

Cleveland Said Threat To Capture Pennant Race

Editors note: This is the seventh in a series on the prospects of major league clubs for 1956.

By CARL LUNDQUIST
United Press Sports Writer
Tucson, Ariz. — (U.P.) — Distinguished pitching makes the Cleveland Indians a threat to go all the way this season in the American league pennant race.

Moreover, there is a determination in the tribesmen of Manager Al Lopez that has not been present in other springs. The Cleveland writers in the camp here riled the players when in a pre-season poll not one of them picked the Indians to win the pennant. One writer predicted they would finish in the second division.

"They couldn't have done us a greater favor," said Lopez. "I have felt all along we could win the pennant and that no team rates ahead of us in the overall picture. Now the players feel the same way. They're out to show all the Yankee lovers that Cleveland still is in the league. I can't see where New York is any sure shot to finish in front."

Proud of Pitching
Lopez is proud of his pitching and with good reason. His "Big Three" now is a "Big Four," with sophomore Herb Score, the brilliant lefty rookie of the year in 1955, joining up with Bob Lemon, Early Wynn and Mike Garcia to give the Indians the most formidable starting staff in baseball.

And to that polished group of starters, those twin relief aces, Don Mossi and Ray Narleski, and round out the staff with veterans Bobby Feller and Art Houteman as spot pitchers and you have an array that could mop up the league. Lopez likes young lefty Hank Aguirre or possibly rookie Leo Daley, up from San Diego, as extra men.

The infield is improved. Lopez feels, because of the acquisition of shortstop Chico Carrasquel from the White Sox. Behind Carrasquel is veteran but light-hitting George Strickland and Lopez insists they're the two best in the league. Vic Wertz, fully recovered from his polio attack, has been hitting sharply and should be the first baseman.

Avila is Fixture
If not, Al Rosen will move over from third because it does not appear young Jo Altabelli will hit enough to win the job. Bobby Avila, the 1954 batting champ, is a fixture at second. If Rosen plays first, then the talented and versatile Al Smith, a good hitter and team man,

BEARCAT GOLFERS DRILL
Willamette University, Salem — Coach Jerry Long this week opened drills for his Willamette University golf team candidates. The squad of nine includes four returning lettermen, Long announced. The vets are Jim Gilliland, Tom Loree, Dick Moore, and Dave Kvale. Kvale lettered two years ago. Other squad members are non-lettermen Bill Bjorkman and Bob Withers plus new men Emil Muhs, Lowell Fox and Bob Goddard.

PORTER NAMED
Kansas City — (U.P.) — Don Porter, Linfield's ace center, has been named for the second straight year to the NAIA all-American basketball team. He was one of 10 players named to the first team from 465 colleges and universities in the NAIA.

Bolton Elected To NRA Board

Washington, D.C. — D. J. Bolton, 527 Spencer st., Medford, Ore., was elected to the 60-man board of directors of the National Rifle Association of America here by the 1,000 delegates attending the 85th annual meetings.

The NRA is an organization of over 300,000 target shooters and hunters interested in small arms, both as a sport and an instrument of national defense. It is the body which controls all organized shooting in the United States.

Bolton will serve a three-year term on the board of the 85-year-old organization whose national headquarters are located here in the nation's capitol.

Bowling

ROGUE ROLLERS
Vivian Knox of Ralph's Restaurant rolled an even 200 for high game in Rogue Rollers bowling league. She also had high series with 530. H&M Shell had 811 and 2348 for high team game and team series.

Standings:
Ralph's Restaurant 29 13
H and M Shell 33 19
Brooks Electric 30 21 1/2
Rogue Sportsmen 28 24
Darrell Miller Co. 27 25
B and B Auction 27 25
Women of the Moose 22 30
Chris Drugs 18 33 1/2
First National Bank 18 34
Clave Construction 17 35

Results:
Ralph's Rest. 4 F N B 0
V Knox 530 H Read 418
F Doty 489 J Davis 253
R Edmonds 357 (Absentee) 275
K Smith 404 M Martin 353
M Clark 460 C Selleck 392
Handicap 306

H-M Shell 3 Rogue Sportsman 1
A Monroe 441 G Ludwig 456
F Lenz 499 D Paul 435
A Bohanan 491 E Sessions 391
E Baker 442 E Johnson 358
D Christenson 470 A Frost 418
Handicap 228

Chris Drugs 1/2 Brooks Elec. 3 1/2
D Doty 373 P Brock 442
T Tolles 447 E Sessions 391
A Gebhart (s) 456 M Durham 384
A Walton 379 J Barnum 403
V Corby 400 G Hayes 425
Handicap 114

Clave Const. 0 Miller Co. 4
V Rickson 416 N Roberts 409
T Smith 428 M Tremblay 406
J Tresham 343 A Zeno 387
A Hoffman 367 P Haven 248
Handicap 177

B-B Auction 4 W. O. T. M. 0
R McCredy 369 R Wadlow 329
A Zahnrow 374 S Coniter 366
M Tremblay 376 (Absentee) 288
M Holden 424 M Forster 365
V Findley 467 E Olsen 376
Handicap 102

BANTAM LEAGUE
Six teams of five members each were set up last week so the Bantams could participate in the National Mail-O-Graphic Bowling tournament conducted by the American Junior Bowling congress. Games are bowled on local lanes and the scores mailed to Chicago where the national champions are determined.

