

## Johnny Rucker Hits Safely in Thirteen Games

By Carl Lindquist  
(United Press Staff Correspondent)  
New York, May 3 (AP)—Giant outfielder Johnny Rucker has a plastic but effective method for prolonging a hitting streak and so today—at last—he is fulfilling hopes of the folks in Crabapple, Ga., who felt all along he was the state's greatest ball player since Ty Cobb.

Rucker, mediocre since coming to the Giants in 1940, has hit safely in all 13 games they have played, but in order to do it he has had to "hang" himself every day on his own personal "gal-lows."

The 28-year-old southerner, nephew of pitcher Nap Rucker, who gained fame with the Brooklyn Dodgers, has tused neck vertebrae, an injury so painful it threatened to end his baseball career. His batting average went down steadily, and it was no secret that he would have quit unless he found a remedy. Finally, a doctor provided him with the contraption, literally a gallows, to pull the vertebrae apart.

**Treatments Aid**  
From the start of the season it was evident the treatments were helping. Always one of the fastest men in the majors, he roved his outfield post more effectively and as lead-off man, touched off more rallies than any other Giant player.

He has a .333 average with 21 hits, and his 13-game streak is the longest in the majors to date. Yesterday was his best day. With four hits, he batted in four runs in a 9 to 8 triumph over the Phillies at Philadelphia.

The St. Louis Cards, who had trouble at Pittsburgh last season, ran into more of the same yesterday. After winning the opener of a double bill, 4 to 2, on Harry Brecheen's seven-hit pitching, the Cards were hammered like sand-lotters to lose the score, 11 to 1.

The Boston Braves gave Nate Andrews a two run lead in the first inning and he checked the Dodgers thereafter to win, 3 to 1, at Brooklyn.

**Sox Win Again**  
The Red Sox won their fifth straight, topping Washington, 4 to 0, at Boston on four-hit pitching by Jim Wilson, who won his first major league game.

Al Benton, back at Detroit after a navy hitch, became top pitcher of the season, beating Chicago, 2 to 1, for his third victory, a

## Out Our Way



THE CRITIC

Copyright 1945 by NEA Service, Inc. U.S. Reg. U.S. Pat. Off.

## By J. R. Williams

## District 2 Meet To Be Held Here; New Marks Due

Teams representing schools from Central Oregon and the mid Columbia areas will meet in Bend Saturday to determine the track and field championships of district 2. With the revival of interest in Central Oregon, this year's meet promises to be one of the best in the last decade. Six schools have sent in entries for full teams and it is possible that other schools may make some individual entries.

**Favorites to Cop** this season's classic will be the Redmond Panthers who easily captured the Central Oregon title last week. However, it is possible that any of the other major entries could slip in.

**Some Points Certain**  
Both Prineville and Bend have some certain points that might put them in the running for Hood River, Arlington and Moro can cut into some of Redmond's stronger events. Hood River, second only to Bend in the number of championships won, will also have to be considered, although little is known of the strength of this year's team.

Arlington, boasting one of the strongest "B" school teams in the state, will enter a power packed squad that was nosed out for first place in their division of the Hayward relays by a half a point. They will be favorites to capture the trophy for "B" schools and may be in the running for the meet title as well. Of the entries to date, only one defending champion will be on hand. George Rasmussen, Bend's ace vaulter, will be out to capture his third successive district title.

**Records Expected**  
Most of the marks set in last year's meet are expected to be bettered except those in the two hurdle races. Denny Sullivan of Bend set a new record in the high's and ran close to record twice in the lows.

Because of the larger entry list preliminaries will be run Saturday morning with the finals scheduled for the afternoon.

**COPS KEEP THE PEACE**  
Plymouth, Ind. (AP)—Plymouth police, attracted to "Bum Haven" by a quarrel between two "guests," found the dispute to be over an electric light. One wanted it off, and the other wanted it left on all night. The one who insisted that the light be left on had \$4.90 in his pocket and distrusted his roommate in the dark. Police settled the argument by agreeing to care for the \$4.90 overnight and turned off the light.

**HEARING PLANNED**  
San Diego, Cal., May 3 (AP)—State athletic commissioner Tony Entenza will conduct a hearing here May 12 on the Kid Lester-Charley Earley and Donnie Maes-Ralph Lara fights held in San Diego last month, it was announced today.

Both fights were stopped by referees, automatically forcing a commission hearing.

ing, grinding offensive of lefts and rights.  
The bout was staged before a disappointing crowd of 5,350 fans who paid a gross of \$18,793.

## Four Hitter

The Yankees handed Russ Christopher of Philadelphia his first defeat, 6 to 4, after he had won three.

Pitcher Allie Reynolds of Cleveland had a nine inning no-hit, no run game within his 13-inning, 2 to 1 victory over the Browns at St. Louis in the first night game of the year.

