

SPORTS

Central Point Gains Medford Softball Loop Toga; Mobilgas Third

The regular schedule of the girls' softball league concludes Thursday at the Medford senior high stadium with the Crater Babes facing Central Point at 7:30 p.m. and Eagle Point meeting Butte Falls.

Central Point today held the Medford Softball association championship and on Thursday

Baseball Films At Y Thursday; Public Welcome

The first two in a series of four baseball instructional films will be shown at the YMCA Thursday at 11:15 a.m., it was announced today by Bob Jones, "Y" secretary. Anyone interested in seeing the films is invited, Jones said.

The films, of 20 minutes duration each, are "Pitching Stars," showing methods used by major leaguers, and "Umpires in Baseball," showing techniques in umpiring.

The films are being obtained through cooperation of the local YMCA and the Brooklyn Dodgers baseball team of the National League.

Wenatchee Shortstop Suffers Broken Leg

An injury, two insults and a big inning featured play Tuesday night in the Western International League.

The injury happened to Wenatchee Shortstop Ernie Velasquez, who broke his left leg when he collided with Len Tran of Vancouver on a play at second base. Vancouver took the ball game at Vancouver 5-4 on John Ritchey's pinch single in the ninth which drove home the winning tally.

The two insults weren't verbal, of course, but they occurred at Kennewick and Victoria. At Kennewick, the Lewiston Broncs routed Tri-City 17-4 and at Victoria the Victoria Tyees trounced the Yakima Bears 17-13.

Standings

COAST LEAGUE	W.	L.	Pct.	G.B.
Oakland	73	55	.570	
Hollywood	72	55	.567	1 1/2
San Diego	71	56	.559	1 1/2
Portland	64	62	.508	8 1/2
Los Angeles	65	64	.504	8 1/2
Seattle	61	62	.496	9 1/2
San Francisco	54	74	.422	19
Sacramento	48	80	.375	25

AMERICAN LEAGUE	W.	L.	Pct.	G.B.
New York	63	43	.594	
Cleveland	59	47	.557	4
Boston	55	48	.534	5 1/2
Washington	54	49	.524	7 1/2
Philadelphia	51	48	.515	8 1/2
Chicago	54	52	.509	9
St. Louis	44	63	.411	18 1/2
Detroit	36	68	.346	26

NATIONAL LEAGUE	W.	L.	Pct.	G.B.
Brooklyn	66	31	.680	
New York	61	37	.622	5 1/2
St. Louis	59	44	.570	10
Philadelphia	54	47	.535	14
Chicago	51	51	.500	17 1/2
Boston	42	58	.420	25 1/2
Cincinnati	43	61	.413	28 1/2
Pittsburgh	30	77	.280	41

WESTERN INTERNATIONAL	W.	L.	Pct.	G.B.
Victoria	71	35	.670	
Spokane	61	49	.554	12
Vancouver	53	48	.525	15 1/2
Salem	52	54	.490	19
Lewiston	52	56	.482	20
Yakima	49	61	.445	24
Tri-City	45	60	.429	25 1/2
Wenatchee	44	63	.411	27 1/2

Strong tidal currents prevent the deposition of mud and sand in the bottom of the Golden Gate at San Francisco.

Padre Crew Closes Gap On Leaders

San Francisco — (U.P.) — While Hollywood and Oakland made like Alphonse and Gaston, the San Diego Padres are brazenly trying to regain command of the Pacific Coast league.

Lefty O'Doul's bordertown band was given up for lost a month ago when it slipped out of first place. But because Hollywood and Oakland seem allergic to the lead, the Pads are once more a prominent factor in the race for the flag.

Oakland was stopped, 1-0, by Portland and Red Adam's seven-hitter Tuesday night. And Les Peden's two-tally homer got Los Angeles a 3-2 victory over Hollywood.

Seals Beaten
Third-place San Diego, meanwhile, knocked over the San Francisco Seals, 4-1, to get within a game and a half of Oakland's top spot. For O'Doul, who managed the Seals for 17 years, the victory was his 17th in 22 engagements with his former employers. The unwilling Seals, more than any other team, are keeping O'Doul's Padres in contention.

