the hippety-hop pilot might have had a championship for his Snellstrom Braves.

He had Johnny Lewis, former Oregon and WI league pitcher, signed. . . . But the ex-Webfoot varsity basketball and baseball star elected to remain in Portland. . . . He had Billy Moye, present Miller shortstop, signed.

But the Albany infield ace decided to play with the Lumbermen. . . . He thought Carl Stevenson would play with the Braves if he didn't play with Hills Creek. . . . But the strong-armed outfielder went to the Giustina Reds. . . . He tried to get Harold

"I was with the Tulsa Oilers and the Yankees always played us in a 1941 Spring exhibition game," recounted Johnson. "I had been having trouble with the pivot job on double plays. Everybody had different pet ways to make the play and I was trying to listen to all of them.

"One said you had to straddle the bag, another insisted that you should touch the bag and then step back from it to make the throw to first and still others wanted you to hit the bag with the right foot and then take so many steps and throw the ball.

"In switching from one method to the other I was getting worse instead of better. So that Spring day back in 1941 I screwed up my courage and got Gordon aside before the game and asked him the best way for a second baseman to make a double play pivot.

"Joe very bluntly replied: 'Why, there's no set way to make a double play; forget about all those different pet theories. The only way to make the double play pivot is to get to the bag in a hurry and then get rid of the ball as fast as possible.

"I don't imagine the entire conversation took more than three minutes. In fact, Gordon probably doesn't even remember about it. But I always shall, because from then on I began clicking on those twin killings."

The first season following the Gordon advice, Johnson was in 100 of Tulsa's 134 double killings and he's been around that total every season since. Last year at Milwaukee he figured in 88 out of the Brewers' 138 double plays.

His ability in that department also has been invaluable to the Cubs so far this season. No greater endorsement can be listed than the fact that, in a season of rapid-fire changes, he has played every game.

Bill, who saw Johnson play with the Cubs, says the lad is really good.

Major Ray Hendrickson, former University high coach, is spending a couple of weeks' leave at home, visiting his family—particularly his new young football tackle. . . . Ray has already captured some athletic honors since his return, winning the East 21st ping-pong title with an unbeaten record of three straight games. He plans to try his luck on the golf course and on one of Lane county's fishing streams.

His contract file also shows 18 names of players who never competed in any league games, including Joe Russo, brother of New York's Marius Russo; Bob Freeman, a highly recommended pitcher from Camp Adair; Antonio Flores, the big Mexican who played in the Mexico National league and works for the S. P. Leon Zacharias, University of Oregon pitcher; Bill Radakovich and Norm Robinson, a couple of ex-Franklin (Portland) high players, and Wesley Nicholson, Harold Simon, Carroll Miller, Bob Davis, Ray Armstrong, John Sugar, R. G. Wallace, Ken Battleson, Ike Beeson and Jack Fassett.

But without any of these players the Braves will still have a formidable club to field against the Miller Lumbermen next Friday night in a game that may decide Giustina's second-half pennant challenger or may be only a playoff for second place in the final standings.

Frank managed to sign, and keep, two of the league's brightest shining young stars—Second baseman Charley Michelson and Shortstop Ranny Smith. He was lucky in picking up George Fischer from the Lumbermen to fill the third-base hole. And now he has another colorful veteran to fill the first-base slot—Harry Cloninger. Norv Libby, for many years considered the best catcher in the league, is with the club.

In the outfield Frank has Bill Shear, the ex-soldier who is one of the league's leading hitters. Dick Sprick, a fair pitcher and good-hitting outfielder, may be here from Corvallis Friday, and the right-field spot can be filled by any number of fellows—probably Lt. Bob Weill of the air force.

All in all, Fassett has had 42 players under contract during the season. He should win some kind of a championship.

Bill Love, our much-missed associate who is with the U. S. navy at Notre Dame, sent us an interesting clipping from the Chicago Sun, written by Edgar Munzel, in which Don Johnson, the stellar "freshman" second-baseman for the Chicago Cubs, gives our Joe Gordon credit for his becoming proficient at working in double plays.

