

Skits and Scratches

By Fred Zimmerman
Capital Journal Sports Editor

A story that is timely in view of the approaching Governor's cup series of the Pacific Coast league is contained in a release issued from the public relations department of the loop. While the release admits the yarn is nine years old, it has never reached the public eye. It has to do with the San Diego Padres who made a clean sweep of the 1937 play-off. "While men marveled at the achievement, which is embalmed and embossed in the memory of those who witnessed it, it was not until the recent league meeting in Oakland that Bill Starr revealed the real miracle of the triumph," the article states. "Mr. Starr, lest you forget, is the catcher with a broken leg, who despite this impediment, scaled the ladder to success to become the president of the club for which he once played at a stipend of \$350 per month. Bill was in the thick of the 1937 race.

"Bill avers that the Padres, when they started that play-off against Sacramento in the latter city, were the most demoralized baseball team in the land — something the fans had never suspected during all these years, because with their full strength they were a good club, and had set the pace a good part of the way. And it was a good club despite the fact that it was not built along authentic baseball architectural lines. Experts pointed the finger of derision at 'Hardpan' Bill Lane because seven of his regulars and one catcher were left hand hitters. Things happened, not all of them visible to the naked eye, and Bill says that at the moment of starting the play-off they were so demoralized mentally that the present day Germany and Japan by comparison would look like sound, well-ordered entities.

"The Padres, under Frank Shellenback, went out in front July 16, and stayed there until August 24. Meantime, injuries had shelved George Myatt, Cedric Durst and Jimmy Reese. The club lost a one-sided series to the Seals, and in the final week of the season lost to the last-place Missions two games to five. This left them reeling along Queer street. Not only that, but dropped them into third place and five games behind the leading Solons. Injuries alone didn't cause this slump. Evils of the bonus system proven even more lethal. Most of the San Diego pitchers were on a bonus basis — extra money if they won so many games. A month from the end of the season, 'Big Jim' Chaplin had won his bonus. The other pitchers hadn't. They were begging to work often, pitch out of turn. Under such conditions it is hard for a manager to refuse, even against his better judgment. Refusal might completely wreck the staff. Anyway, the club went into a fallop. The sum and substance of all this was that there was not even a simmer of esprit de corps on the club the day before they tackled the Solons in the play-off.

"Then, presto, on the night of September 22, they surprised themselves by defeating Tony Frietas, the best money pitcher in the league, and touched up 'Cotton' Phippen after routing Tony. Ted Williams, a gangling lad just out of high school, led the assault with a triple and three singles. Ted's titanic efforts in this opening game of the series seemed to rejuvenate the entire club and from there on we just seemed unbeatable. We were far more surprised than the public," Starr relates.

The Padres defeated the leading Solons four games straight in the opening round of the play-off, and then took four in a row from Portland in the finals. In the eight games the Padres did not make a change in pitchers — Chaplin, Dick Ward, Wally Herbert and Manny Salvo winning two games each without a quiver of an elbow, leaving such competent performers as Howard Craghead, Shellenback, Herman Pillette, "Junk" Walters and Berle Horne on the sidelines with never a chance to stick in their ears. The Padres packed away the series with half their regular infield on the bench. Skelly, little more than a sprite of a boy, substituted for Myatt at short, and Joe Berkowitz, a light-hitting utility man, replaced Jimmy Reese at second.

Seals Place In Play-off

(By the Associated Press)
The San Francisco Seals are "in" as far as the Pacific Coast league four-team Governor's cup play-offs are concerned. Lefty O'Doul's bay city club clinched fourth place last night by beating the Los Angeles Angels 4-1 as the Oakland Aorns were dropping a twin bill to the Hollywood Stars by identical 4-3 scores. The movietown doubleheader, scheduled to permit an open date tonight, left the Aorns and Stars with only three games to play and put the fifth spot Oakland outfit five and a half games behind the Seals.

One possible change can be made in the standings before the season ends Sunday. San Francisco, trailing Sacramento by a game and a half, has an outside chance to move into third ahead of the Solons. Sacramento was rained out at Portland last night, but will make up the lost contest in a double feature this evening.

Seattle's Rainiers, firmly entrenched in the runner-up position, trounced San Diego's Padres twice, 3-2 and 2-1. Joe Demoran, Seattle righthander, became the eighth pitcher in the league to enter the 20-game winner circle through his curtain raiser victory.

