

Rumored Yank-Athletics Deal Threatens To Rock Pro Ball

Chicago —(U.P.)— Spokesmen for the New York Yankees and Kansas City Athletics today denied rumors of an impending deal that "could rock baseball to its foundations."

The deal allegedly involves a swap of five Yankees for pitcher Arnold Portocarrero of the Athletics.

It was reported Monday by Edgar Munzel in a dispatch to the Chicago Sun-Times.

Three Players Listed

Munzel said first baseman Eddie Robinson, catcher Charley Silveira and pitcher Art Schlock were among the Yankees to be traded.

But at the Florida training camps, both Personnel Director Ray Kennedy of the A's and General Manager George Weiss of New York denied the reported deal.

And in Kansas City, A's Business Manager Parke Carroll said he knows "nothing about any deal to be consummated with the New York Yankees."

Munzel said the alleged deal might touch off a charge of "syndicate baseball" and "the resultant explosion could rock baseball to the foundations."

The affairs of the two clubs

have been so "closely intertwined that the A's not only look like a Yankee affiliate, but many contend that they actually are," he said.

Ex-Yankee Employees

He noted that Carroll, Kennedy and Bill MacPhail, promotion director of the Athletics, are former Yankee employees. He added that A's owner Arnold Johnson recently sold the Yankee Stadium to John W.

Cox, Chicago, who is a "long-time friend and associate of Johnson's."

The Stadium deal, Munzel said, was referred to as a "dummy deal" in the opinion of "most baseball men."

He said the announcement of the trade is being withheld to "make it look as if the A's actually gave the other clubs in the league a chance to get the star hurler."

PCC Okays Video Plan Of NCAA

Los Angeles —(U.P.)— Pacific Coast Conference Commissioner Victor O. Schmidt said today the PCC will adopt the recently approved NCAA plan for televising conference football games although it originally voted against the program.

To Work Out Program

The conference authorized its Television and Radio Committee, headed by Alfred R. Masters, Stanford, to work out a PCC TV program "within the scope and pattern of the NCAA formula."

The NCAA plan allows regional telecasts on Friday and Saturday nights and on five Saturday afternoons during the season.

Schmidt pointed out the PCC favors regional telecasts throughout the season but would go along with the NCAA this year.

New Possibilities

"The NCAA formula allows considerably less," he said, "but it does present some new possibilities in bringing college football to the television audiences which the conference wishes to explore."

Other local telecasts permitted under the formula include sellout games; games played more than 400 miles away from home screens and other distant games on open Saturday following Friday night games in the local area.

Better Bench More Hitting Power Could Take Chicago White Sox To AL Pennant

(This is the 11th in a series of the 1955 prospects of the major league clubs.)

By LEO H. PETERSEN
United Press Sports Editor
Tampa, Fla. — (U.P.) — Marty Marion, although admitting there are "a few ifs here and there," thinks his Chicago White Sox could go all the way.

He bases that opinion on the contention that he acquired a stronger bench and more hitting power "without giving up anyone we needed." But most baseball men feel that unless he comes up with at least a hard-hitting left-handed outfielder, the White Sox won't have power enough to win the American league pennant.

Marion points to the addition of three men as grounds for thinking his club will have more power. They are big Walt Dropo, the first baseman obtained from the Tigers' catcher Clint Courtney, acquired from the Orioles, and outfielder Bob Nieman, who also came from the Tigers.

Dropo Must Hit

Dropo will have to hit or lose his first base job to the veteran Phil Cavarretta or Ron Jackson, the bonus baby who hit .280 last season.

Nellie Fox and Chico Carrasquel are fixtures at second and short, and George Kell will win the third base job if he recovers from the injuries which side-

lined him the end of last season.

Bill Serena, purchased from the Cubs, will take over third if Kell can't make it, with Jim Brideweser sure of an infield utility job. Rookies Stan Jok and Joe Kirrene, who hit .343 at Colorado Springs last season, are other infield candidates.