Cincinnati at Chicago in the national was rained out.

## Welker Cochran Wins Two More

Hollywood, May 3 (AP)—Welker Cochran, world's three-cushion billiard titleholder, today threatened to pass challenger Willie Hoppe in their transcontinental series in the last of two local matches at the Hollywood athletic club.

Cochran scored two decisive wins over Hoppe yesterday to pull within five points of his long-time foe.

Buy National War Bonds Now!

## Hollywood Stars Lose to Beavers

(By United Press)  
Francis Patrick (Lefty) O'Doul, the old National league batting champion, knows today that lightning does strike in the same place twice.

O'Doul's San Francisco Seals had a one-run lead over the Sacramento Solons for seven innings last night, then had their dreams of conquest blasted when Earl Sheely's club scored three times in the eighth to take over the Pacific coast league tilt, 3 to 2. The previous night the Solons put on a four-run uprising in the final cant to for a 5-4 win in the opening duel of the series.

It looked like young Elmer Orella was going to avenge that loss when he blanked Sacramento for seven frames. He mowed down the first Solon in the last of the eighth, then was touched for a bloop single by Jack Handley. Jimmy Grant doubled to score Handley. The next batter, Jess Landrum, slammed a grass-cutter at shortstop Joe Futernick who kicked the ball around, allowing Barney Bridges, running for Grant, to score. Roy Younker grounded out but Ted Greenhalgh singled to bring in Landrum with the run that meant the game.

**Beavers Win**  
The Portland Beavers stretched their first-place margin to two and one-half games by downing the Hollywood Stars, 7-2, while the second-place Seattle Rainiers were splitting a double-header with the Oakland Aorns. Oakland took the seven-inning twilight opener, 8-2, behind Floyd Strome's three-hit twirling, but the Rainiers came back in the nightcap for a 4-1 win.

The San Diego Padres evened their series with the Los Angeles Angels at one game each when Tony Criscola came in from third on a wild throw for the run that gave Pepper Martin's men a 5-4 triumph.  
Strome was making his final appearance of the season for Oakland before entering the army.

## League Standings

(By United Press)

AMERICAN			
	W	L	Pct.
Chicago	6	3	.667
New York	6	3	.667
Detroit	7	4	.636

## HOME LIGHTING SYSTEMS

- Motor Driven Gas or Diesel
- Water Driven
- Wind Driven

Every size from "portable" units for cabins, etc., to complete farm light and power plants.

ASK US  
**Bend Electric Co.**  
644 Franklin Phone 159

Philadelphia	6	6	.500
Washington	6	7	.462
St. Louis	4	6	.400
Boston	5	8	.385
Cleveland	3	7	.300

NATIONAL			
	W	L	Pct.
New York	9	4	.692
Chicago	7	4	.636
Boston	7	5	.583
St. Louis	6	5	.545
Brooklyn	5	6	.455
Cincinnati	5	6	.455
Pittsburgh	5	7	.417
Philadelphia	3	9	.250

PACIFIC COAST			
	W	L	Pct.
Portland	20	10	.667
Seattle	18	13	.581
San Diego	18	14	.563
Oakland	16	15	.516
Sacramento	16	16	.500
Los Angeles	14	18	.438
San Francisco	13	19	.406
Hollywood	10	20	.333

## Baksi Is Victor Over Larry Lane

Chicago, May 3 (AP)—Joe Baksi, a massive one-time coal miner from western Pennsylvania, held a unanimous 10-round decision over Larry Lane, Newark, N. J., heavyweight, today thanks to his iron jaw.

Baksi, ranked the nation's sixth best heavyweight, left Lane wobbly-legged at the end of their bout at the coliseum last night, but only after he had absorbed every punch Lane could throw.

The 195-pound New Jersey negro, a vicious hitter, carried the fight during the first five rounds, repeatedly hitting the 23-year-old Polish heavyweight with crisp left hooks and explosive rights.

But Baksi, carrying a 16-pound weight advantage, never faltered. He wore Lane down with a maul-



## TACKLE THAT'S RIGHT

You'll find the right tackle and the best of advice at Douthit's. We fish—and we know what they like!

**SALMON EGGS** from 15c | **DRY FLIES**

Leaders • Spinners • Flatfish Casting and Level Lines

Sleeping Bags • Tarpaulins

Guns and Shells for Essential Users  
Flashlight Batteries • Tennis Balls, 60c

**DOUTHIT'S**  
913 Wall St. Phone 51

## Today's Sport Parade

By Jack Cuddy  
(United Press Staff Correspondent)  
New York, May 3 (AP)—Russ Christopher, the Athletics' skinny right-hander, was naturally disappointed when the Yankees snapped his winning string at three straight. But he was smiling his shy smile again today and calling himself "the luckiest pitcher in baseball."