A homer by Nanny Fernandez and two doubles by Catcher Bob Wilson led Seattle to a 7-3 win from last-place Sacramento. About 800 saw the game.

Sloppy Play Hurts
Portland got five hits off starter Roger Bowman and none off relief hurler Milo Candini. But wildness and sloppy play cost the Oaks the game.

The Bevs scored in the fourth when Eddie Barr shot a single to right, was bunted to second, moved to third on Bowman's wild pitch, and romped home as shortstop Johnny Bero bobbled Jim Russell's grounder.

Hollywood had a 2-1 lead in the fourth, but Peden, a good hitter, changed that. After Max West doubled the thick-legged Angel catcher unloaded the payoff four-master that got Los Angeles its second straight from the Stars.

THE LINESCORES:
San Diego 010 300 000—4 7 0
Los Angeles 100 200 000—3 8 1
Queen and Sandick; Chandler and Peden.

Seattle 010 001 041—7 11 1
Sacramento 010 000 002—3 9 2
Del Duce Schanz (8) and Wilson; Elliott, Falica (9) and Smith, McKeegan (9).

Oakland 000 000 000—0 1 1
Portland 000 100 000—1 5 0
Bowman, Candini (7) and Noble; Adams and Gladd.

Hollywood 001 100 000—2 7 2
Los Angeles 100 200 000—3 8 1
Queen and Sandick; Chandler and Peden.

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Bobby Shantz Chucks 20th Win; Giants Nudge Dodgers in 15th

By UNITED PRESS

The astonishing New York Giants, who wrote the "little miracle" in 1951, appeared fully equipped Wednesday to battle the Dodgers down the National league stretch run and add a "big miracle" as a spectacular post-script to one of the most heart-warming stories in sports history.

They proved that Tuesday night when they came from behind four times to defeat the Dodgers 7 to 6, in a grueling, spectacular five-hour struggle

which opened their make-or-break series with the league leaders.

Shocked when Gil Hodges exploded a grand-slam homer to put Brooklyn in front 4 to 0, they battled back to tie the score and send the game into extra innings. The Dodgers surged ahead in the 14th on a homer by Andy Pafko but Bob Elliott pinch-hit a homer with two out in the bottom of the 14th to tie it again.

Curfew Law
With the New York curfew law proclaiming the 15th to be

the last inning, the Dodgers again went ahead when they pushed over a run.

Bobby Hoffman doubled with one out. Henry Thompson flied out and the Giants had one out left to them.

Rookie Jim Rhodes hit a routine grounder to Jackie Robinson but the second-baseman muffed it. The Giants had life. Bobby Thompson, the hero of '51, then tied the score with a single. Don Mueller, next up, hit a chopper over the mound and beat it out for a single as Rhodes scored all the way from second base with the winning run.

The Dodgers still led the NL by 5 1/2 games but what is that to a team that was 13 1/2 games behind at about this time a year ago? It appears to be a lot on paper but the Dodgers know it is a slender margin as long as the Giant have that one out left to them.

Center of Stage
Except for those Giants, little Bobby Shantz would occupy center stage alone today. For the 142-pound southpaw stylist became the major league's first 20-game winner of the season when he beat the Red Sox 5 to 3, for the Athletics in a rain-soaked game Tuesday night.

Shantz, who now has beaten every team in the AL at least once, struck out four and limited the Red Sox to seven hits.

In other American league games, the Yankees beat the Senators 3 to 2, the Browns downed the Tigers 5 to 1, and the Indians beat the White Sox 6 to 0 in their opener only to drop the nightcap, 6 to 3.

In the National league, the Cardinals beat the Pirates 4 to 3 in 12 innings and the Reds defeated the Cubs 4 to 0. Philadelphia and Boston were rained out.

Number 20 Comes Hard, Hurler Says

Philadelphia—(U.P.)—Number 20 was the hardest.

The little fellow said so himself. And who is better to judge? Bitsy Bobby Shantz, the first major league pitcher of the year to win 20 games, sprawled on his stool in the dressing room and looked back at Tuesday night's 5-3 conquest of the Boston Red Sox.

It was the first time he faced the Red Sox this season, and in winning his sixth victory in a row he completed the cycle of beating every American league team this year.