As his big five of the pitching staff, Marion has southpaws Billy Pierce (9-10), and Jack Harshman (14-8) and right-handers Virgil Trucks (19-12), Sandy Consuegra (16-3) and Bob Keegan (16-9).

Harry Dorish (6-4) will be the No. 1 fireman with Bob Chakales (5-7) with Baltimore last season, and the veteran Al Brazie, who won five and lost four with the Cardinals, also ticketed for bullpen duty.

Another possible starter is Ted Gray, a Tiger castoff who won only three while losing five for Detroit last season. Dick Donovan, an 18-game winner with Atlanta; Mike Fornieles, back for another try after winning seven at Charleston in 1934; Connie Johnson, who won 17 at Toronto, and holdover Morris Martin (7-8) are other possibilities.

Sherman Lollar and Courtney will share the catching, with Lollar the No. 1 man, Marion, however, may platoon his catchers with Lollar hitting against southpaws and Courtney taking over against righthanders.

In the outfield it will be Minnie Minoso in left, Johnny Groth in center and Jim Rivera in right. If Bob Nieman regain his batting eye he will see plenty of action although he is not up to the other three regulars defensively.

The veterans Willard Marshall and Lloyd Merriman, obtained from the Cincinnati Redlegs, probably will win the other outfield reserve spots.

Marion, however, still is hopeful that the club will swing a deal bringing him a left-handed hitting outfielder. Rivera, Marshall and Merriman are southpaw slingers, but lack power.

MEDFORD TRIBUNE SPORTS



HITTING INFIELD GROUNDER, Ron Sanford, New York Giants, is safe at first when Rosen's throw to Vic Wert is high, in fifth inning of Giants-Cleveland game at Phoenix. (International)

C of I Fires Sam Vokes

Caldwell, Idaho —(U.P.)— Dismissal of Sam Vokes as Director of Athletics and head football and basketball coach at the College of Idaho has been announced by Dr. Tom Shearer, president, Saturday.

Shearer said in a statement the dismissal resulted from "the necessity of keeping the athletic activity in its proper perspective with relation to the other departments of the college."

Vokes is to remain on the payroll until his contract expires June 1.

The coach emphasized that he had been fired and that he had not resigned.

Philosophy of Winning

"The administration evidently does not approve of my philosophy of winning," Vokes said. "I cannot give up this philosophy that winning within the rules and the spirit of the game is important."

The Coyotes had a 7-2 record this season and shared in the Pacific Northwest conference football championship for the third straight year. The 1955 basketball team compiled a 23-4 record and won the conference title with 15 victories and no defeats.

The football team went through its regular 1935 season without a loss, but was defeated by Sam Houston State in the Refrigerator Bowl.

Spokane Sets Up Pact With Tribe

Spokane —(U.P.)— A limited working agreement between the American League champion Cleveland Indians and the Spokane Indians of the class B Northwest League was announced today.

The agreement was worked out between Spokane Manager Eddie Lake and Hank Greenberg, Cleveland general manager, who have been friends for many years.

Under the agreement, Spokane will get Joe Porter, a left-handed first baseman just returned from the service, and Dennis Luby, third baseman and catcher who is a nephew of Hugh Luby, general manager of the Salem entry in the Northwest loop. Frank Herron, Spokane business manager, said Cleveland also would send pitching and outfield help.

Spokane opens spring training April 6 at Clarkston. Lake will have about 30 players, mostly rookies.

Baseball Immortal Observes Birthday By 'Just Lording'

Newcomerstown, Ohio —(U.P.)— Cy Young munched a birthday lunch of turkey leftovers today and said he was "feeling real good."

"I had my big birthday dinner Sunday," the most durable pitcher baseball ever produced said as he received congratulations on his 88th birthday anniversary.

"It's the start of another year and I guess it will go slow," the aging but still spry Cy said as he talked with friends about baseball, past and present.

Young doesn't talk about it but he is pretty sure many of his records never will be touched. He won 511 games and lost 313. He fanned 2,832 batters and walked only 1,102. His record of three no-hit games stood until Bob Feller of the Cleveland Indians turned the trick.