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Billies Threat To Giustina

Hills Creek's Del Hoff Takes Batting Lead

The hard-hitting Hills Creek Billies, who boast two of the Cascade baseball league's three leading hitters, will challenge the right of the Giustina Reds to the second-half league pennant at Civic Stadium Wednesday night. The game, next to the final scheduled contest of the 1944 season, will start at 8:30 o'clock.

Ed Brauner's Reds, who have already annexed the first-half flag, can clinch the championship by defeating the Billies Wednesday. A defeat, however, would force the Reds into a playoff against the winner of Friday night's league finale between the Miller Lumbermen and Snellstrom Braves.

Hills Creek, 1943 pennant-winner that failed in the current campaign, will be able to snatch some belated glory by knocking out the Reds—and the Billies have the hitters to trouble the best of Brauner's staff. Del Hoff, Billy catcher, is the present league batting leader with a .429 average.

Virg Cross, infielder, is No. 3 with a .405 mark. Dutch White is also in the charged circle with a .333 average—and Dick Wright, Glen Cox, Grover and Bun Kelsay are just off a .300 pace.

Elder or Mauney to Pitch
Questionable pitching and defensive work afield, a handicap all season, may cause the downfall of the former titleholders. Bill Elder, former ex-Eugene high ace, or Bud Mauney, veteran righthander, appear to be the most likely mound selections.

Brauner may be hard up for hurlers. He used John Warren last Sunday and Archie Hayes was slated to work for the Miller Lumbermen in the state tourney in Portland this week. Harold Wilson, Bob Caviness and Johnny Dunn remain as possibilities. The Giustina pilot also hopes to save one of his best hurlers to pitch against the state prison team at Waters Park in Salem next Sunday.

The remainder of the Giustina lineup will be at full strength, with the return of Johnny Dunn and Doc Taylor who played for the Lumbermen in Portland. The Reds also have some hitting power. First-baseman Alie Cooper is still a championship contender with a .415 average. Caviness is hitting .417, Taylor .385, and Carl Stevenson .311. Burt Avery also adds scoring ability to the lineup.

The stellar second-baseman is the league leader in runs batted in with 15.

Bill Shear Has Chance
Bill Shear, Snellstrom outfielder who paced the hitters at this time last week, has slipped to fourth place with a .391 average, but still with a chance to cop the crown. Taylor is fifth. Other members of the regulars among the "big ten" are George Fischer of Snellstrom with .353, Bud Nurre of the Lumbermen with .348, White, Dan Moran of the Lumbermen with .324, and Norv Libby of the Braves with .315.

Hoff leads in total hits with 24, followed by Cooper with 22, Shear with 18, and Libby and Ranny Smith of the Braves with 17 each. Following Avery in RBI's is Cooper with 14, Stevenson has 11, and Charley Mickelson of the Braves 10.

League batters who are hitting .250 or better follow:

PLAYER	CLUB	AB	R	H	E	PO	A	E
Hoff, Billies	13	36	8	24	429			
Caviness, Reds	5	12	3	3	417			
Cooper, Reds	15	32	14	22	415			
Grover, Billies	12	27	8	15	405			
Shear, Braves	14	48	18	18	381			
Taylor, Reds	10	26	5	10	385			
Torgerson, Braves	8	16	3	7	369			
Fischer, Braves	10	24	6	12	353			
Nurre, Lumbermen	14	46	9	16	348			
White, Billies	13	42	8	15	339			
Moran, Lumbermen	11	34	4	11	324			
Libby, Braves	13	34	7	17	315			
Walker, Lumbermen	15	31	9	16	314			
Oakes, Braves	8	16	3	7	312			
Stevenson, Reds	13	43	11	14	311			
Mickelson, Braves	10	26	10	11	306			
Smith, Braves	13	34	8	12	304			
Wright, Billies	10	41	8	12	293			
G. Kelsay, Billies	15	30	3	16	291			
Cox, Reds	10	21	5	9	290			
King, Reds	13	36	7	14	286			
B. Kelsay, Billies	13	35	8	10	286			
Cornett, Cardinals	8	21	1	4	284			
Warren, Reds	5	7	1	2	280			
Faulstich, Reds	14	29	3	17	282			
Avery, Reds	13	31	15	14	275			
Rask, Cardinals	16	38	8	13	268			
Harvey, Braves	12	25	6	8	261			
Thomas, Cardinals	16	38	3	14	259			
Simpson, Lumbermen	12	32	2	3	255			
B. Dunn, Lumbermen	5	8	1	3	250			