Rain Delays
He took stock of two hours and 29 minutes of ball, with a rain delay of one hour and 11 minutes in the first inning, and decided that it was the lack of his knuckler which gave him his bad moments as he pitched his 21st complete game in 23 starts. He's lost three games.

"I didn't have a good knuckler all night," the 130-pound mound magician said. "I couldn't get it over the plate, and boy, that made it rough."

"This was the one I was worrying about, too," Bobby said, dwarfed by big Bobo Newsum, who was explaining to everyone within earshot that Shantz was just as "mah-v'luss" a pitcher anyone ever saw.

BASEBALL

TUESDAY'S RESULTS
Coast League
Los Angeles 3, Hollywood 2
Portland 1, Oakland 0
San Diego 4, San Francisco 1
Seattle 7, Sacramento 3

American League
Philadelphia 5, Boston 3
New York 3, Washington 2 (called at the end of 7 innings, rain)

Other qualifiers and their scores included Roy Wiggins, Portland, 146; Lynn Creason, Hershey, Pa., 148; Harold Weston, Portland, 147; Ralph Dichter, Astoria, 147; Verne Perry Jr., Portland, 147; Dick Estey, Portland, 148, and George Beecher, Medford, 148.

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Sport Parade

By OSCAR FRALEY
United Press
Sports Writer

Helsinki — (U.P.) — American athletes waiting to fly home from the Olympic Games took a turn at Finnish baseball Tuesday and the general agreement was that Yankee Stadium was never like this.

Two deductions may be drawn by anyone who watches "P esapallo," as the game is known to the sluggers of Suomi.

1. It will never replace fire house pinocchio.

2. Pitchers like Allie Reynolds and Company would need unemployment relief if they lived in Finland.

Like A's and Browns
Because the Finnish game is based on a theory of all hits-all runs and in general is regarded as a wonder contest if it resembles a Browns-Athletic game when the pitchers are having a day. A horrible thought, certainly, to the American mind. But such a thing as a pitchers battle is impossible.

This is mainly due to the fact that the pitcher stands beside the batter and lobs the ball into the air much as a fungo hitter. He then steps swiftly aside so the batter can swing. Pitchers who have two left feet do not become 10-year men.

For when a guy is knocked out of the box here, Bub, they ain't kidding.

American baseball did not seem worth while to be adopted, explained an official of the Finnish Baseball league, completely ignoring the feelings of Commissioner Ford Frick.

"The cornerstone of American baseball is pitching," he added. "No Finn could get fascinated or even reconciled to a game of no-hit, no-run play. We want more running, more hitting and more fielding so our players can demonstrate their ability."

Naturally, with this theory, the Finns wouldn't give 15 Finn

marks for a Bob Feller. But a guy like Willie Keeler probably would wind up as a bigger man than Paavo Nurmi.

Finnish baseball didn't really get started until 1947 and so there are still some vague phases. The rule book, for instance, insists on use of the "official ball," but admits that there are two distinct sizes of "official ball." This probably takes care of one for the home team and one for the visitors.

The diamond has its problems too. A base runner must make like Red Grange doing a Roy Riegels because first base is halfway to what would be our third, second is where our first base is located and third base is where it ought to be even in Finland. The traffic when somebody singles with a man on third is like Helsinki's main drag on Saturday night.

Rules Sound Same
The official rule book sounds, however, much like ours. It outlines that a "coach shall be permitted to direct discreetly the playing of his team from neutral ground." Which will be good news to Leo Durocher. But it adds that "uncalled use of the voice during the game is forbidden." So you can scratch one ex-Flatbush flat top.

As a matter of fact, you can scratch most of the Americans. We're off to root for the Dodgers, Rodgers.

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St. Louis 5, Detroit 1
Cleveland 6, Chicago 0 (1st)
Chicago 6, Cleveland 3 (2nd)
New York 7, Brooklyn 6 (15 innings)
St. Louis 4, Pittsburgh 3 (12 innings)
Cincinnati 4, Chicago 0
Philadelphia at Boston 2 (postponed, rain).

Western International
Vancouver 5, Wenatchee 4
Victoria 17, Yakima 13
Spokane 8, Salem 6
Lewiston 17, Tri-City 4

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