"I'm just losing, like I do every day," Cy told his friends. "There's not much else I can do."

Boxing Results

By UNITED PRESS

Brooklyn: Danny Vivianelli, 154, Brooklyn, stopped Jimmy Martinez, 154, Glendale, Ariz. (5).

New York: Paddy Demarco, 140 1/2, Brooklyn, outpointed Libby Manzo, 138, New York, (10).

New Orleans: Ralph Dupas, 137 1/2, New Orleans, outpointed Bobby Bickie, 137 1/2, Topeka, Kans. (10).

Providence: R. L. Eduardo Lausse, 139, Argentina, knocked out Gil Edwards, 163 1/2, New York, (5).

Quebec City: Jack Haven, 135, Glace Bay, N.S., drew with Sammy Fortune, 140, Montreal (10).

Brockton, Mass.: Harold Gomes, Providence, R.I., outpointed Art Mulien, 125, Philadelphia (8).

Pittsburgh: Emil Brtko, 197, Pittsburgh, stopped Gene White, 183, Pittsburgh.

Stockton, Calif.: Al Vilafarra, 149, New Orleans, dec. Chief Archie White-water, 144, San Francisco, (10).

Women's Golf

The lady golfers of Rogue Valley Country club have a full schedule for Thursday, March 31. The first beginners' class will be held Thursday at 1 p.m.

Qualifying for spring handicap for 18 and nine hole play will begin and will last through April 5.

The board of directors of the women's organization will hold a short meeting at 9:30 p.m.

Nine hole play for Thursday will be specs A, B, D and D group pairings are as follows:

Mrs. H. D. McClure, Mrs. Sam Colton and Mrs. Belle Schenck; Mrs. Leroy Hauget, Mrs. John Day and Mrs. Leslie Schneider; Mrs. Warren Lesger, and Mrs. W. L. Stark; Mrs. Dick Field; Mrs. George Harrington and Mrs. B. L. Nutting; Mrs. Robert Temple, Mrs. Al Hart and Mrs. Thomas Culbertson.

Mrs. Paul Walker, Mrs. Victory Sether and Miss Bobel Stuart; Mrs. Richard Finch, Mrs. Robert Lockwood and Mrs. W. W. Davies; Mrs. Ray Frisbie, Mrs. L. C. Burt and Mrs. H. Bush; Mrs. Roger Clark, Mrs. Rena Teeter and Mrs. L. G. McLaren; Mrs. Ward Samuelson, Mrs. Miles Doran and Mrs. Frank Tamney; Mrs. Ray Larson, Mrs. Dorothy Dowdon and Mrs. Ed Radweil.

Mrs. Don McGeary, Mrs. Chas. McIntyre and Mrs. C. E. Gordon; Mrs. Melvin McGrew, Mrs. R. C. Barclay and Mrs. J. W. Barnard; Mrs. Frank Benesh, Mrs. Dan Adams and Mrs. Dick Field; Mrs. Wm. Blackledge; Mrs. Robert Little and Mrs. F. M. Rhodes; Mrs. Fred Conrad, Mrs. T. C. Grooms and Mrs. R. E. Hysell.

Mrs. Ed Milne, Mrs. James Asher and Mrs. Dean Lambert; Mrs. Jerry Olson, Mrs. Reese Alexander and Mrs. James Dunlevy; Mrs. John Bunker; Mrs. A. Z. Dean and Mrs. Lee Baumann; Mrs. John Plesch, Mrs. Royce Bebb and Mrs. F. L. Somers; Mrs. J. O. Oakes, Mrs. Robert Morris and Mrs. Stuart; Mrs. Stuart McQueen, Mrs. J. W. Mack and Mrs. C. H. Barrell.

Sacramento Needs Pitching Help To Become Factor in Coast Loop Pennant Chase

(Editor's note: This is the seventh in a series on the outlook of Pacific Coast league teams for the 1955 season.)

