

Ronnie Lee, Former Medford Dodger, Does Well With Montreal As a Relief Pitcher

An article in this week's "Sporting News" about Ronnie Lee, former Medford Dodger pitcher and now with Montreal in the class AAA International league, is published here with the permission of the magazine.

By LLOYD MCGOWAN
Montreal, Que.—Around here they call Ronald Leroy Lee the "Little General." Some of the more imaginative scribes have labeled him in rather glowing tribute "The Joe Page of the International league."

Like Page of the Yanks, Ronnie is a southpaw and a specialist. He has made a dignified and productive vocation of saving games, sometimes those that appear to be irretrievably lost.

Although "General" Lee hadn't started any of the 59 games played by the Royals up to June 21, he showed the best record on the club with six games won, two on the debit line.

Never Told Long
Indicative of his effectiveness was the fact that he had never been tolled as much as five innings in any of the 23 games in which he had appeared. Indeed, only twice did he work as many as four. In a total of 42 innings on the knoll, he had yielded 47 hits and struck out 20 batters.

Plagued by pitching ills and injuries from the start, mainly to Bob Milliken and Lowm, Manager Walter Alston credited Ronnie and Al Epperly, the latter his right-handed reliever, with holding the club at the top until it plunged into the second division in June after nine defeats in a line.

Every club in the league had lapped young Lee through those 22 contests. The less they see of him in the future, the better they will like it, no doubt.

During one stretch of duress, when Alston knew no serenity at all, Lee appeared in four straight games on as many days or nights. Although only 21 years old, Ronnie was always ready, and never complained of arm soreness, for which his manager was duly thankful.

Lee Removed Twice
Only three times did Alston find it necessary to remove Lee for other than strategic reasons and he cured more of Wally's headaches than a pound of aspirin.

Lee appeared on the scene here as a complete stranger toward the end of the 1949 schedule. Clay Hopper, then piloting the Royals, was plenty worried about making a playoff spot. He needed pitching help—and he needed it quickly.

Buzzie Bavasi, the club's G. M. appealed to Fresno Thompson, the Brooklyn farm foreman. Fresno consulted the records of the Dodger teams in the lesser leagues and spotted Lee, then with Newport News. The cherub had copped 13 games and lost but nine with a last-placer in the Piedmont league.

Lee's stout efforts in relief roles immediately made him popular with Royal fandom. He made the difference between a finish in third and fourth place with an 0.56 earned-run average. The Royals went on to win the Governor's cup.

Ronnie A. Californian
Ronnie is a Californian. He was born at San Diego on April 25, 1929. Howie Hank, a Coastal birdhog for the Dodgers, spied him on the corner lots at Los Angeles in 1947 and he was sent to Santa Barbara to finish the season. In 14 games, he won three and lost four.

After winning three and dropping two in 1948, he was transferred to Medford, Ore., in the Far West league, where he copped 12 and lost four. The next season found him at Newport News, where his 13-9 record earned him his chance with the Royals.

The Little General isn't exactly a vest-pocket edition, although he has been something of a charm or talisman for the Royals. He stands an inch under six feet, tips the beam at 175. He bats right-handed, if that is any matter.

Alston says that Lee is an

SPORTS

Special Night To Honor English, McKinney Set

Clarence English and E. E. "Mac" McKinney, two of the more ardent baseball enthusiasts in the Rogue valley in recent years, will be honored by the baseball fraternity Saturday night, August 12, during the Medford-Willows Far West league game at Medford.

This was decided last night

Harper Cops PGA Honors

Columbus, O., June 28.—(U.P.) Chandler Harper of Portsmouth, Va., a son of wealthy parents who turned golf pro only because he didn't like match play tournaments as an amateur, retained the greatest match play championship in the world for the state of Virginia today as the new P.G.A. titleholder.

A 4 and 3 winner over husky Henry Williams Jr. of Secane, Pa., in the finals yesterday, the 36-year-old Virginian succeeded his boyhood rival, Sam Snead, as cock of the walk in the exclusive fraternity for veteran golf professionals.

It was his first major title and along the tournament trail where he is only a frequent visitor the pros will tell you that Harper didn't win more often because he was lean but never hungry.

Mostly he played for the fun and didn't need the money in the lean and hungry tradition of the Sneads, the Ben Hognans, the Byron Nelsons and other great P.G.A. champions of the past.

Rogue Snowmen Set Sunday Trip

All members of the Rogue Snowmen ski club are invited to attend the last ski trip to be held for the 1949 and 1950 season Sunday, July 2. Through the co-operation of the Crater Lake National park service the club will ski on the northwest slope of Watchman peak.

Members today were advised that skiing is good only in the morning and that the tow will operate from 8 to 11 a.m. only.

Following the ski, a picnic will be held at the Union Creek camping area with food and refreshments furnished by the club. All interested members must contact the food committee by Friday, June 30, if they plan to attend the picnic. They may call 2-7503 or 2-2717.

