

# Skits and Scratches

By Fred Zimmerman  
Capital Journal Sports Editor

Some of the boys who are as strong for the Portland Beavers as the residents of the metropolis, sort of smelled a rat as they sat through Sunday's double bill out at the Vaughn street park of the "Lucky Beavers." Aforesaid rat was what they termed lack of pep, hustle and a tendency to rest on their heels and stay there regardless of what occurred. A losing ball club seldom looks good to its most ardent admirers and the Portland Beavers probably are no exception. It may be Bill Klepper's boys felt that their six and a half game lead was sufficient to permit a bit of coasting and of course, as a few suggest, there may have been a club house argument or two. But just let Marv Owen's club win a couple and all will be forgiven—until the next time.

Will softball become as popular in Salem within the next few years as it was during the time when state tournaments were drawing capacity throngs at Sweetland field? There's a possibility that it will, although facilities will have to be constructed and lights will be imperative. Softball as a recreational or playground activity can get along on a daylight basis, when the game becomes semi-professional as was the case during the height of the boom in Salem. It takes illumination to make it pay. Some of the local enthusiasts are not too strong for a softball park in Bush pasture, since it's a bit difficult to make an admission charge. However, it has been done as witness the setup at Corvallis where the program operates exclusively on a charge basis. In any event when the time comes to blueprint Bush park softball should have a representative sitting in on the conference of minds.

Associated Oil, the concern that has sponsored football broadcasts down through the years, has a film library too, although few people have heard about it. The films include motion pictures of such contests as the Shrine East-West game of 1945, Washington Redskins vs. Army All Stars and similar high spots of gridiron warfare. Promised for early release is a powerful, action-packed film of last season's slugfest between Army and Navy. These pictures are available for public showing and groups interested should contact local agents of Associated.

No more baseball camps at Bear Mountain in the Catskills or other spots north of the Mason-Dixon line and the boys who have difficulty in getting the old soup bones warmed up will cheer at the prospect of the resumption of their annual March sojourns in Florida, California and other climes where spring training is more to their liking. A few managers put out information that spring training was little different along the Hudson, in southern Indiana or Beaumont, Texas, but we have a hunch all will be perfectly satisfied to return to their old haunts.

# Beaver Slump Bears Watching

By Paul Wells  
(Associated Press Sports Writer)

With five weeks remaining in the Pacific Coast Baseball league season, the big question is whether the "old man" of the front-running Portland Beavers can stand the pace of a stretch drive.

For the first time this year the Beavers have shown signs of a genuine slump, having had to go all out to gain a 4-4 series split with the Oakland A's last week after dropping a 3-2 engagement with the second-place Seattle Rainiers. Tonight they open a home stand against the Los Angeles Angels which may prove whether their lineup of veterans is cracking.

Seattle, four and a half games off the pace, faces a tartar in the vastly-improved Oakland A's, who are battling to wind up in the first division and a chance at the governor's playoff pelf. The Rainiers edged the Angels 4-3 last week and are still definitely in the pennant race. Their skipper, Bill Skiff, forecast three weeks ago that they would displace the Beavers before the end of the season.

Portland's decline can be traced to the game more than a week ago in which Don Pulford, its star hurler, suffered a unique injury. In some manner he strained the shoulder of his pitching arm so that two fingers of his right hand were virtually paralyzed, impairing his effectiveness.

Both the Beavers and Rainiers play at home this week, after which they will go on the road for two weeks before concluding the season in two-week home series.

San Francisco, fighting to stave off Oakland's threat to its first division spot, tangles with the third-place Sacramento Solons this week.

