

Oak Boss Refuses to Wait, Buys Players in Flag Hope

By HAL WOOD
(United Press Staff Writer)
San Francisco, June 13 (AP)—The business of carrying three teams—one coming, one playing and one going—never has paid off in baseball circles in the past. However, President C. A. (Brick) Laws, of the Oakland A's, with a "show me" attitude, has got to see for himself. Laws is going all out to win another Pacific Coast league pennant. And he'll do it too—or know the reason why.

Right now his A's are one game out of second place and six out of first—but you at least have to give the man credit for trying. He hasn't been sticking around the second division with the same old players waiting for something to happen. Since the season started, Laws has kept the wires hot and his acquisitions include Dick Wakefield, George Metkovich and Earl Rapp for the outfield; Roy Zimmerman for the infield; Rafael Noble behind the plate; and

Pitchers Ernie Groth, George Bamberger and Hank Behrman. Laws' efforts may not win the 1950 pennant for the Oakland A's—but you'll at least have to admit that he is keeping them interested. "There isn't anyone in the Pacific Coast league who is going to outbid me for a player I want," boasts Laws. And up to now he has made that boast good. Even last year when all the majors were bidding for Jackie (Golden Boy) Jensen, the All-American footballer, Laws stepped in and signed him to a minor league contract.

The Oaks probably have the highest salary list in the PCL, including top pay for Manager Charley Dressen. Wakefield supposedly gets \$17,500 per season—or something like \$100 per day. Such fellows on the roster (who were big league names at one time) as Billy Herman, Cookie Lavette and Allen Gettel, don't work for small chips, either.

As a result of Laws' initiative, the Oaks have been playing to nearly-packed houses—and are one of the few teams in the loop this year to show an increase at the box office. The A's go on the road this week to San Diego, where they battle the Padres for the right to undisputed possession of second place. Meanwhile, the league-leading Hollywood Stars will be battling last-place Sacramento in the capital city; Portland invades San Francisco; and Los Angeles plays host to Seattle.



Winner's Cup Ben Hogan (left) receives the winner's trophy from James D. Standish, president of the U. Golf Association, after he won the National Open Golf Tournament at Ardmore, Pa. (Acme Telephoto)

Pancho Unhappy With Default Win For Pro Net Crown

Cleveland, June 13 (AP)—Little Pancho Segura, always a blithe, cheerful chap as he fought his way up through the ranks, finally reached the pinnacle of the pro tennis world today—and he was unhappy. "I no like to win this way," mourned the usually gay Ecuadorian. Pancho was sad because when the long-sought national professional tennis championship finally came to him in a glorious upset, his final round victory had to come through an unprecedented default by big Frank Kovacs of Oakland, Calif. It was a disappointing and unfair climax when Kovacs retired in the fourth set of their match yesterday with cramps in both knees. Pancho deserved much better—for this tourney saw him upset favorite Jack Kramer in the semi-final round and rise from the status of "preliminary boy" to a pro star. Segura was leading, 6-4, 1-6, 6-6, 4-4, when the match ended. "I didn't want it like this," said Segura. "I can beat Frankie. I'll play him tomorrow, next week, or any time he ready." But, after the injury-plagued Kovacs had collapsed for the third time during the match, the officials ruled that he was unable to continue. And the officials could not remember such

Pirates Dicker For Aging Gordon

Pittsburgh, June 13 (AP)—The Pittsburgh Pirates have been dicker with the Cleveland Indians to buy their aging second baseman, Joe Gordon. H. Roy Hamey, Pittsburgh's general manager, conceded this today. However, he said he "assumed" Cleveland did not want to let Gordon go. Cleveland's manager, Lou Boudreau, had "no comment" on the deal. "We have talked about Gordon with the Indians," Hamey told a reporter. "We haven't had any recent conversations on the subject. We certainly would like to have him." Gordon has had a puncheon season with the Indians. He's batting .229 and has hit five home runs, a low figure for him. He is 35 and is believed to be earning around \$35,000 this season. All American league teams would have to waive on Gordon to permit the Pirates to take him. A broken ankle in 1945 failed to hamper Lou Boudreau's batting in subsequent seasons. The Indian manager followed with marks between .284 and .355, hitting his high spot in 1948.

