

# Major League Teams Start 1934 Pennant Quest With High Hopes

## PROSPEROUS YEAR SEEN BY MOGULS AFTER LEAN DAYS

### Player Shifts in National Circuit Make Difficulty for Guessers—Favor Solons to Repeat in American

By HERBERT W. BARKER  
(Associated Press Sports Writer.)  
NEW YORK, April 17.—(AP)—For the 39th time, the National league plunged into the opening of a new baseball season today and for the 50th time not one of the eight clubs would admit possibility of finishing last.

Forecast of clearing skies in the east and fair weather in the middle west indicated all four opening games would be played with a turnout of some 100,000 baseball-hungry fans who have spent a long, hard winter studying an unprecedented number of playing shifts which may turn the pennant race into a much more exciting free-for-all even than those of recent National league history.

Financial Recovery Hoped.  
Whatever the final outcome, President John Arnold expects and the owners as well confidently expected a real financial recovery after several lean years. Legalization of Sunday ball in Pennsylvania, the new and livelier ball and prospects of a close, hard-fought race right down to the finish in September, all figured to produce a heavier play at the turnstiles.

Expert opinion, given with considerable reputation after the shock of the New York Giants' flag-winning drive and subsequent series victory a year ago, was that at least five clubs must be figured now as contenders.

If the Giants failed to get the same brilliant pitching that was responsible for their amazing triumph of 1933, the experts selected the Chicago Cubs, bolstered by the acquisition of Chuck Klein; the Pittsburgh Pirates, St. Louis Cardinals and Boston Braves as potential pennant-winners, with the well-known "breaks" as the determining factor. The Brooklyn Dodgers, Phillies and Cincinnati Reds almost universally were tagged for the last three positions in pre-season forecasts.

Giants Open at Home.  
Some 35,000 fans were expected at the Polo grounds where the Giants opened their bid for another flag against the Klein-less Phillies, led by a new pilot, Jimmy Wilson. Bill Terry selected Carl Hubbell, southpaw hero of the world series, to oppose Ed Holley, big right-hander, on the mound.

Lesser crowds were in prospect for the other three get-away games—30,000 at Cincinnati, where the results Red, operating under the new ownership of Powell Crosley, Jr., and his associates, were to be unveiled with the Cubs as opposition; 10,000 at St. Louis for the Cardinal-Pirate tussle; and 25,000 at Brooklyn, where Casey Stengel's Dodgers faced the Braves.

By WILLIAM WEEKES  
(Associated Press Sports Writer.)  
CHICAGO, April 17.—(AP)—The American league joined in big time baseball's rousing opening chorus today, with no less than seven of the eight clubs harboring honest hopes of making pennant music next September.

Deprived by rain of opening the campaign under the presidential eye yesterday at Washington, Boston's new deal Red Sox and the champion Senators were in Boston today to start even with the rest of the league.

Expert opinion figures Washington to land the title again, with the New York Yankees and perhaps the Red Sox, furnishing the foremost opposition. Cleveland, Detroit and Chicago rank as lively possibilities. Owners, managers and followers of these six clubs have declared them in on the championship battle.

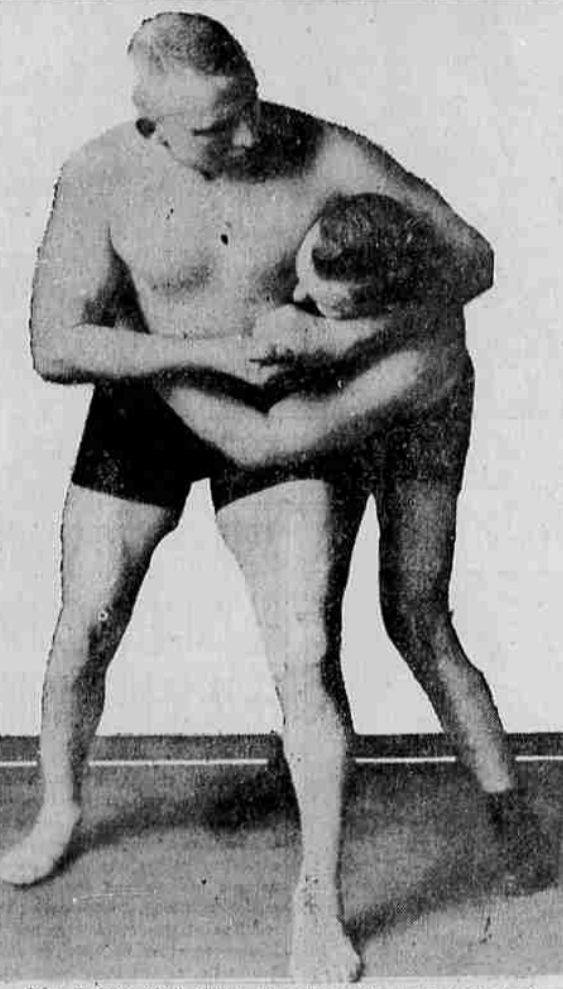
In interests of Jubilee—G. R. Carter, county clerk; Mr. and Mrs. Fred Colvig and Myrtle Blakely of Medford were visiting in Ashland Sunday. Mr. Carter is searching for saddle and driving horses for the Oregon Diamond Jubilee to be held in Medford in June, and was looking for suitable ones Sunday.—Ashland Tidings.