Demoran and Glenn Elliott, who tossed Seattle to its double victory over San Diego, met tough mound competition from two Padre rookies, Jerry Womack and Jerry Nelson. Womack gave up 11 hits to Demoran's seven in the 3-2 abbreviated curtain raiser, but two San Diego errors aided in Nelson's 2-1 nightcap downfall as the youth limited the Rainiers to six safeties compared to Elliott's 11.

San Diego..... 900 100 1-2 4
Seattle..... 900 210 2-1 11
Womack & Rainiers; Demoran & Finer
San Diego..... 000 100 0-0-1 11 2
Seattle..... 000 100 0-0-1 11 2
Nelson & Elliott; Elliott & Niemiller
Los Angeles..... 000 100 0-0-1 1 0
San Francisco..... 000 400 0-0-1 4 0
Lammers, Merkle (4); K. Hicks (4);
Sarril, Jansen & Orosowski
Oakland..... 000 000 3-3 7 0
Seattle..... 000 100 0-0-1 3 4 0
Croskovich & W. Raimondi; Kimball
& Hill
Cincinnati..... 200 000 0-0-1 3 2
Hollywood..... 000 000 0-0-1 4 5 1
Gilmore & Keane; LeGault, Marshall
(7); Intelester (1); Krause

The Standings

Pacific Coast League	W. L. Pct.
Portland	110 66 61.8
Oakland	89 81 48.4
San Diego	87 83 50.9
Sacramento	85 85 49.7
Los Angeles	84 86 49.2
San Francisco	83 87 48.7
Hollywood	71 100 30.4
Results Thursday	
Sacramento-Portland, rain	
San Francisco & Los Angeles 1	
Hollywood 4, Oakland 3-3	
Seattle 2, San Diego 2-1	
American League	W. L. Pct.
Detroit	90 56 61.5
Cleveland	70 50 58.3
Washington	65 55 54.2
Chicago	55 65 45.8
St. Louis	48 52 47.9
Boston	40 58 40.8
New York	35 53 39.8
Philadelphia	31 59 34.4
Results Thursday	
Detroit 1, Cleveland 4	
Washington 1, New York 4	
Philadelphia 6, Boston 2	
National League	W. L. Pct.
Chicago	91 65 58.5
New York	74 59 55.6
St. Louis	67 61 52.0
Boston	64 63 50.4
Brooklyn	60 65 47.9
Cincinnati	50 65 43.5
Philadelphia	44 69 38.9
Results Thursday	
Boston 3, Brooklyn 2	
St. Louis 2, Chicago 0	

Not a Sunday game was played and the four clubowners lost money, which recalls an incident of the series. The Padres took the Solons three straight in Sacramento, and the clubs moved to San Diego for the fourth game on Saturday night. Prior to the game Bill Lane overheard a hanger-on remark: "Well, this is one game the Padres will lose — they figure a capacity house for tomorrow, which is Sunday. If they win tonight, there won't be any Sunday game." The statement roused Lane to fighting pitch and he made the only pep talk of his career. He hobbled to the club house and told his players that this was one game they had to win if they never won another. And they won it by beating Tony Frietas a second time. The victory cost Lane around \$8,000 in gate receipts and concession profits as Sunday would have seen an overflow crowd.

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SPORTS

6—Capital Journal, Salem, Ore., Friday, Sept. 21, 1945

One Armed Pete Gray Believes His Major League Days Ended

By Jack Hand
New York, Sept. 21 (AP)—Pete Gray thinks this is his first and last year in the big leagues but is satisfied to have proved to himself that a one-armed man could play baseball in the majors.

Griffith Joins Club on Hunch

By Jack Cuddy
New York, Sept. 21 (AP)—Without benefit of spectacles, Clark Griffith's greenish-brown eyes blazed at the reporter as he said, "I'll win that pennant yet. Detroit has more games to play than we have—so Detroit has more games to lose—with a tired out pitching staff." Griffith, a sawed-off oldster with bristling gray brows and a mop of white hair, is president of the Washington Senators.

He will be 76 years old in November. Because of his age, he rarely travels with the club. But he came to New York yesterday "on a hunch" and he will stick with his club until it wins or loses the pennant. When a guy is approaching 76, and he is forced to watch his apple-eye club lose, 6-1, to the Yankees in a crucial game, one might expect to find Griffith with his feet in a pair of hot water, and with ice packs on his head. Such was not the case with Clark Griffith, when we bearded him in his hotel New Yorker room.

