

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

SPORTS

Indian Baseball Officials Believe Pat Simmons Has Great Future on Diamond

(Editor's note: The writer of this article concerning Baseball Pat Simmons is a former sports editor of the Mail Tribune.)

BY HANK GREEN
Walla Walla Union Bulletin
Telegraph Editor

Kennecott, Wash. (Special to Mail Tribune)—Spokane Baseball club officials believe Pat Simmons of Eagle Point is going places and the Oregonian himself shows possibilities as he gets into games now and then with the Western International league club.

Simmons is used mostly as a pinchhitter these days now that the Spokane Indians have an experienced infield, but the youth who played baseball for Eagle Point high school and also with the Medford junior league club still gets his share of hits.

The other night he came to bat with three men on base and one out with his teammates behind 4 to 0. He slapped the third pitch over the second baseman's head for a single and two runs.

Survives Squad Cut

The 20-year-old youth early in the season played regularly at second base or shortstop for the Indians and later when needed even caught and played in the outfield.

A Spokane club spokesman said "We kept Simmons on with us after we were required to cut our squad. That shows how much we think of him and his possibilities."

Simmons himself is mighty pleased to work with the Spokane manager, Don Osborn, and his teammates. The Oregon youth said all of them have been of great help to him in learning more about baseball. As he summed it up, "They are great fellows."

The former Eagle Point high athlete is well-liked by teammates who classify him as one who wants to do anything he can to learn more about baseball. One player said Simmons "would carry the water bucket for us" if it would help learn more about the game.

Back Next Season

Simmons expects to be back with Spokane another season, possibly playing second base in

1953 in place of Jim Brown whom some believe is headed for AAA baseball in another year.

The Oregon boy said Manager Osborn has indicated he wants Simmons to play winter baseball in Florida after the current WIL season is concluded. Last winter Simmons played semi-pro baseball and basketball in California and also coached some boys in the latter sport.

As of late last week the ex-Medford Junior Legion player was batting around .264, somewhat of a drop from earlier averages. He seems to be both-ered by the fact he isn't playing each day, even though he gets in daily batting and fielding practice.

Other Clubs Offer

Simmons told the writer recently that he had been offered regular playing jobs if he joined another WIL club. It is reported Tri-City and Yakima had offered him berths. But the Spokane club wants to hold onto him and Simmons isn't kicking a bit.

A talk with players and officials connected with the Indians about the southern Oregon youth brings such remarks as "willing to learn," "hard worker" and "loves the game."

For a fellow only a few years out of high school and with only part of two seasons before now in pro baseball, Simmons appears ready from an age standpoint, at least, to have plenty of chances to rise higher in professional baseball.

The Eagle Pointer played part of last season with Bisbee, Ariz., before being taken sick with a glandular disease last year.

QUEENS WIN AGAIN

Portland—(U.P.)—The Phoenix, Ariz., Queens needed 11 innings to do it but the world's champion girls' softball team finally edged out the Lind Florists of Portland, 4-3, at the Vaughn street ballpark here Friday night. It was the fourth victory in five games against the Florists for the Queens and came at the expense of the Portland ace hurler, Betty Evans Grayson. The teams meet in a doubleheader Saturday night.

Donny Hood Paces Local Auto Racers

Donny Hood, Grants Pass, paced Rogue valley drivers Friday night as eight of them won places in the hardtop auto races at the Jackson County speedway at the posse grounds here.

Hood nabbed the third heat and was fourth in the trophy romp.

The big honors went to Frank Danley and Mack Maggard, Sacramento, and Bill Robinson, Yreka.

New Record

Danley and Maggard shared the limelight in the main event and time trials. In the major race of the evening, Danley rode home first and Maggard was second. Maggard established a new track mark of 21.58 seconds in the time runs and Danley was just a shade slower with 21.59.

Lou Smith, Medford, had third best time, 21.73.

Danley also roared across the finish line first in the fourth heat. Robinson won the first heat, the trophy dash and the semi-main. Maggard was victor in the final heat. Dick Johnson, Sacramento, won the other heat race.