High game, 145, Dennis Bauman. High series, 247, Jack Webster. High team game, 691, W.O.T.M. High team series, 1361, Jaycees.

VIEW
D Christians'n 202 C Lenz 156
D Bohanan 119 K Wise 180
R Bauman 135 R Lenz 189
D Bauman 232 R Newland 170
M Florey 197 J Webster 247
Handicap 324 Handicap 352

NEEDLES FAVORED
Agua Caliente, Mex. — (U.P.) — Needles, who won the \$145,000 Florida Derby at Gulfstream Park Saturday, was installed as the 8-5 favorite today in the Agua Caliente Future book for the Kentucky Derby. Needles previously was listed at 3-1. Career Boy, the book's second choice, has been boosted from a 5 to 5-1. Terrang is listed at 6-1, Like Magic and Pintor Lea are 8-1.

Rainbow Grabow's 208
E Goode 212 C Roberts 163
D Floate 217 B Wilson 151
M Jantzer 169 J Wise 153
Mike Jantzer 228 E Andrews 324
Handicap 350 Handicap 324

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

Pittsburgh Pirates Place Hopes on Pitching, Prayer

This is sixth in a series on the prospects of major league clubs.

By LEO H. PETERSEN
United Press Sports Editor
Fort Myers, Fla. — (U.P.) — The Pittsburgh Pirates are pinning all their hopes on pitching and a prayer to lift them out of the National League basement this year.

Bobby Bragan, brand new at the Pittsburgh helm, points to Bob Friend, Vern Law, Ronnie Kline, Dick Littlefield and Dick Hall as his starters and insists he wouldn't trade them for the Cincinnati, Chicago or St. Louis pitching staffs.

He says his Pirates, cellar-bound for the past four years, could finish as high as sixth this year, but he qualifies his statement with a big "if."

"It all depends on four men," Bragan says, "and those four are outfielders Frank Thomas and Bob Skinner, Littlefield and Danny Kravitz, a rookie catcher."

Thomas and Littlefield both had poor years last season but Bragan is looking for better showings from each of them.

Skinner, who had a trial with the Pirates in 1954 but spent last year with New Orleans of the Southern Association, is a converted first baseman who has been installed in left field. And Kravitz, the best looking rookie in the Pittsburgh camp, "can be another Yogi Berra some day," according to the new Bucaneer skipper.

Right now, Bragan cites his pitching staff as Pittsburgh's chief strength. He calls the outfield and the catching the two big weaknesses.

As far as the outfield goes, Thomas has been shifted from center to right field; Skinner has been assigned to left—where he is having some trouble on judging balls—and Roberto Clemente, Bobby Del Greco and Lee Walls are all in the battle for center field. Jerry Lynch, a holdover from last year, also is available for outfield duty.

Long at First
Bragan is well satisfied with rangy Dale Long at first base, but if Long goes down, he has Preston Ward ready for duty. Speedy Curt Roberts, back with the Pirates after a year under Johnny O'Brien is receiving consideration there, too. Duke University's gift to the majors, Dick Groat, will be the regular.

La Grande Girl Takes State Jr. Rifle Match

Portland — (U.P.) — A young La Grande girl today held the state junior rifle championship for the second straight year.

Deanna Morris won the Leonard Sherman trophy of the Oregon State Rifle & Pistol Association Saturday with a score of 376 out of a possible 400.

Monday, March 28, 1955

MEDFORD (OREGON) MAIL TRIBUNE—SEVEN

SPORTS

Russell, Linscheit Blaze In Tornado Timing Session

Mike Russell and Les Lingscheit, with the fastest times in nine years at the school in their respective events, paced some sparkling time trials among Medford high school trackmen last Friday, Coach Bob Newland reported.

Quarter-miler Russell blazed through a 330-yard dash in :36 flat and half-miler Lingscheit, running a 660-yard distance was timed in 1:25.9.

Newland reported also that Pete Kershaw's :36.9 in the 330 was the third fastest since the mentor has been associated with the school in a coaching capacity. Fine half-mile performance, also were turned in by Bill Richey, Jay Walker, Bob Eastgate, John Bellack, Bruce Thompson and Bud Henderson.

Sprinters Showing Well
Bob Gould, Mike Hawkins, Don Gray, Mike Smith, Ken Tucker and Gary Riley, Newland said that Wally Larson performed exceptionally well in the 70-yard hurdles. Wayne Close,

Hollywood Stars Down Portland Beavers 9-5

Anaheim, Calif. — (U.P.) — Rookie Vern Piver smashed a 400-foot homer yesterday to lead the Hollywood Stars to their third straight exhibition victory — a 7-5 triumph over the Portland Beavers.

Piver's round-tripper supplied three of the five runs the Stars tallied in the third inning.

