

# The Sporting Page

## LEAGUE-LEADING CRATERS HOP TO CRESCENT SUNDAY

### Lowell Brown to Face Lefty Koll in Southpaw Duel—Medford Bats at .402 Clip — Erickson Leader

A southpaw pitching "battle of the century" will be staged at Crescent City Sunday afternoon when Medford's league-leading Craters clash with the Crescent City Merchants in a crucial Southern Oregon league encounter. The battle starts at 2:30.

Lowell Brown, big Medford first baseman with the explosive curve and sizzling fast ball, will start his first ball game on the mound this year. Opposing him will be Lefty Mike Koll, brilliant Crescent City southpaw who pitched the coast team to the pennant last season, and in his first start last Sunday held Glendale to four hits in chalking up a 3 to 2 victory.

Medford holds the circuit's top spot with two wins and no losses, while Crescent City, Ashland, Glendale and Grants Pass are bunched in a tie for second place with one victory and one defeat. Yreka has exclusive rights to the cellar with no wins in two starts. Other league games Sunday

will see Glendale traveling to Ashland and Grants Pass entertaining Yreka.

Manager Wally Rickert of the Craters plans to start Tommy White on first base, in Brown's position, and probably Billy Calvert in left field. However, Calvert and Russ Acheson will alternate. Remainder of the heavy-hitting Craters will line up with Cliff McLean catching, Manager Rickert on second, Dick Lewis at short, Arba Ager on third, Dick Sakralda in center field and Paul "Hoosier" Hoffard in right. Bill Rathke and Ray Erickson will be reserve hurlers.

Team batting averages released today by League Secretary Austin Frazier reveal one reason why the Craters are leading the circuit—an almost unbelievable hitting percentage of .402. Included in Medford's 33 hits in 82 times at bat are two homers, two triples and 11 doubles.

Ray Erickson, Crater pitcher, is the nominal league batting leader with three hits in four trips for a .750 average, although Avery, Glendale second baseman, is the actual pacesetter with five blows in seven attempts for a .714 average. Secretary Frazier said individual league batting averages would be released following next Sunday's games.

Team batting and individual Medford averages follow:

Team	AB.	R.	H.	Ave.
Medford	82	23	33	.402
Grants Pass	70	11	20	.286
Glendale	82	6	18	.242
Yreka	87	4	18	.239
Ashland	78	13	18	.237
Crescent City	72	8	12	.167

Crater Batting Averages	AB.	R.	H.	Ave.
Erickson	4	2	3	.750
Sakralda	8	2	5	.625
McLean	10	3	6	.600
Rickert	8	4	4	.500
White	2	1	1	.500

## Bobby Demonstrates



Bobby Chick (above) apparently has an opponent in a bad way, a situation he will attempt to develop with Floyd Britt next Monday night when they meet in the middle event at the armory. Bobby is former light heavyweight champion of the world.

Lewis	10	1	4	400
Acheson	5	2	2	400
Hoffard	9	3	3	333
Brown	8	1	2	250
Calvert	4	1	1	250
Rathke	4	1	1	250
Ager	6	1	1	167
Piche	3	1	0	000
Harrington	1	0	0	000

## SECRET AND RED LYONS TANGLE IN MAIN EVENT AT ARMORY MONDAY

With two straight wins to his credit, southern Oregon wrestling's man of mystery—the masked Black Secret—will receive his toughest test Monday night in the armory when he faces Red Lyons, Joplin Ghost, in the main event of Impresario Mack Lillard's weekly offering of legalized mayhem.

Following his defeat three weeks ago by Junior Heavyweight Champion Duke Chick, the hooded demon unleashed a brutal attack that brought him decisive victories over Sgt. Bob Kenaston and Tony "Pooh" "Em Up" Garibaldi, and the consensus among local grappling fans is that the mysterious villain is becoming a tougher nut to crack with each succeeding match.

Red Lyons catapulted himself into a main event role last Monday by handling Bobby Chick one of the ex-light heavyweight champs' worst defeats, and with the grappling multitude clamoring for a Secret-Lyons embroglio, Lillard went to work and set their names on the dotted line. The brawl is expected to prove one of the most sensational of the year.

## BEND AND GRANT FAVORED IN MEET

CORVALLIS, May 20.—Bend, the defending champion, and Grant of Portland were the favorites today to win the team title at the 12th annual state interscholastic track and field meet.

Preliminaries will be held today on Bell field with the finals tomorrow afternoon.

More than 200 athletes from the eight state districts will compete. Clear, warm skies guaranteed fair weather conditions for the prospects of record-breaking performances in a number of events.

Grant's 16-man team, the largest in the meet, was ranked a shade ahead of Bend, Washington of Portland figured as a darkhorse contender with an eight-man squad.