In the main race Bob Wright, Yreka, hit a cattle guard in front of the stands but he continued the race and came in fifth. A hospital check up showed a bruised shoulder. Woody Thomason, Yreka, lost a wheel in the main.

Fence Pounded

The fence took an awful pounding during the program. In the first heat Dave Hinds, Medford, lost a wheel and hit the fence on the west turn. Bob Clark and Lee Bowers, Medford, and Bernie Miller, Grants Pass, went through the fence in the second heat, necessitating repairs. Bowers rolled over and Bob Clark spun, went off track, came back on and plowed into Dick Patterson.

Elvin Root rolled over in the third heat.

There were 34 cars entered, with 21 drivers from the Rogue valley.

Races are planned for next Friday with time trials to start an hour earlier at 7 p.m.

RESULTS:

First Heat—Bill Robinson, Yreka, first; Mack Maggard, Sacramento, second; Bob Wright, Yreka, third.

Second Heat—Dick Johnson, Sacramento, first; Bernie Miller, Grants Pass, second; Louis Kurz, Medford, third.

Third Heat—Donny Hood, Grants Pass, first; Andy Bergman, Yreka, second; Don Newman, Medford, third.

Fourth Heat—Frank Danley, Sacramento, first; Don Moore, Yreka, second; Roger Steele, Medford, third.

Trophy Dash—Robinson, first; Danley, second; Johnson, third; Hood fourth.

Final Heat—Maggard, first; Miller, second; Moore third.

Semi-Main—Robinson, first; Miller, second; Fred Whaley, Medford, third; Eldon Nelson, Medford, fourth; Steele, fifth.

Main—Danley, first; Maggard, second; Jenkins, third; Miller, fourth; Wright, fifth.



PATROLS OUTFIELD—Moose Blevins, above, has been a Medford Cheney Studs mainstay this season after a year in professional ball. He'll be seen in left field today when the Studs mix with the Bandon Millers in the final home appearance of the Medfordites.

Victoria Tyeys Thump Yakima

By United Press

Victoria's victorious Tyeys scored five runs in the seventh frame Friday night to wallop the Yakima Bears 9-4 and retain a ten game lead over the pack in the Western International league.

In other Friday night games, Spokane walked away with a 5-1 decision over Salem. Tri-City dropped a heart-breaker to Lewiston, and cellar-dwelling Wenatchee powered its way to an 8-5 win over Vancouver.

Victoria's big inning came off Ken Wright, who made his final appearance for Yakima before being inducted into the army. It was "Benny Wright Night" in the Bears home town, but the hero of the affair bumped into trouble and blew a 4-2 lead.

Warrenton Out Of ABC Scramble

Portland—(U.P.)—Tongue Point Navy rallied in the final inning for three runs here Friday night to down Warrenton, 4-3, in another round of the state American Baseball congress tournament.

The loss eliminated Warrenton from the double-elimination play.

Steinfeld's of Portland became the tourney's first winner of two games by shutting out Norgan's Beavers, 1-0, in the nightcap of the double-header evening.

Philadelphia Duo Sets Pace Among Big League Hurlers

By United Press

Robust Robin Roberts, who has muscles he still hasn't discovered, and skinny Bobby Shantz, who could panhandle a meal on any corner, were almost certain Saturday to give Philadelphia a monopoly on top pitching honors in the majors this season.

And the smart guys right now were betting that Roberts, the late starter, would wind up with more victories than Shantz. Both came through with triumphs Friday night.

Gets No. 19

Roberts topped the pace-setting Brooklyn Dodgers, 8 to 3, on seven hits for his 19th win against six losses, while Shantz, despite a "bad night" outlasted the Senators, 11 to 7, although yielding 14 hits for his 21st win against four defeats. Roberts has beaten Brooklyn four straight times this season.

Roberts, whose work against Brooklyn in Ebbets Field is phenomenal, scored his ninth victory there against a lone defeat for his career.