# The Standings

National League	W	L	Pct.	American League	W	L	Pct.
Chicago	74	50	.595	Pittsburgh	61	58	.513
St. Louis	67	57	.540	Boston	54	65	.450
Brooklyn	61	51	.545	Cincinnati	54	56	.490
New York	63	54	.538	Philadelphia	54	51	.512
St. Louis	52	57	.476	Philadelphia	44	61	.418
Pittsburgh	51	53	.490	Cincinnati	44	59	.430
Brooklyn	47	57	.449	New York	44	59	.430
Chicago	44	59	.428	Philadelphia	35	74	.321
St. Louis	44	59	.428	Philadelphia	35	74	.321
Philadelphia	35	74	.321	Philadelphia	35	74	.321

# Major League Leaders

National League	American League
Batting—Holtzman, Boston, .387; Gavarras, Chicago, .365	Runs—Holtzman, Boston, 108
Runs batted in—Walker, St. Louis, 97	Home runs—Holtzman, Boston, 24
Home runs—Holtzman, Boston, 24	Workman, St. Louis, 21
Stolen bases—Schwendler, St. Louis, 21	Batted bases—Schwendler, St. Louis, 17
Pitching—Passau, Chicago, 14-4-178	W.P.A.—Chicago, 18-7-729
American League	Batting—Cuccinello, Chicago, .332; Case, Washington, .318
Runs—Sturwieser, New York, 74; Stephens, St. Louis, 71	Runs batted in—Pfen, New York, 75
Home runs—Stephens, St. Louis, 18	Binks, Washington, 71
Stolen bases—Myatt, Washington, 24	Case, Washington, 21
Case, Washington, 21	Pitching—Ferris, Boston, 10-8-760
Pitching—Ferris, Boston, 10-8-760	Newhouser, Detroit, 20-7-741

# SPORTS

6—Capital Journal, Salem, Ore., Tuesday, August 21, 1945

# Jeff Cravath Warns Trojans Will be Tough for All Comers

By Jack Lerner

Los Angeles, Aug. 20 (AP)—Ordinarily, when a football coach watches his team receipt for a seven touchdown pasting during the course of an afternoon scrimmage, you wouldn't expect him to be bubbling over with enthusiasm. But, not so with Jefferson Cravath, the far-famed University of Southern California grid boss.

Instead of reaching for the nearest Bromo-Seltzer, after his charges had visibly taken it on the chin at the expense of the behemoth Fourth air force squad, Cravath warned that his team would take a back seat to no one after the curtain rises on their 1945 season September 22.

"We're ragged now, but just wait. We may not be too hot in the first two or three games after the season starts next month, but after that we're going to be pretty tough for any college or service team to handle."

And the wily Jeff should know whereof he speaks, having held a monopoly on the Rose Bowl classic for the past two years, and looking forward eagerly to a third term.

The apple of Cravath's eye is rugged Jim Callanan, another one of the famous Callanan brothers of whom Jeff seems to have at least one per season. Captain Callanan looks like money in the bank, probably the best defensive end of the coast.

Jack Nichols, although a new hand at the grid game, promises to win the regular quarterback berth. The lanky ex-Washington University basketball ace, seems to handle the ball well and Cravath is confident that Nichols will develop into one of the better passers on the coast this year.

Others who will be reckoned with in the backfield department are Bobby Morris, left half, a strong finisher last season, and Ted Tannehill, a newcomer from Oroville, Calif., at right half. Cravath is counting on the duo for most of Troy's ball carrying chores.

Turning to the line, Jeff has a lot of beef but not too much experience.

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# Baseball Night Successful One

It was a perfect ending to a successful season, when champions of four divisions of Salem junior league baseball leagues were guests of the American Legion during Monday night's session of Capital Post No. 9.

Bill Klepper, business manager of the Portland Beavers, climaxed the party when he extended an open invitation to members of the four teams to be his guests for a Portland-Los Angeles game at the Vaughn street park next Saturday night. Klepper was accompanied to Salem by Billy Garbarino, attached to the Portland business office and well known in these parts. At least two of the teams that took part in the season's program had previously planned to take in a Portland ball game—Mayflower Milk and Clough-Barrick.

B. E. Owens, post commander, and Oliver Huston, chairman of athletic activities, were in charge of Monday night's program which included the presentation of blue jackets to members of the American Legion junior club. Ribbons were given members of the other three teams while trophies from Howard Maple's store were distributed. Special awards went to Roger Dasch, Ralph Hamrick and Bill Ready for their efforts with the bat.

Klepper complimented those responsible for the junior baseball program and spoke concerning the relationship between the Portland ball club and the recently purchased Salem Senators.