The tall, lean lad from Point Richmond, Calif., lasted only four innings yesterday against the Yankees who kicked him for nine hits and six runs as they tagged him with his first defeat of the season. Before taking the mound at Yankee stadium, he had opened the campaign brilliantly with a victory over Washington and two over Boston.

"I felt pretty blue when I walked to the showers after the fourth inning," he explained later. "I felt I had let the boys down; and they've been giving me swell support. But gradually the blues went away and I began to remember what an extremely lucky fellow I am."

The reporter hoped that 27-year-old Christopher would not crumple under the effort of conversation. As he climbed out of his gray road uniform in the locker room, Russ looked like one of those starving prisoners being released from a German concentra-

tion camp. There's so little meat on his six-foot-four frame. He packs only 170 pounds. Seemed that any sudden gust of air would waft him away. His hair and brows, though a dull brown, provide an unexpected contrast to his somewhat pallid skin.

Why was this refugee from the prison-camp pictures such a lucky fellow?

"In the first place, I was unexpectedly lucky to start off with three straight wins this season," the right-hander said, "because I'm a hot-weather pitcher. I seldom have good control until the weather gets warm. Unless my arm is perspiring, I can't feel the location of the plate. It's hard to describe, but you just have to feel where the plate is. And you can't get the feel when your arm is cold."

Even more important is the fact that Russ is "lucky to be pitched" at all now. Seems that he pulled a ligament in his right elbow while flinging for Westchester, Wash., of the western International league in 1940. The elbow went bad again in '43 when he was with the Athletics, putting him on the bench for about two months.

Coach Earle Brucker experimented with Russ and decided that he might remain in baseball if he pitched side-arm instead of overhand. Russ, who had tried a few

side-arm slants in spring training, made the change under Brucker's supervision and survived. "Except for Brucker's savvy, I'd be out of baseball now," Christopher declares.

Lady luck also grinned at the scrawny Californian in this somewhat goody fashion. "Using the side arm, I developed a good sinker—a sinker I could throw with different speeds. But, a funny thing about that sinker, about once in five times it will take off—sail up—instead of going down. So, I never know exactly where it's going when I throw it. Under the circumstances, I'm mighty lucky to have any control of my best pitch; and I'm lucky also that the catcher can stop the sailer when he's expecting a sinker."

In addition, the doctors doubted the big fellow's ability to play ball—when he started back in '38—because of his "galloping heart." It beats too fast—like the ticker of Ray Sanders, Cardinals' first baseman. Christopher is a 4-F'er because of his heart. And speaking of hearts, Russ married his sweetheart, Virginia, about 18 months ago. She has become an ardent baseball fan. They now have a cozy little apartment in Philadelphia.

So—you can understand why big Russ considers himself the luckiest pitcher in baseball, regardless of yesterday's set-back.

Florida has approximately 22,000,000 acres of land adaptable for forest growth.

## Plaids

for GRADS—and for ALUMNI, too!

If you are a youngster planning a graduation outfit, or older and getting together a comfortable summer wardrobe, you'll want to look at these sport coats—fine woolsens, comfortably cut, in plaids, solids, herringbones, checks. Right colors! Slacks to blend or contrast.

## Sport Coats

12.95 to 18.95

Youths sizes, ages 10 to 18, and men's, in a full range of patterns.

## Slacks

6.95

to 13.95

For classroom, office, street or loafing time

## Leisure Coats 6.95 up

Most comfortable jacket ever made—and sharp looking, too. Choose one in a sober solid or gay two-tone . . . take your choice of cotton, wool blend or all wool . . . and you'll really enjoy your choice!

No Seventh Inning Stretch!  
**7th War Loan Buy A Bond!**



Men!—We Have 'Em

## Sport Shirts

Light cottons with short or long sleeves . . . dressy rayons in solid colors or plaid designs . . . fine light-weight all wool sport shirts. Comfort in the class you like best! Just stop and look 'em over.

2.49

to

8.95

## Summer Sweaters

New Columbiaknits in summer yellow, blue, green, brown, beige and white . . . fine all wool yarns in V-neck slipovers to match the season and make you feel just right.

4.95

and up

## Cloth Hats

Several styles, light, durable, smart, all sizes.

1.95 to 5.00

## Summer Felts

Fine felts in summer colors by Lee and Mallory.

5.00 to 8.50

## T-Shirts

Stripes and solids in these comfortable shirts.

1.00 to 1.95

# S & N Men's Shop

945 Wall St.

"We Dress the Town"

Bend, Oregon

## MILITARY



\$5.50

## CLASSIC

As interpreted by Fortune, the plain toe military blucher is a triumph of shoe designing. You'll like its sleek, simple lines and snug-fitting comfort. Stop by and try on a pair . . . after the first step you'll know that this is the shoe for your money. Step into a Fortune-dollar-for-dollar you can't buy better.

## FORTUNE

Shoes for Men

moody's men's wear

811 Wall

Phone 283