Don Dangleis made his first pitching appearance of spring an impressive one as he held the Beavers to only one hit in five

HOAD WINS
Alexandria, Egypt — (U.P.) — Lew Hoad, 21-year-old Australian Davis Cup star, won the men's singles crown of the Alexandria International Tennis Tournament Sunday by defeating Fred Kovaleski of Washington, D. C., 6-3, 7-5, 9-7. Althea Gibson of New York teamed up with Betsy Abbas of Egypt to win the women's double crown, 6-3, 6-1, over Angela Mortimer of England and Jennifer Hoad of Australia.

NASCAR RACE
Hillsboro, N. C. — (U.P.) — Curtis Turner of Roanoke, Va. Sunday won the 100-mile NASCAR convertible race at the Orange Speedway. Joe Weatherly of Norfolk, Va., was second and Gwyn Staley of North Wilkesboro, N. C., was third.

Hawkins, Smith and Riley had some good broad jumps with Hawkins sailing 20 feet 5 inches. Neil Plumley is approaching 49 feet in the shot put and the javelin throwers, Eldon Francis and Gary Lewis, are getting the spear "out real fine," Newland said.

The coach reported tremendous spirit resulting from the competition for track team berths. When one thinned turns in a good showing, another tries to better the effort.

Medford will host next Saturday for its first meet of the season. Crater, Ashland and Rogue River will join the Black Tornado in a tussle and another school or two may accept invitations. There will be novice and championship divisions. No official score will be kept.

RUSSIANS WIN MEET

Paris, France — (U.P.) — Russian track stars won both the men's and women's events at the traditional L'Humanite cross-country meet Sunday in their first major outdoor races of this Olympic year. Western runners, except for some second string Belgian, Swiss and French competitors, did not take part in the Communist sponsored meet.

Jaycees
VIEW
D Christians'n 202 C Lenz 156
D Bohanan 119 K Wise 180
R Bauman 135 R Lenz 189
D Bauman 232 R Newland 170
M Florey 197 J Webster 247
Handicap 324 Handicap 352

Ginn's Flowers
C Booth 178 L Little 186
D Pappow 165 E Floate 115
K Hoad 145 B Stron 151
C Havenor 222 N Olson 203
M Elrod 171 D Byrd 227
Handicap 460 Handicap 374

Grabow's
C Roberts 208
D Wilson 163
B Edwards 214
J Wise 153
E Andrews 324
Handicap 324

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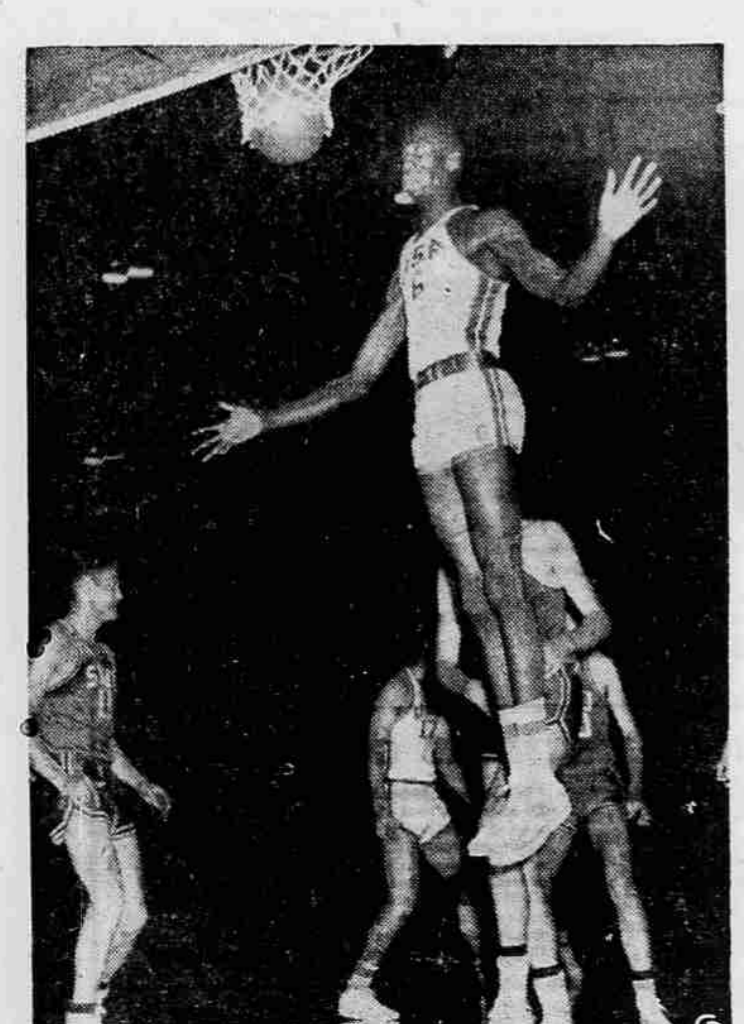
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Drive-Away Sale!



MAKING SURE OF SHOT, University of San Francisco's Bill Russell hangs in air as ball goes through hoop for score in 86-68 victory over Southern Methodist. Victory put Dons in finals of N. C. A. A. tourney at Evanston, Ill. (International)



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