The reporter said, "Even if your club finishes second this year, will you be surprised at its remarkable showing?"

Griffith, of the brown-striped suit, marched up and down the room, then looked scornfully at the reporter and said, "I was disappointed last year when my club finished in last place. I believed that club would go to town, but it didn't for various reasons. Naturally, I am not surprised when that same club — with a few embellishments — does this season what I expected of it in 1944."

"My only surprise now will be if we do not win the pennant. I will be surprised because I know we have the best team in the American league. And we will win out because I have suddenly joined the club, on a hunch, to sit in on victory. Sure — I'll go with the club to Philadelphia — until this thing is fought out."

Softball Tourney Delayed by Rain

Cleveland, Sept. 21 (AP)—Officials of the world's softball championship tournament were hoping for a smile from the weather man today as the tourney advanced for a second time into the quarterfinal round of competition.

A downpour wiped out last night's schedule after the Toronto (Ont.) Crofton Girls bunched three hits in one inning to eliminate the Salt Lake City Shamrocks, 5 to 2, in an afternoon contest. The Shamrocks made four errors as a three-run fifth inning provided the margin of victory for the Croftons.

Red Birds Two Games in Rear

By Jack Hand
Detroit may back into the American league pennant by matching Washington loss for loss but the St. Louis Cardinals are taking care that Chicago will have to win the National league flag the hard way.

Harry (The Cat) Brecheen played with Charlie Grimm's dancing Bruins last night, shutting them out with only six hits, 2-0, for the Cardinals' 15th victory in 20 starts against the Cubs.

Relegated to the scrap heap of also rans after Hank Borowy turned them back in 10 innings Wednesday, the Red Birds again are only two games behind Chicago with eight to go. Two more with the leaders are slated next Tuesday and Wednesday after the Cards entertain Cincinnati twice while Chicago is at home to Pittsburgh for a three-game set.

St. Louis' three night games at Sportsman's park produced three kept pitching duels. Brecheen's decision over Ray (Pop) Prim was most important to Billy Southworth's tattered crew which would have been virtually eliminated, four games behind, if they hadn't won.

Despite Brecheen's fancy southpawing, it took sensational play engineered by Marty (Mr. Shortstop) Marion in the ninth inning to make it stick. Brecheen, the league leading pitcher, now has won his last six straight, allowing only a total of 29 hits in the six outings. He has gone the route 11 times in his last 12 starts.

Phil Cavarretta, Chicago's candidate for the league batting title, slammed his first hit of the series, a double in the ninth, while his average shrank to .350, only one point ahead of Boston's Tommy Holmes.

Both National league contenders are idle today with the only action a two-night doubleheader between Philadelphia and Brooklyn which dropped a 3-2 game to Boston yesterday. Washington missed a chance to go into a virtual tie for the lead and Detroit blew an opportunity to take a commanding lead when the two pennant scrappers dropped respective 6-1 decisions to New York and Cleveland. As a result Steve O'Neill's Bengals retained their one-game advantage.

Speed Not Heft, Oliver Reliance

Eugene, Ore., Sept. 21 (AP)—Speed instead of weight will be relied upon by Coach Tex Oliver whose University of Oregon squad meets Washington next week-end. The arrival of Tom Suefert, 200-pound tackle, from Long Beach, Calif., strengthened the squad to more than 60 men.

Corvallis, Ore., Sept. 21 (AP)—The Oregon State Beavers today continued practice sessions, preparing for their first game with Camp Beale nine days from now. Dick Gray and Don Lebechueh, from Portland's city champion Roosevelt high team, are new additions to Coach Lon Stiner's squad.

will be in charge of serving. A fall victory tournament is underway and contestants are asked to play 36 holes before November 4, when the annual meeting and dinner of the club will be held and awards given.

Trojans Rated Point Preference

Los Angeles, Sept. 21 (AP)—University of Southern California's grid giants were generally rated a seven-point preference over the lean University of California at Los Angeles Bruins for the initial battle of the Pacific Coast conference football season tonight at the coliseum.

Jeff Cravath's USC Trojans, defending champions, will outweigh their cross-city antagonists by 20 pounds per man on the forward wall.

Triple-threat man Veri Lillywhite, backfield boss of the favorites making their first appearance in major collegiate games, is pitted against the crafty veteran, Ernie Case, a portside passer.

