

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE SPORTS

Sport Parade



By
OSCAR FRALEY
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Sports Writer

New York — (U.P.) — The kid knows today that he has made it all the way back.



Oscar Fraley

There were many times when Ted Williams had his doubts. Not whether he ever would play baseball again, but whether he'd be "lucky enough" to come back from Korea in one piece.

"Why not?" he asked with calm fatalism when he marched away early last year. "You expect to be killed. So many are."

He hit a home run a couple of days ago, his first in more than 15 frantic months. But by then, he tells his friends, he knew that he would be ready to step back regularly into the lineup of the Boston Red Sox as early as this coming week end.

His was a swift transition, from Marine captain to ball player in less than two weeks. It was a period of trial, too, but not as bad as it might have been because Williams always was a man proud of his physical fitness.

"My hands gave me the most trouble," he said. "They were sore and blistered from swinging a bat."

The kid, as always, kept winking. And, to help the hands, he obtained a half dozen golf gloves from Claude Harmon of Winged Foot Country Club.

When the bare hands were too sore, he wore the gloves. Through it all, the kid kept smiling.

Because tall Ted knows how lucky he has been. Twice his brilliant baseball career has been interrupted by his country's call. The first time he was out three years. Williams saw no combat then but was an instructor and when he came home he knew, at 27, that he still had time to make the demanding baseball grade.

But when they called him again in May of 1952, the 34-year-old Williams figured his diamond career was ended.

"If I miss more than two seasons, I don't imagine I'll play baseball again," he said.

There were times later, in the skies over Korea, that he thought his worst fears were to be realized. Like the day on his third mission in a Panther jet fighter-bomber when he made his strike and suddenly the plane was in flames.

Ted nursed it all the way back to the Allied lines and crash landed it on its belly. Undemonstrative, he writes that one off as a "hairy" experience.

He had other troubles, such as pneumonia and, always, those nagging doubts that he'd ever make it home, let alone back to baseball.

But he did and, as one Indian pitcher at least can testify, with all that old power in his bat. Now he is ready to go again as a regular, and the future looks bright.



GRAND OLD MAN—That's Amos Alonzo Stagg, shown in Stockton, Calif., where he will celebrate his 91st birthday Aug. 16. Stagg has spent 63 of those years coaching football.

The Grange

Eagle Point Grange H.E.C. met July 29 at the home of Lotie Van Scoy with Ida Kent as co-hostess. Mrs. Walker and Mrs. Dusenberry of Gold Hill, and Mrs. Edington of Live Oak Grange were guests.

A committee appointed to finish the quilt whose top was donated by Crete Carnall included Rosa Smith, Gertrude Stanley and Winnie Brown.

Roberta Hill announced that the display table for the first meeting in August would be on favorite jam and jelly recipes and perhaps a sample of the finished product shown. The second meeting's display table would be on something that can be made from old sheets.

Goldie Chamberlain stated she needs some one to knit afghans for the veterans at Camp White. Next meeting will be a pot-luck picnic at Sunset on the Rogue, August 26, starting at noon. Anyone going should take two main dishes, coffee will be served.

Desperate Pair Seeks To Sell Eye Apiece To Aid Ailing Son

Tacoma — (U.P.) — Mr. and Mrs. Dean Booth, broke and desperate, offered today to sell an eye apiece in exchange for ready cash to pay medical expenses for their young son.

The curly-haired youngster, Randy Booth, 4, dying of lymphatic leukemia, told his nurse "If God can't make me well, I'm going to heaven where he can take care of me."

No Markets Known
The Booths made their offer yesterday, but admitted they knew of no markets for eyes.

Randy, bedfast with swollen joints, has already lived eight months longer than his doctor expected. But keeping their son alive has been expensive for the Booths.

Doctor bills and medicine cost more than \$5,000 since the ailment was discovered more than a year ago. The Booths said they had pawned or sold nearly everything they own.

The strain has broken the father's health and he has been unable to work since February.

Both Willing
"I have 20-20 vision," said Booth. "My wife and I have talked it over and she's as willing as I am to sell an eye."

"Is there such a thing as an 'eye bank' where we might do business?" asked Booth.

Tragedy is all too familiar to the Booths. A two-year-old daughter drowned before Randy was born and their 10-year-old daughter recently had a severe case of scarlet fever.

Herbert R. Ketell, chairman of the elephant-for-the-zoo committee, said he has been informed by Austin Flegel that he is sending a 3000 pound pachyderm from Thailand. He said it was being sent by boat and would arrive in Portland in about 60 days.

Flegel, Portland federal official in Thailand, has been hunting several months for an elephant which he promised the city. Citizens have raised several thousand dollars to house the animal.

There is no town at Jametown, Va., site of the first permanent English settlement in North America.

Japanese Passenger Liner Reaches States
Seattle — (U.P.) — The first Japanese passenger liner to arrive in the United States since the outbreak of World War II docked here yesterday.