BASEBALL

LEADING BATSMEN
AMERICAN LEAGUE
Player, club AB R H Pct.
Kell, Detroit 248 54 92 .370
Doherty, Cleveland 198 42 72 .364
Evers, Detroit 215 43 76 .354
Drops, Boston 228 40 79 .347
Woodling, New York 155 28 52 .335

NATIONAL LEAGUE
Robinson, Brooklyn 225 48 83 .369
Musial, St. Louis 214 53 78 .353
Snyder, Brooklyn 238 56 88 .336
Wyzanski, Cincinnati 214 27 72 .336
Slaughter, St. Louis 239 43 80 .335

ideal relief pitcher because he has good control of his curve, which is adequate. He has an average fast ball, but best of all, perhaps, plenty under the letters and abundant confidence.

"He hasn't faced a batter yet that he thought he couldn't chase back to the dugout," said the Royal skipper.

Since Ronnie Lee is Dodger-owned, and quickly moving up the ladder, it isn't exactly outside the bounds of possibility that the "Joe Page of the Int" might sometime become the "Joe Page" or the "Southpaw Ted Wilks" of the National league.

Rogues Drop To Willows; Browns Lose

By United Press
The Redding entry in the Far West league still has a comfortable lead of five games on the rest of the pack—but they would not be doing quite so well if a fellow named Joe Angel had his way.

Angel, who pitches for the Pittsburg Diamonds, has won six games this season. Exactly half of those victories have been chalked up at the expense of Redding.

Last night he whipped the club—but good—by a score of 11 to 2. Outfielder Lou Cook led the Diamond attack with four singles in five trips to the plate. Manager Ray Perry of Redding got his 21st homer of the season.

Reno Silver Sox edged up in the standings by scoring six runs in the last two innings to trim Klamath Falls 7 to 6. Reno, last place for the early part of the season, now is in sixth.

Dick Shafer got two hits, drove in three runs and scored one as Marysville trimmed Eugene, 6 to 1; and the Willows Cards, from their deep cellar position, clubbed Medford, 10-3, in a battle of home runs.

Jack Cooney and Don Williams hit for the circuit for of losers and Bob Hayes and Jim Nelson duplicated for the winners.

Robinson Due August Bout

New York, June 28.—(U.P.)—Influenced by Commissioner Abe J. Greene of the National Boxing association, welterweight Champion Ray Robinson was under contract today for a charity defense of his title against blonde Charlie Fusari at the Jersey City ball park, August 7.

Greene, New Jersey's one-man commission as well as commissioner of the N.B.A., is sponsoring the 15-round bout for which Robinson will receive but one dollar.

The rest of his purse will be donated to the Damon Runyon cancer fund.

Shrine Hospital Grid Game Slated August 26

Portland, Ore., June 28.—Committee members are shooting for a capacity crowd when the Oregon All-Stars and Portland All-Stars meeting the third annual Shrine's hospital football game here at Multnomah stadium Saturday night, August 26.

Plans for the annual gridiron battle are under way with the announcement by James J. Richardson, managing director, of the formal acceptance of invitations by all players and coaches.

Local Youths Go Ahead In Golf Tourney

Portland, Ore., June 28.—(U.P.) Ed Oldfield and Justin Smith, both of Medford, eliminated Ron Christensen and Ray Langston, respectively, both of Portland, in yesterday's match play in the annual Oregon State junior golf championships at the Alderwood Country club.

Oldfield stopped Christensen, 6 and 4, in the junior division, and Smith beat Langston, 3 and 2, in the boys' division.

In the women's division, Barbara Snook of Portland set back Gail Whitfield of Vancouver, Wash., 8 and 6.

In the lower bracket juniors' match, Phil Getchell of Medford had a 6 and 5 over Mike Rei of Portland, while Longview's Chuck Mersching walloped Bill McAllister of Medford, 7 and 5.

In the boys' division also, Bob Shepherd, Medford, defeated Harry Ott, Portland, 3 and 1.

In today's race, Oldfield meets Shanks, and Holdridge plays Bruce Cudd of Portland.

Pee Wee Ball Due Tonight

Baseball games scheduled tonight in the Pee Wee league will send Central Point to Medford, Jacksonville to Ashland, Eagle Point to Talent and Phoenix will draw a bye, according to the original schedule.

Two games are played at each town with one composed of boys 12 years old and younger and the other team made up of youths 15 years old and younger. The Junior games start at 6:30 and consist of three innings while the older boys' game will run six innings.

In the only Monday games reported to The Mail Tribune, the Phoenix juniors defeated Eagle Point 7 to 4 and the older youths walloped the Eagle Point nine 19 to 5.