FAN FARE



Feller Soon to Join 200 Game Winners With Control

By HUGH FULLERTON, JR.
New York, June 13 (AP)—Some day soon, Bobby Feller will join the very select list of pitchers who have won 200 games. . . . If there hadn't been a war, he probably would be the 13th 300-game winner. . . . In the three seasons before he joined the navy, Bobby showed 24, 27 and 25 victories. . . . In his first full season after he came back—1946—he won 26. . . . It's more than reasonable to assume that Feller, at his fireball pitching peak, could have matched those figures, or at least collected 100 victories in those four seasons. . . . Especially against that weak wartime hitting. . . . It's difficult to think of Feller, the speed pitcher, as becoming a cagey veteran. . . . But he's nearly 32, and Marsh Samuels, the Indians' publicity man, points out that one of Bob's greatest assets now is his knack of making the batters foul off good pitches. . . . When he has control, he keeps them fouling until they finally swing at a bad one or let a good one go past—and there's another guy out.

Maxim Robinson Bout Plans Call For Title Stake

Chicago, June 13 (AP)—Light heavyweight champion Joey Maxim and welterweight king Ray Robinson may get together in a title bout if money matters can be worked out. Ted Brenner, former match-

maker for the International Boxing club's St. Nicholas arena in New York, has offered Maxim \$25,000 to defend his crown or the privilege of 40 per cent of the net gate. The bout may be staged either in Brooklyn's Ebbets field or in Jersey City's Roosevelt stadium. Robinson was offered 20 per cent of the net gate and his manager, George Gainford, already has accepted terms for the match. Brenner said "actually Maxim could get \$80,000 for the fight for it should do well over \$200,000." Gainford, who described Maxim as a boxer, not a puncher, estimated a \$250,000 gate and gave Robinson a good chance to win by a knockout. Maxim's manager, Jack Kearns, said he would be interested, but for more than the \$25,000 guarantee.

JUST A YOUNG MAN'S GAME

Dave Williams, three-time golf champion of Chicago's Medinah Club, will be 70 years old in August. . . . But he's serving his sixth term as handicap committee chairman to make sure the younger lads don't gang up on him. . . . Dave didn't take up golf until he was over 40, and entered his first tournament at 51. . . . He won his third club title at 64 and figures he's good for a few more attempts.

AN IM-POSITION

Some of the golf pros were exchanging hard luck tales at lunch during the open at Ardmore, and Skee Riegel related a series of hair-raising experiences with the slick greens. . . . "Oh, well, that's the course," he concluded. . . . Lloyd Mangrum needed gently: "Sure, that fine golfer. . . . Riegel put on a serious look and agreed: "It wasn't me. I always was in perfect position for a bogey or double bogey."

MATINEE

Washington's Al Ulbrickson will be competing against five of his former pupils in the Marietta regatta Saturday. James Junior Rogers, who pitched four no-hitters for Gurley, Ala., high this spring, has accepted a grant-in-aid from Georgia—as a footballer. . . . Hialeah's grass

Defending Elks Champ Wins Best Ball State Meet

Dick Yost, Oregon State college's No. 1 shotmaker who will meet Jack Owens of Lebanon Sunday over the Salem Golf course for the championship of the Salem Elks club tournament, won top honors in the Oregon best ball tourney Sunday in

Portland. Teamed up with Ron Clark of the University of Oregon, the pair fired a 10 under par 134 for the 36 holes. This was four holes below their nearest rivals—Dick Hansen of Coos Bay and Fred Davis, Portland Golf club. Bob Sederstrom and Jim Sheldon wound up with a 76-72—148, while Ray Farmer of Salem, paired off with Allan Crosson of Columbia for a 73-76—149.

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