By SCOTT BAILLIE
United Press Sports Writer
Yuma, Ariz. —(U.P.)— The Sacramento Solons, stronger on the bench but weaker on the mound, will have to get some pitching help in order to break into the first division, Manager Tony Freitas said today.

"I think the club picked up strength when we got Jackie Tobin and Leo Thomas from Seattle for catcher Johnny Ritchey," Freitas said. "Last year we did not have any reserve strength and often used pitcher Al Cicotte who is back in the Yankee chain to pinch hit. But now that we have some support there, the bottom has dropped out of our hurling."

The Sacs recently were belted for nine straight losses in a series of grapefruit league fiascos with Freitas bemoaning the fact that they dropped high-scoring contests which should have been won.

Looking For Talent

"Our veteran pitchers have not come through," Tony said, then confessed that he also might share the blame for the defeats "because I tried to go too long with the younger fellows."

Freitas said that the front office, headed by new President Fred Davis, is working to get some help for the hill but he doesn't know just what deals are pending.

"If we can get two good pitchers we'll be up there," promised the greying little southpaw star of nearly two decades of activity.

The best hurler to date has been John Briggs, a rookie right-hander who rolled up a 20-8 mark at Salem of the Class A Western International league last year and has shown fine speed and a good curve.

"Briggs will be in a Major league camp next spring after he gets his changeup working," Freitas declared. "In the meantime, he is ours."

Marino Pieretti (16-16), lefty Chet Johnson (8-15) and relief expert Milo Candinin (11-4) are coming around slowly, Freitas said. Bud Daley (13-9), a left-hander with amazing control, is expected to have another good year. Rightie Emil Patrick (4-9) has not found himself yet.

Most Players Return

All told, Freitas goes into the race with virtually the same club which wound up seventh last year.

Nippy Jones is back at first base, well geared from a season

Bell Declares Open Grid War

New York —(U.P.)— Officials of both United States and Canadian pro football teams saw little hope today of any quick peace between their two leagues, in the wake of Bert Bell's declaration of "open warfare" for players.

Bell, commissioner of the U.S. National Football League, announced at a league meeting here Monday that NFL teams now are free to sign players already under contract to Canadian teams.

"The Canadian clubs have not shown good faith in the matter of signing players," declared Bell. "If they can't control certain of their teams from raiding players, I'm not going to turn the other cheek."

Still Want Peace

At Vancouver, B.C., Manager Phil Webb of the British Columbia Lions said Bell's announcement "closes the door a little farther" to a general no-raiding agreement between the leagues regarding players. Webb declared

ed the Canadian teams never would sign such an agreement unless it were a "fair, two-way proposition."

Edwin J. Anderson, president of the Detroit Lions of the NFL, used almost the same words in commenting on the announcement when he said, "We still want peace with Canada, but at terms which would be fair to both sides. Under the present set-up, it's strictly a one-way street."

Sees Final Solution

Anderson predicted the pro circuits "eventually" will agree on a common player draft, but he added "It's going to take time, especially now that this warfare has broken out again."

Although Bell seemingly slammed the door on peace, he actually left it open a crack. He distinctly encouraged no-raiding agreement between individual teams of the two leagues, such as already exists between the Washington Redskins and the Calgary Stampeders of the Western Interprovincial Football Union.

Oakland In Need of Help; Sale of Marshall To Sox Brings 1st Base Problem

(This is the sixth in a series on the outlook for Pacific Coast league teams for the 1955 season.)

By SCOTT BAILLIE
El Centro, Calif. —(U.P.)— The epidemic of first-basemen which is plaguing Pacific Coast league managers this year has Manager Lefty O'Doul of the Oakland Oaks running a temperature just like everyone else.

The Oaks created their own misery there by selling Jim Marshall to the Chicago White Sox for much-needed cash after the boy belted hit 31 homers and drove in 123 runs last year to lead the league in both departments. He also batted a very strong .284.

In his spot is Tommy Munoz, a .229 hitter from Wenatchee of the Class A Western International league and O'Doul is definitely on the prowl.