Elimination of the championship angle will not lessen the interest in the match. Katonen lost favor with local mat followers here two weeks ago when he was held to a draw by Herb Parks. And despite the fact that Morelli is an out-and-out meanie and will hold a weight advantage of some 15 pounds, local railbirds would like to see the tough Italian measure the champion—definitely.

The match should be one of the best of the season, sending a great scientific grapple against a master of fisticuffs—and local fans are warned to make their ticket reservations at the Club store—before early.

Matchmaker Don Owen promises two outstanding supporting matches to complete this week's card. Announcement of the bouts will be made later in the week.

Dud DeGroot Gives Grid Redskins First Drill
SAN DIEGO, Aug. 1.—(UP)—The 1944 squad of the Washington Redskins professional football team today began their workouts with a new coach, a new formation and many new faces.

Dud DeGroot took over the coaching position and started his boys working out with the T-formation. Headed by Slingin' Sammy Baugh, 41 men turned out for the opening practice.

Falkenburg Net Winner
KALAMAZOO, Mich., Aug. 1.—(UP)—Young Bob Falkenburg of Hollywood, and a private at Chautauque Field, Ill., started his march toward his second National junior tennis championship Monday, winning his first-round match with ease over Robert Steteket, Grand Rapids, Mich., 6-1, 6-0. Final rounds were scheduled for Saturday. The tall, lanky, 18-year-old coast star, brother of actress Jinx Falkenburg, is seeded No. 1 in the junior division.

Kuppenheimer Clothes
The Man's Shop
BYRON & KNEELAND
32 East 10th

GUARDS IN SOFTBALL MEET
PORTLAND, Aug. 1.—(UP)—The Coos Bay coast guard is the first to enter the 1944 Oregon state invitational softball tournament set for August 7-13 here, Ray Brooks, meet director, reported.

CLOSED FOR VACATIONS
July 31 to Aug. 3
LIGHTNINGS
1151 Willamette

Senators Slide Into Cellar

By JACK HAND
(Associated Press)
Washington's mid-winter pennant boom vanished in thin air today as the Nats hit the American league cellar while the St. Louis Browns and Boston Red Sox, once a couple of "also-rans," loaded up for the stretch drive.

The Browns and Red Sox, who were supposed to be playing merely for exercise while Washington and New York fought for the flag, took charge of the battle as the clubs neared the two-thirds marker by strengthening their weakest spots.

St. Louis, Boston Strengthen
St. Louis acquired Catcher Tom Turner from the White Sox via the waiver route to bolster Frank Mancuso and Red Hayworth. Boston picked up Rex Cecil from San Diego, the Pacific coast strikeout king to report before Aug. 14 and give Tex Hughson a hand in the department that has been the club's glaring weakness.

Even the New York Yankees, currently in third place but only 5½ games back, sought a new catcher to replace Rolfe Hemsley who will be inducted Monday. To date no results had been announced.

Washington dipped into the basement Monday night after bowing to St. Louis, 3-2. Homers by Vern Stephens and Lefty McQuinn helped Jack Kramer take the nod over Roger Wolff, making his first start in a month.

Boston kept pace with the Browns by shading Cleveland 1-0 on an unearned run in the ninth, Mike Ryba and Red Barrett, who relieved in the last frame, yielded only two hits as did the Tribe's Steve Gromek. Pete Fox's single following a two-base error by Mickey Rocco told the story.

Phillies Lose 9th Straight
Philadelphia pushed past Chicago in the tenth, 3-2 as Hal Epps' single followed Buddy Hall's triple to give Russ Christopher the win over Orval Grove. Detroit and New York were not scheduled.

Brooklyn's Hal Gregg ended a two-month victory famine by beating St. Louis 6-1, his first win since May 30. Mort Cooper was hammered off the hill in three frames.