



THE GUIDING HANDS of Coquille's baseball fortune caught with Coquille's Mayor Ray Jeub at the dedication ceremonies of Fortier Field at the opening of the 1949 season. Left to right, Bill (Home-Run Willie) Fortier, manager of the Coquille Loggers, Mayor Jeub and Jess Barton, Jr., manager of Coquille's Junior American Legion nine as well as assistant to Fortier. Barton returned to Coquille last week after a severe illness that sent him to the Veterans' hospital in Portland for several weeks. (Sentinel Photo)

Passing The BUCK

BY CHUCK PRITCHARD

"I went prepared to catch some big fish, all right; but when I saw what was cavorting around in the river, I just set my pole on one side and decided to watch!"

"That's the way Thomas F. Erwin of Coquille told it to us this morning when he stopped in the Sentinel office to ask us if whales in the Coquille river might be considered as news."

Seems as though Erwin, his son, M. B. (Burns) Erwin and brother-in-law, Frank Miller, all of Coquille, hid themselves to Bandon last Friday morning to see what,

if anything they might catch. The three fishermen located some five hundred feet inside the jetty on the South bank and tossed in their lines.

Tom Erwin was the first to notice the huge head that suddenly emerged from the depth much, as Tom so aptly stated, like a submarine breaching the surface. Then followed a long, curving body followed by a mammoth tail.

"I estimated the monster to be about thirty feet long," Erwin related. "But Frank thought it

would be closer to fifty. It seemed to be feeding and cruised around for about thirty minutes. Several times it was within fifty feet of where we stood. Never heard of a whale being seen in the river before, although some of the old-timers may know of such an occurrence."

Pressed for more details, we discovered that the whale's head dropped sharply in front, and that, in all probability it was a sperm whale, a species fairly common along the Oregon coast. Inquiries made about town elicited the information that as far as is known, whales have not been sighted in the river before although they do frequently venture into harbors up and down the coast. "At least," as Tallant Greenough, Coquille attorney, remarked this afternoon, "It is a newsworthy event."

Loggers Win One --- Lose One In Twin Holiday Baseball Games With Studs

Coquille's Logger baseball nine, beset by bad breaks throughout the first half of the 1949 Southwestern Oregon League season, split a pair of exhibition games with the powerful Central Point Studs at Coquille's Fortier Field Sunday and Monday, July 3rd and 4th.

The Loggers behind the three-hit pitching of Bud "Cocky" Brewer, captured the first game 4-1, and then proceeded to put on a ninth inning "comedy of errors" the following day to lose the game 9-5 after holding a three run lead most of the way.

Highlight of the Sunday encounter was the appearance of Paul Gehrman, one-time major leaguer with Washington and Cincinnati, on the mound for the Studs. Gehrman went into the game in the bottom half of the seventh inning and treated the fans to a rare exhibition of fine pitching.

Marchand, first Logger to face Gehrman, struck out, then Jack Fassett, Logger second baseman, dribbled a slow roller to the pitchers box and was thrown out at first.

Charlie McIntee, Logger third baseman, proved to be Gehrman's third victim of the inning as he stepped to the plate and swung viciously but unsuccessfully at three balls that whistled as they crossed the plate.

So went the inning and so went the rest of the game for the Logger swatters. Bob Douglas and Tommy Hawkins both struck out in the eighth, Coquille's final appearance at the plate, and Deb Sutphin, batting for Eddie Steinmetz, popped out to second.

Earlier in the day, the big bats of the Loggers had much better luck with the offerings of pitcher Cliff Piland who started for the Studs.

Dave Douglas, first man to face Piland in the bottom of the first inning, lined out a three-base hit to left-field and scored on Joe Marchand's long sacrifice fly.

In the third, a stinging double by Al Forkner, coupled with Jack Fassett's and Dave Douglas' walks, accounted for the second and third Coquille runs.

Again in the sixth, a single by Bob Douglas, a walk given to Eddie Steinmetz and a sacrifice by Hawkins brought in a Coquille run, the fourth and last.

Central Point scored their lone run of the game in the second inning, the result of a sharp double by first baseman Dumont and a single by right fielder Askwith.

The second game of the two-game series started out to be a Coquille riot as the Loggers scored

three runs on three doubles by Marchand, Fassett and McIntee in the first inning, and another pair scored in the fifth on a double by Marchand and singles by Dave Douglas and Fassett.

Central Point did close the gap somewhat in the third with two runs scoring on three singles, a walk, and a wild pitch which struck the batter, shortstop Cox; but the Loggers were still well on their way to victory until that fateful ninth inning.

The Studs came to bat with a three run deficit in that inning, but before Brewer struck out the last man, seven runs had crossed the plate on seven hits, and a free trip to first awarded catcher Gitzzen when he was hit by a pitched ball.

Buck Gilbert started the game for Coquille, was replaced by Brewer in the ninth and was charged with the loss.

Chester, starting pitcher for the Studs was replaced by Paul Gehrman in the sixth.

The Lineups*

FIRST GAME

Coquille	AB	R	H	PO	A	E
D. Douglas, 1b.	2	2	2	7	0	0
Forkner, ss	4	1	1	3	2	0
Marchand, lf	4	0	0	3	0	0
Fassett, 2d	2	0	0	1	2	1
McIntee, 3b	4	0	0	1	3	2
B. Douglas, cf	4	1	2	0	0	0
Steinmetz, rf	2	0	1	0	1	0
Hawkins, c	3	0	0	0	1	1
Brewer, p	3	0	0	0	1	1
Sutphin, rf	1	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	29	4	6	27	8	4

Central Point	AB	R	H	PO	A	E
Richmond, cf	2	0	0	0	0	0
Faucet, 2b	3	0	0	2	2	0
McDonald, 3b	3	0	0	0	2	0
Dumont, 1b	4	1	2	6	0	0
Adams, lf	4	0	0	9	0	1
Gitzzen, c	3	0	3	0	1	0
Askwith, rf	2	0	1	1	0	0
Cox, ss	3	0	0	1	2	0
Piland, p	2	0	0	0	0	0
Gehrman, p	1	0	0	0	1	0
Kutcher, cf	2	0	0	0	0	0
Hawford, 2b	0	0	0	0	0	0
Harkins, 3b	1	0	0	1	0	0
Chester, rf	1	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	31	1	3	24	7	2

SECOND GAME	AB	R	H	PO	A	E
Coquille						
D. Douglas, 1b.	5	0	1	9	1	0
Forkner, ss	4	2	1	3	3	0
Marchand, lf	4	2	2	0	0	0

Fassett, 2b	4	1	2	0	2	0
McIntee, 3b	4	0	1	0	1	1
B. Douglas, cf	3	0	0	5	0	0
Coleman, rf	2	0	0	0	0	0
Hawkins, c	4	0	0	8	1	0
Gilbert, p	3	0	0	0	0	0
Brewer, p	1	0	0	0	0	0
Johnson, 2b	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sutphin, rf	1	0	0	0	0	0
Salisbury, rf	1	0	0	2	0	0
Totals	36	5	7	27	8	1

Central Point	AB	R	H	PO	A	E
Stamman, 2b	4	1	1	1	4	1
McDonald, 3b	5	1	2	1	2	1



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