Scores Yesterday

FAR WEST LEAGUE
Marysville 6, Eugene 1
Willows 10, MEDFORD 3
Reno 7, Klamath Falls 8
Pittsburg 11, Redding 2

PACIFIC COAST LEAGUE
Seattle 12, San Diego 4
Sacramento 13, Portland 2
San Francisco 7, Los Angeles 2
Oakland 5, Hollywood 4

AMERICAN LEAGUE
Boston 7, Philadelphia 3 (11 innings)
Detroit 3, Chicago 3
Washington 4, New York 3 (12 innings)
St. Louis 4, Cleveland 3

NATIONAL LEAGUE
St. Louis 3-4, Chicago 2-1
New York 10, Brooklyn 3
Cincinnati 8, Pittsburgh 3
Philadelphia 3, Boston 2

WESTERN INTERNATIONAL
Tri City 13, Wenatchee 2
Victoria 9, Tacoma 2
Yakima 6, Salem 3
Spokane at Vancouver, postponed, rain.

Wenatchee, Wash., June 28.—(U.P.)—The Wenatchee Chiefs of the Western International league today announced the outright release of Outfielder Al Drew.

STANDINGS



FAR WEST LEAGUE	W	L	Pct.	GBL.
Redding	45	19	.703	—
Klamath Falls	39	23	.629	3
Pittsburg	31	32	.492	13 1/2
MEDFORD	28	32	.467	16
Marysville	26	33	.441	18 1/2
Reno	27	35	.433	17
Eugene	26	34	.433	17
Willows	23	37	.383	20

PACIFIC COAST LEAGUE	W	L	Pct.	GBL.
Hollywood	56	34	.622	—
Oakland	52	36	.591	1
San Diego	49	43	.533	3
San Francisco	44	49	.489	12
PORTLAND	42	44	.488	12
Seattle	42	47	.472	13 1/2
Los Angeles	40	51	.440	18 1/2
Sacramento	34	58	.370	24

AMERICAN LEAGUE	W	L	Pct.	GBL.
Detroit	42	19	.689	—
New York	39	25	.609	4 1/2
Cleveland	36	27	.571	7
Boston	37	30	.552	8
Washington	29	34	.460	14
Chicago	27	36	.429	16
Philadelphia	27	31	.464	15 1/2
St. Louis	21	40	.344	21

NATIONAL LEAGUE	W	L	Pct.	GBL.
Philadelphia	55	24	.693	—
St. Louis	38	28	.576	7
Brooklyn	34	24	.586	1 1/2
Boston	32	24	.571	3 1/2
New York	30	29	.508	5
Chicago	29	29	.500	5 1/2
Pittsburgh	22	39	.361	14
Cincinnati	20	40	.333	15 1/2

NW Golf Play Results Here

Vancouver, B. C., June 28.—(U.P.)—A bumper crop of Americans survived the qualifying round of the Pacific Northwest Golf association tournament. But it remained for a young Canadian, Bill Mawhinney of Vancouver, to lead the way today.

Despite a heavy rain, Mawhinney turned in a five-under-par 67 at Capilano golf course to win the qualifying round with 136 for the 36 holes. He was three strokes ahead of Al Mengert, Spokane, who carded a 67 yesterday to finish with 139.

In the women's division, meanwhile, seven Americans survived the first round with Seattle's Pat Lesser shooting the day's best golf to down Mrs. Louise A. Hansen, Gearhart, Ore., 7 and 6. Eighteen-year-old Pat was four-under-par when her match ended on the 12th hole.

Miss Grace DeMoss, Corvallis, Ore., defeated Mrs. Gilbert Garnett, Vancouver, B.C., 7 and 5.

Semi-Pro Champ Game Slated This Evening

Forest Grove, Ore., June 28.—(U.P.)—Gaston and McMinnville will meet here tonight in finals play to determine the northwest Oregon district semi-pro baseball champion.

Gaston shut out Banks, last year's champion, by a 3-0 count

Wimbledon Net Results

Wimbledon, Eng., June 28.—(U.P.)—Third-seeded Doris Hart of Jacksonville, Fla., and fourth-seeded Patricia Canning Todd of La Jolla, Cal., swept into the women's singles third round of the Wimbledon tennis championships today with easy victories over European opponents.

Miss Hart, the French champion who is the betting favorite to win the women's title, breezed past Bibbi Sanden of Sweden 6-1, 6-0; Mrs. Todd trounced Miss L. M. Cornell of Britain, 6-1, 6-2.

Nancy Morrison of Palm Beach, Fla., lost to Mrs. Betty Hilton Harrison of England, sixth-seeded, 6-3, 7-5.

Budge Patty of Los Angeles and Tony Trabert of Cincinnati, O., won in men's doubles over last night, while McMinnville edged Forest Grove 2-1.

Forest Grove and Banks play for the consolation title in tonight's other game.

Elk Lake Road Opened; Road Via Bend Closed

Bend, Ore., June 28.—(U.P.)—Myron H. Symons, operator of the mile-high Elk Lake lodge, said today the road to the resort should be cleared of snow sometime this week, but that the road to the lake has been opened through drifted snow.

The south Century drive is open but the north approach to Elk Lake, via Bend, still is blocked by snow.

John Horn and J. E. Barrett of Britain, 6-4, 6-4, 8-6.

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