Galloping Gaels In First Contest

Berkeley, Calif., Sept. 21 (AP)—St. Mary's Galloping Gaels, 2-1 to 1 underdogs, nevertheless envisioned themselves today as the team which will provide the first major grid upset of the season when they meet California's Golden Bears for the 31st time in Memorial stadium Saturday afternoon.

The outweighed Gaels count on their potent backfield punch, supplied by two transplanted Hawaiian stars, Herman Wedemeyer and Charles "Spike" Cordelero, to speed them to victory. The Bears, under their new coach, L. T. (Buck) Shaw, are an undetermined factor, but have promised something new in razzle-dazzle football with a combined "T" and double wing-back formation.

Aussie Teams to Tour U. S. in '46

Chicago, Sept. 21 (AP)—Commissioner Eimer Layden of the National Football league said today that arrangements are being made to bring Australian football teams to America next year to play a series of exhibition games with N.F.L. teams.

Present plans call for one or more Aussie teams to tour the country in 1946, playing N.F.L. teams from coast to coast. Layden said. The games would be part of the National league's training schedule before the pro teams opened their regular league season in the latter part of September.

Two Stroke Lead Held by Nelson

Spokane, Wash., Sept. 21 (AP)—Byron Nelson's two-stroke lead in the \$10,000 Esmeralda golf open goes on the firing line for 73 challengers in second-round play over the rolling Indian Canyon course here today.

Nelson, Toledo, O., umbrella salesman, blasted a six-under-par 66 through rain and hail squalls yesterday to pace gold-dom's greatest masters in the first 18 of a 72-hole medal tourney ending Sunday.

He was reported tournament-tired. But it didn't look like it. Close behind Nelson, winner of 17 tournaments this year, is 26-year-old Ed Furgon of Detroit, who posted a 68, and Jack Cane, newly-turned pro from San Bernardino, Calif., with 69.

Viks, Warriors Open Grid Play

Tentative Lineups
SALEM
30 Barlow
34 Houser
35 Chase
36 Nelson
37 Wiper
38 Bellinger
39 Daech
40 Ross
41 Ready
42 Cobb
43 Time—8 p.m.
Place—Sweetland field.

A contest that is rated fairly even insofar as weight and experience are concerned, will usher in the 1945 pigskin season on Sweetland field Friday night at 8 o'clock. Coach Tom Drynan's Vikings of Salem high and Coach Bud Page's Lebanon Warriors will collide at that hour. The tilt is being looked on as something of an experiment in both camps and it is entirely possible each coach will do a bit of shifting in his starting lineup during the four quarters of competition as well as next week when the real serious business of building for the season gets under way.

The little difference in weight that is in evidence on the rosters handed out by the coaches favors the Vikings. However, the North 14th street club is far from being an aggregation of heavyweights since Bob Wiper, a tackle and a junior, is the largest man in suit at 195. Bruce Rogers, the other tackle, weighs in at 190. Lebanon's pair of tackles, Baldwin and Davis, are 180 and 185 pounds, respectively. Jim Barlow and Allan Bellinger, starting flankers will have a considerable edge on their opponents. The middle of the Salem line, Houser, Chase and Nelson, will carry a little or no weight advantage.

The Viking backs, considered the best prospects in a number of years—Daech, Ross, Ready and Cobb—have one year of experience among the quartet.

The first law school in the U. S. was established in Litchfield, Conn., in 1784.

Hooker Invited To Beaver Party

Dallas—Sheriff T. B. Hooker, who has a record of having been in attendance at every opening game of the Portland Lucky Beavers baseball club for the past 25 years, received an invitation Wednesday to attend a banquet in their honor Monday night at the Multnomah hotel after their clinching of the 1945 Coast league pennant. Hooker will be the guest of Martin T. Pratt, Multnomah county sheriff. The banquet is to be given by the Portland Chamber of Commerce, with a feature of the evening being the presentation of a watch to each club member.

Foxx Will Turn Baking Salesman

Boston, Sept. 21 (AP)—Jimmy Foxx, one of baseball's greatest-all-time hitting stars, is going to hang up his uniform for good after he finishes the 1945 season with the Philadelphia Phillies, he said today.

Foxx, who came out of retirement to play during the war, said that he would become sales promotion manager of a Cambridge, Mass., baking concern and that among his new duties would be a 15-minute radio talk to the boys.

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