Control Flawless

As usual, his control was almost flawless. He walked only

Contrary to popular opinion, the most important factor in the preservation of Egyptian mummies was the unusually dry climate of the Nile area and the absence of bacteria in the sand and the air.

one batter and was backed up by lusty long distance hitting as Eddie Waitkus, Del Ennis, and Connie Ryan hit Philly homers.

The Brooks gained their runs on homers by Gil Hodges, his 26th, and George Shuba.

Stagg Celebrates 90th Birthday; Hits Proselyting

San Francisco—(U.P.)—A young fellow named Amos Alonzo Stagg, celebrating his 90th birthday Saturday and preparing for his 63rd coaching campaign, cautioned the nation's major colleges against professionalizing school football.

"Football can be played—and played well—by the average student body without proselyting," said the famed "grand old man" of the game. "There should be no high-power recruiting programs to get prep school athletes to go to this college or that university."

"In my day it was a privilege to go to college. Young students shouldn't be coaxed to get a higher education. They should still consider it a privilege."

Still in remarkably fine physical condition for a man of his age, Stagg was the honored guest at a huge birthday party staged by the San Francisco Touchdown Club Friday with 400 members present.

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Studs Encounter Millers Today In Semi-Professional Final Here

The curtain will drop today on the final act of the semi-pro baseball season in Medford.

Medford's Cheney Studs will make their last appearance of 1952 at the fairgrounds ball park. Their finale at the home park is expected to provide one of the best games in league contention at the fairgrounds.

The Studs will take on the Bandon Millers at 2 p.m. in the second tilt of a two-game Southwestern Oregon league series.

First brush was here last night. Outcome is rated a toss-up.

Bandon and Medford split in a series earlier in the year, the Millers winning one fray 7 to 5 and Medford the other 8 to 4. The Millers, boasting some of the top pitching and hitting in the circuit, came to Medford after gaining a series split last weekend with league leading Drain.

Medford has lost four times to the league heading Black Sox.

Liska Heads Staff

Heading the Bandon hurling staff is able Ad Liska, submarine chucker and veteran of many years with the Portland Beavers. Bill Hanauka, semi-pro vet in Oregon, is another pitching mainstay and the staff is rounded out by Bailey Brem, who tossed for Oregon State college last spring.

Catcher Bill Burgher paces the Millers in hitting with a rousing .406.

Medford went into the series last night tied for second place in the league with Coos Bay and needing one more victory to gain the season end play-offs at North Bend. Bandon held fourth spot a game behind Medford and Coos Bay.

The Shaughnessy among the four top teams of the league is set for Labor day week-end. Medford winds up its regular season at Coos Bay next week.

BASEBALL

FRIDAY'S RESULTS:

Coast League
Oakland 11, Los Angeles 1
Portland 2, Seattle 1
San Diego 9, Sacramento 1
San Francisco 9, Hollywood 5

National League
Boston 4, New York 3 (1st, twilight)
New York 3, Boston 1 (2nd, night)
Philadelphia 8, Brooklyn 3 (night)
St. Louis 5, Pittsburgh 4 (night)
(Only games scheduled)

American League
Boston 3, New York 2 (night)
Philadelphia 11, Washington 7 (night)
Cleveland 7, St. Louis 6 (12 innings, night)
(Only games scheduled)

Western International
Spokane 5, Salem 1
Lewiston 3, Tri-City 2
Victoria 9, Yakima 5
Wenatchee 8, Vancouver 5

OREGON GALS LOSE

Bremerton, Wash.—(U.P.)—The Dalles, Oregon state women's softball champions, dropped a 1-0 heartbreaker here Friday night to Montlake Terrace of Seattle in the opening round of the Northwest Regional Softball tournament. Donna Lee hurled a one-hitter for The Dalles, but failed to get the necessary batting support from her teammates. The Dalles, however, remained in the tourney because a team must suffer two losses to be eliminated.

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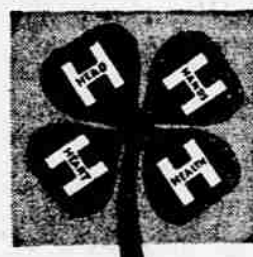
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