# Durocher Grabs Brown's Smokes

New York, Aug. 21 (AP)—Seventeen-year-old Tom Brown's first major league homer, the first hit into the upper deck of Brooklyn's left field stands this season, didn't even net him the usual reward—a carton of cigarettes.

After Brown hit the homer against the Pirates yesterday and returned to the dugout, he was presented with the cigarettes, given by the sponsors of a radio broadcast of the ball game.

Dodger Manager Leo Durocher promptly confiscated them. "Too young to smoke," he said.

# Dixon to Return To Oregon State

Corvallis, Ore., Aug. 21 (AP)—Lt. Cdr. James V. Dixon, former football line coach at Oregon State college, is ready for discharge from the navy and should be back on the campus shortly. Graduate Manager Percy Lacey said today.

Dixon is ready for discharge from the Georgia navy pre-flight school near Atlanta, where he has been in charge of athletic training programs. He has been on leave from his Oregon State job and has indicated a desire to rejoin the coaching staff in Corvallis, Lacey said. He has coached at OSC since his graduation in 1927.

# Babe Works With Borrowed Clubs

Lake Forest, Ill., Aug. 21 (AP)—The rest of the girls in the 45th women's western amateur golf tournament hoped today that favored Babe Didrikson Zaharias' missing golf clubs won't show up before Saturday.

Here was the picture as 32 qualifiers opened the first match-play round of a week-long battle for the nation's top (wartime vintage) feminine amateur title.

Mrs. Zaharias, perhaps the greatest woman athlete of all time, tackled Jean Hutton of Kansas City with a set of borrowed clubs and an unimpressive qualifying 80 to her credit.

Louise Suggs, 21-year-old star from Lithia Springs, Ga., carried a record-breaking medal score of 73 against Rena Nelson of Crystal Lake, Ill., and apparently was the class of the upper bracket.

# Newhouser Has 20th Victory

(By the Associated Press)

Hal Newhouser, Detroit's slender southpaw ace, is matching his torrid 1944 pace by becoming the first big leaguer to win 20 games in a sensational pitching spurt that may mean a flag for the Tigers.

Hank Greenberg's return has boosted the Bengals' hopes and Al Benton's hurling has taken up much of the slack caused by Dizzy Trout's back miseries but it's Mr. Newhouser who will make or break Steve O'Neill's world series plans.

A year ago Newhouser had the same 20-7 season victory record as today but Trout also had copped 20. The slim left-hander has won seven of his last nine starts. He dropped a 3-2 verdict to Chicago and was lifted for a pinchhitter in a game that eventually was lost in 12 innings.

Newhouser's 4-0 shutout of Philadelphia yesterday was his 20th triumph and the Tigers also needed Les Mueller's 4-1 job in the second game as Washington blanked the onrushing Cleveland Indians in both ends of a two-night doubleheader to stay within a game and a half of the lead.

Washington continues to threaten by the sounder method of employing two capable throwers per day. After Marino Pieretti shut the door on Cleveland's hopes, 7-0, Alex Carrasquel, making his third starting appearance, earned his 5th straight decision, 6-0.

New York Yankee morale should be on the upgrade with Red Ruffing and Charley Keller back in uniform and Joe DiMaggio reported on the way within 10 days, and the McCarthy clan responded with a spirited 4-run rally in the ninth to beat Chicago, 4-1.

The defending champion St. Louis Browns pulled through with a 10-6 margin over Boston

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# Airplane to Speed Athletic Travel

Portland, Aug. 21 (AP)—A new era in athletics where teams will be flown across country and even over the oceans for games was envisioned today by the University of Oregon's two outstanding coaches, G. A. "Tex" Oliver and Howard Hobson.

Both coaches are just returned from service coaching. Oliver to pick up the football chores where he left off three years ago and Hobson to resume his basketball duties.

Speaking to a Portland audience, they said plans are under way to fly football and basketball teams from the west coast to New York's Madison Square Garden, to Honolulu and probably eventually to British and European schools, which could be included in collegiate athletic schedules.

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