The Hikawa Maru, owned by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha shipping company, tied up here after a 13-day trans-Pacific voyage from Yokohama.

The sleek liner carried 192 passengers, among them 95 Japanese Fulbright scholars, who will attend universities in this country.

Elephant in Portland Zoo Seems Certainty
Portland — (U.P.) — It appeared today as though Portland may finally get an elephant for its zoo.

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Tuesday, August 11, 1953

MEDFORD (OREGON) MAIL TRIBUNE—NINE

West Germans Send Packages to Britain

Frankfurt — (U.P.) — Well fed West Germans are sending food parcels to austerly plagued Britain, it was disclosed today.

A spokesman for the CARE mission to West Germany at Bad Godesberg said that since Feb. 1 it has been possible for Germans to send CARE packages of food to Britain and that about 80 have been shipped so far.

Parcels available for shipment from Germany include a package of mixed foodstuffs, a package of baby foods, a package of lard and a package of kosher food for orthodox Jews.

Individual Germans also are reported shipping their own food packages to friends and relatives in Britain, German postal officials said. Postal officials estimated they numbered "several hundred weekly."

Freightliner Plants Struck in Portland

Portland — (U.P.) — Two plants of the Freightliner corporation here were struck last night by pickets were to be posted today at the two locations of the firm, subdivision of Consolidated Freightways.

Freightliner employs about 80 machinists who are demanding a 12-cent-an-hour wage boost.

FLAMES FATAL
Albany — (U.P.) — Funeral services will be held tomorrow for Frank O. Schuck, 82, who died from burns suffered Saturday when his nightgown ignited as he started an outdoor trash burner fire.



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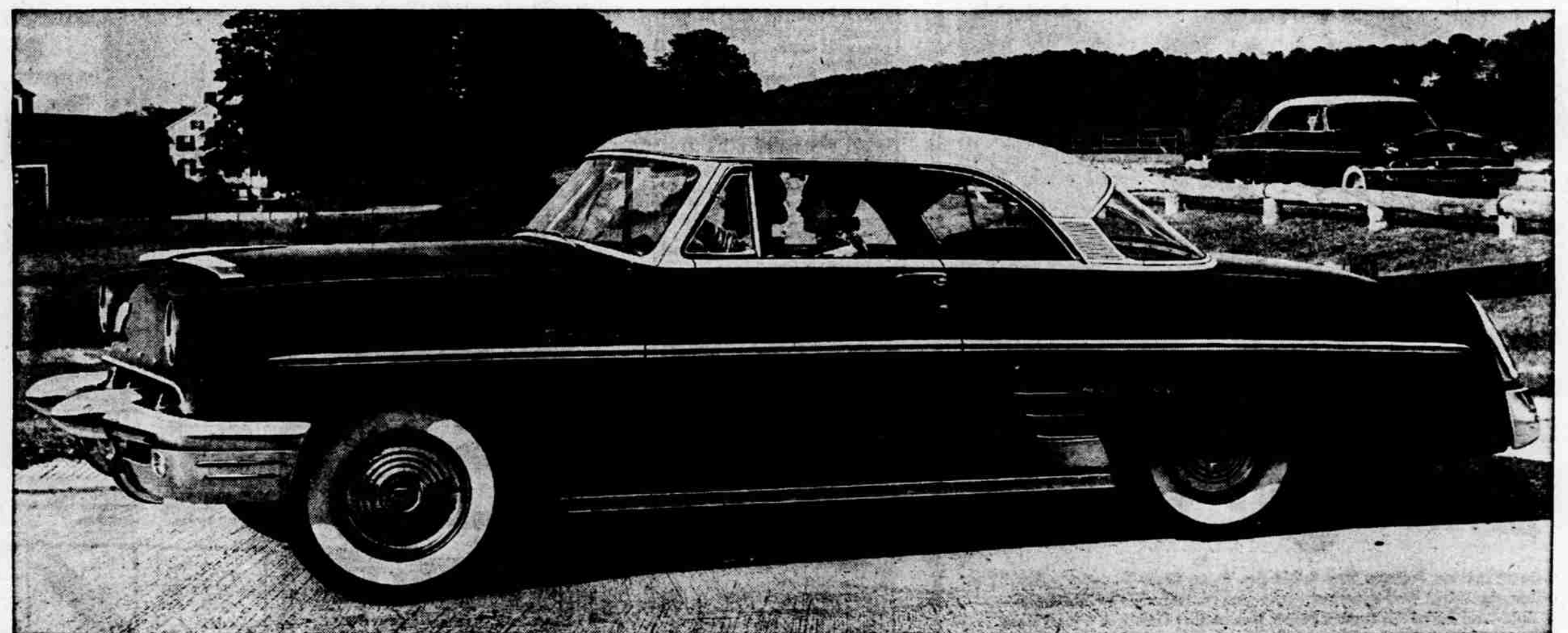
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