## Sport Graphs

Billy Hulen says:

### Sport Arbiters Greater Heroes Than Athletes

There are heroes and heroes in the world of sports, but for our money the most valorous in the whole business is the guy who stays in there



Billy Hulen

pitching although the bleacher wolves are howling for his neck and the athletes are threatening to commit nothing short of mayhem and murder. We mean the umpire, referee, official, "blind tom," or whatever his title may be at the moment, depending on what sort of a contest he is supposed to be overseeing.

You can have your gent who knocks homers with the bases loaded, runs 90 yards on the kickoff or wallops an opponent into oblivion in the squared circle. We'll take the citizen who practically takes his life in his hands to call 'em as he sees 'em, who never pleases everyone at the same time and whose every action is all wrong, to one side or the other.

Take Earl Yoakley, for instance, the lanky referee whose job it is to keep law and order in Promoter Mack Lillard's wrestling arena, and keep a couple of huskies out of the laps of ringside patrons. Earl is probably as good a referee as any in the smaller grappling circles, but to hear the bleacher wolves yelp (they are still bleacher wolves whether they park in the bleachers, galleries or ringside reserved seats), he is the ultimate in mediocrity. Nothing he does is right, to the wolves who are backing the wrestler penalized, and even when he does render a popular decision he gets no thanks for it.

It was practically the same with Ray Friable, the grappling referee who preceded Yoakley. Ray received more than his share of catcalls and abuse from the wolves, and especially in Klamath Falls was he no friend of the gallery and ringside customers. Like Yoakley, Friable stood in there and did his darndest, paying little

attention to the patrons and their howling.

While wrestling audiences are probably the most violent vocally, your baseball bug is not far behind. Already this season, several umpires have received for neat verbal beatings on close decisions, and Lew Miles, big Medford "man in blue," even got a wild round-house swung at him in the league opener at Ashland two weeks ago, but by a ball player. And, that brings up another phase of an umpire's decided bravery—he not only has to face the crowd's angry outbursts, but is liable to get tangled up with an aroused athlete now and then.

In the Grants Pass-Medford ball game here last Sunday, both Miles and Phil Griggs, Grants Pass' contribution to the umpiring situation, were the targets of considerable beefing on the part of fans and players. Grants Pass' dyed-in-the-wool, who had accompanied their club to Medford, raved and ranted over the calling of balls and strikes, and Miles wasn't alone in being the cause. They even tongue-lashed Griggs.

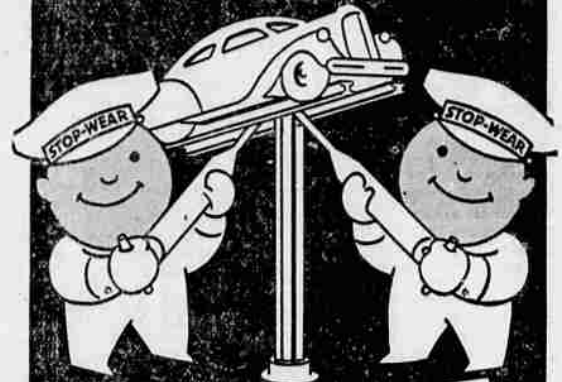
As per usual, Al Drolette, Grants Pass first baseman, wore a path from the bench to the plate to squabble with both ball-and-strike umpires, and Jake Clipp, another Grants Pass "ump-batter," gave Ancient Al plenty of moral support. In Ashland, two weeks ago, Clyde Young, the Lithians' own umpire, took an awful verbal beating from the stands and from players of Manager Balding's team, and with the Craters giving him many dirty looks, it was a rough day in every respect.

We want it clearly understood that this little piece isn't a slap on the wrist to naughty sport fans who abuse the poor, dear umpire or referee. Maybe they need a good, vociferous lambasting now and then, and it's a cinch ball games and wrestling matches would be pretty dull affairs if fans were forbade yelling "You blind roofer," and such. That's the inherent right of the American sporting public—to fire the works at anybody even remotely connected with the game—and far be it from this scribbler to deny them that right. In fact, when fans get sufficiently heated up to sling their word-barbed arrows, you can be certain they are enjoying the contest to the fullest extent, and that means sport enthusiasm is red-hot, which is what everybody prays for.

Nope, this outburst is neither in defense nor to accuse, either the officials or the fans and players. It is merely our own private opinion as to who are the real heroes in the world of sports. May those "blind robbers" enjoy long and happy lives, successfully duck all pop bottles heaved at their heads, and keep right on "calling them fast and walking away tough," as the dean of umpires, George Moriarty, once advised young umpires to do.

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