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## Freburg to Wrestle Kruse



John Freburg, giant Seattle bone crusher, is carded for a match with Bob Kruse at the armory here next Thursday. Freburg specializes in the headlock.

## ACHIU PINIONS REED FOR DECIDING FALL

PORTLAND, Ore., April 17.—(AP)—Walter Achiu, 160, Dayton, Ohio, took the deciding fall when Robin Reed, 158, Reedsport, missed a flying head

scissors and crashed to the floor in their wrestling match here last night. Two straight falls were awarded on fouls to Don Sugal, 160, Salem, against Cowboy Heinz, 161, Burns. Sailor Trout, 162, San Pedro, took two of three falls from Joe Kirk, 159, Boston.

Daughterly Calls Here—C. H. Daugherty, representing Seely & Company of Portland, was a business caller here yesterday.

## CEREMONIES MARK BEAVER, MISSIONS PORTLAND OPENING

PORTLAND, Ore., April 17.—(AP)—A festive air flourished here today as the sun poured ideal baseball weather on the ceremonial opening of Portland's 1934 home baseball season.

Jack Wilson, a Portland youth, will toss the ash for the Beaver-Ducks, who face Manager Gabby Street's mighty Missions. Bruce Cunningham is slated to pitch for the San Francisco team.

The day's schedule includes a parade, official welcome of the Portland players and a bit of ball handling by Governor Julius L. Meier and Mayor Joseph Carson of Portland. H. L. Baggerly, president of the Pacific Coast league, was here talking enthusiastically about baseball's expected comeback this season.

Walter McCredie, Portland manager again after years of separation from the club, expressed satisfaction with the development of the several of his young pitchers and rejoiced that Outfielder Bill Lawrence has recovered from an attack of the grippe.

With seven native Oregonians on the club roster interest in the team has intensified in many sections of the state.

Jack Wilson and Hal Turpin, two of the club's most effective pitchers so far this season, are from Portland and Yoncalla, respectively. Rudy Kallio, pitcher and coach, is another native Portland player. Andy Peterson of McMinnville will take his regular turn on the mound henceforth. Bob Hutchens of Klamath Falls is another Oregon bred pitcher.

Charles Haug of Hillsboro is alternate catcher and Bob Garetson of Portland is alternate first sacker.

## ANNA M. PUHL FILES SUIT FOR DIVORCE

Anna M. Puhl yesterday filed suit for divorce against Fred Puhl, seeking \$25 per month, one-third interest in property rights and \$2000. Cruel and inhuman treatment are the allegations upon which the suit is based. The couple were married November 18, 1933. Puhl is well known resident of the Central Point district.

Crash Injury Fatal  
PORTLAND, Ore., April 17.—(AP)—William Martin, 23, of Portland, injured in an automobile accident near Taft, Lincoln county, late Saturday, died in a hospital here today.

## BABE SAYS LEGS GOOD FOR ANOTHER SEASON

By BOB CAVAGNARO  
Associated Press Sports Writer.

NEW YORK, April 17.—(AP)—After all, this season—his 21st—may not be Babe Ruth's last in the big leagues as an active ball player.

The boisterous Babe said so himself today in his best baritone. "There's nothing wrong with my batting eye or my batting. Hell, didn't I lead the boys during the training season? Red Holfe gave me a close race, but I nosed him out in the last game with Brooklyn.

"Unless my legs crumple under me, I'll not only play in more than 100 games, but I'll be in there next year, too. Of course a lot depends on what Col. Ruppert has to say, but if we both have a good year, why there shouldn't be any contract trouble."

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## BOY BALL PLAYERS ASKED TO TURN OUT

All boys interested in baseball are invited to the Jackson school grounds Thursday night for the next practice of the American Legion Junior team.

practice for both teams, which will then be ready to accept outside challenges.

The practice Thursday night will begin at 5 o'clock and a good turnout is anticipated.

Vacationed at Camp—Mr. and Mrs. George Tucker of Medford and Mr. and Mrs. Homer Wakefield and daughter of this city spent the week-end at Camp of the Woods at Wilderville.—Grants Pass Courier.

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