"I always run a club with the idea of winning the pennant, not just getting into the first division," O'Doul said. "And we might go all the way this year if we can get help."

Needs Two Hurlers

O'Doul listed his biggest needs as a right-handed hitting outfielder, two more pitchers and power at first.

The present outfield of Art Cuitti in left, George Metkovich in center and Joe Brovia in right all swing from the port side. Cuitti is a holdover from last year's garden. Metkovich was snatched by the Oaks for a second term of office after Milwaukee released him this winter. He replaced the retired Sam Chapman in center and started out there five seasons ago when Oakland won the pennant and Metkovich the most valuable player award.

Joe Brovia, an O'Doul protegee when both were with the San Francisco Seals, was obtained from Sacramento in a straight trade for Pete Milne.

Some Proven Men

"First base has me worried but Tony Rivas is doing pretty well at second," O'Doul said. "His hitting is solid and he can't hurt us there at all if he improves his glove work a little."

Russ Rose and Johnny Jorgensen, both proven performers, are back at shortstop and third base. Jerry (Pumpsie) Green, a switch-hitter who clubbed .297 at Wenatchee is solid insurance at third base. Piper Davis, who can handle all nine positions, gives

the club plenty of utility strength.

Southpaws are a badly needed on the hurling staff. To date O'Doul has only Chris Van Cuyk (5-6) and Fred Besana (0-4) for newcomers. Besana was laced for an earned run mark of 7.81 in 27 2-3 innings last year but has put together a string of 12 scoreless frames this spring.

Many New Pitchers

Al Gettel (17-15), George Bamberger (11-8) and Karl Drews (5-4) at Cincinnati head the right-handers while Dick Strahs (6-6) at Charleston of the American association has looked effective among newcomers. Also up for another shot is Bob Murphy, the Stanford scholar, who had a 10-3 mark at Modesto of the Class C California league after going 3-2 with the Oaks.

Workhorse Lennie Neal is under the gun again as the number one catcher backed by Lou Landini and Bob Swift, who was released by Detroit.

"The whole league will be faster this season with Seattle stronger and Hollywood getting its usual help from Pittsburgh," O'Doul said. "Hollywood is the team to beat for the pennant. I'm all in favor of that club getting the help it wants because it makes the rest of the owners hustle to keep up."

Bevo Signs New Pact For \$17,000

Rio Grande, Ohio —(U.P.)— Coach Newt Oliver and "a much better" center Clarence (Bevo) Francis milled in their contracts today for another winter of professional basketball with the Boston Whirlwinds.

Oliver said he would get \$13,000 and Francis \$17,000, the same as they earned during the 153-game western tour which ended Saturday night at Jackson, Mich.

The small, talkative coach said Francis averaged 43 points a game against local teams and the Harlem Globetrotters, and "could have scored a lot more points" but he was used only 25 or 30 minutes a night.

The sensational center had a 50-point average in his freshman year and a 46.5-point average his second year before he dropped out of school at tiny Rio Grande college here.

Francis then weighed 185 pounds, but ate heartily during the 35,000-mile tour of all the states west of the Mississippi and tipped the scales at 225 pounds at the end of his first pro season.

Ham Shoot Will Be Held Sunday

A ham shoot will be the activity Sunday, April 3, at Medford Gun club. Both 16-year trappshooting and skeet events are planned.

There will be events for non-shooters and visitors will be welcome, club members stated. Lunch will be available on the grounds.

A social and business meeting of members will be held on Wednesday, April 13, at the clubhouse. A crab feed will be the feature.

Shooting for the Pendleton East Oregonian skeet telegraphic shoot Sunday, Martin Clogston broke 24 and Ed Pease and Everett Gibson each 21. In the Oregon Journal telegraphic trapshoot Clogston and Paul Culbertson each broke 25 straight. Ray Coleman, Gibson and Charles Bendell each had 24s. Only three of the scores could count so the Medford club had a 74 total.

Dead line Sunday Classified is at noon Saturday 10 a.m. Monday for Monday; other days 5:30 previous day

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