

Giants Win 5-4; Yankees Grab 9-5 Verdict; Red Sox Triumph

By CARL LUNDOQUIST
United Press Sports Writer
Even at this early date it seems like a good time to pick losers in the major league pennant races and don't bet against the Pirates, Orioles and Senators in the cellar derby.

Manager Bobby Bragan of the Pirates already has started firing his executors for what he calls "mis-excitations" and he really is going to sock them for up to \$1,000 for violation of the 1 a.m. curfew. He claims the Giants, who have won two in a row from the Bucs, are an ordinary second division team and that the Pirates may beat them out.

By now the Pirates must feel like the poor prize fighter who took a terrific battering but whose manager kept insisting that "the other guy isn't touching you." The prize fighter rejoined that the manager better get after the referee then, because somebody was bopping him to pieces.

Mays Hits in Clutch
The Pirates, at least made it tough all the way before losing to the Giants on both days. Willie Mays had to single home the winning run in the last of the ninth for Wednesday's 5-4 Giant victory.

The Yankees pounded out a 9-3 triumph over the Senators at Washington, making it a total of 19 runs in two days against the hapless hurlers of Cholly Dressen. And at Boston, the Red Sox came from behind to defeat Baltimore, 8-4, making it 16 tallies in two days for the Bostonians against the feeble flingers of Paul Richards.

The Kansas City at Detroit game in the American was called off because of cold weather and there were none others scheduled in either loop.

The Giants led comfortably, 3-0 against the Bucs on early rallying that featured successive homers by Fox Castleman and Gain Harris. The Pirates kayoed Ruben Gomez in the fourth with three runs, one on a homer by Frank Thomas and the same Thomas put them ahead with a second homer in the seventh.

Trailing, 4-3, the Giants put across a barrage of three singles and a walk without scoring in the ninth. Harris being tossed out at second trying to stretch his hit. Al Dark, with the bases loaded hit a sacrifice fly and Mays followed with the game-breaking single that was over the head of the left fielder and would have been good for extra bases if necessary.

(4) Law (5) and Kravitz, Shepard (7), Gomez, Ruzick (4), McCall (7) and Westrum. Winning pitcher—McCall. Losing pitcher—Law. (Only game scheduled.)

American League
Boston 200 200 000—4 5 1
Boston 119 000 000—3 2 0
Moore, Ferrarese (5), Zuverink (5), Besana (7) and Smith. Porterfield and White. Losing pitcher—Moore.

White. Losing pitcher—Moore. New York 402 200 000—9 12 3 Washington 100 100 000—3 9 2 Kucks, Konstanty (8) and Berra. Wiesler, Griggs (4), Stewart (5), Chalkles (8), Brodowski (9) and Courtney. Winning pitcher—Kucks. Losing pitcher—Wiesler.

Kansas City at Detroit, postponed. Only game scheduled.
MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE
SPORTS
Fanfare
By DICK JEWETT
Mail Tribune Sports Editor

Bob Work, net instructor at Hedrick junior high school, has received a \$10 donation from an anonymous parent to help further the tennis program at the school. Elliott Becken, assistant city school superintendent, has indicated that the money will go toward equipment or toward improvements on the Roosevelt grade school court used by the junior high students.

The donor suggested application of the money towards new tennis balls or a wire wall on the street side as a measure to prevent accidents.

The Roosevelt court has been renovated for the program inaugurated this year. Metal nets have been installed at McLoughlin junior high and at Roosevelt. Work has 30 boys participating in tennis at Hedrick and Coach Earl Rogers has 35 out at McLoughlin, according to Lee Ragsdale, city school physical education supervisor. Intramural play is scheduled.

Becken said that as a result of the net program a lot of "small fry" are getting racquets and developing interest.

GOLF IN JUNIOR HIGH
Another new spring sport for junior high students in the Medford school system is golf under the supervision of George Sloniger. About 22 boys are out for this intramural activity.

KOVENZ LEGION COACH
Johnny Kovenz, Medford high school baseball coach, will tutor the Medford-Central Point American Legion junior baseball squad this summer. That's the word from Bud Fisher, commander of Medford Post 15 of the Legion. Kovenz will have that assignment in connection with the Medford city schools summer baseball program.

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the Tornado won convincingly in the Haywards.

This writer suspects that the Tornado is itching to face the challenge. A high-spirit contest with some outstanding marks could result. Roseburg and Crater are also slated to enter the ruckus.

PLUMLEY RANKS SECOND
Neil Plumley, Medford high's promising shot putter, had the second best mark individually Saturday in the Haywards. His 51 feet 8 1/2 inches was also his best ever in competition. Best mark was 55-8 1/4 by Glenn Johnson, Beaverton. There's some good indication that Plumley may be pressing Johnson for state honors by the time the state track meet comes around.

TAKEN OFF SHORT
The reason Eldon Francis did not throw the javelin in the Haywards — the take-off course at Eugene did not provide the running room that he is used to. His team-mate, Gary Lewis, appeared to be adjusting more readily in the warm-up to the tighter space and was elected to throw. The runway for the javelin was set up in a cramped area on a side field. Lines were all in and it would have taken some doing to have provided a longer take-off space.

AHEAD OF LAST YEAR
Last week this department mentioned Francis as saying he apparently has been doing something wrong this season that he wasn't doing last year. Coach Bob Newland of the Tornado asks a question (which we paraphrase): "Is it really so?" He points out that Francis in his progress is ahead of where he was last year. Some checking bears this out. In the Rogue relays in 1955 the Medford spearman had a throw of 167 feet 4 1/2 inches. His heave in the Rogues this year was 180-6 1/2. At the Haywards last year his cast was 171-10.

McFARLAND SHORT
Larry McFarland, Grants Pass, whose toss of 182-3 1/2 in the Rogues beat Francis, slipped to 160-1 at Eugene last Saturday. Winner of the Hayward javelin was Hardy Spurgeon, Marshfield, who was third in the meet the week before at Medford. His Hayward throw was 175 feet compared to 179-1 here.

Possible Under-the-Table Ring Payment Investigated
Oakland, Calif.—(U.P.)—Jimmy Murray was scheduled to return to the stand today as a state committee sought to find out if the rotund promoter paid Manager Al Weill \$10,000 "under the table" for world champion Rocky Marciano's services last May.

STANDINGS

PACIFIC COAST LEAGUE
By United Press
Seattle 5 2 714
San Diego 4 3 625
Los Angeles 4 3 556
Sacramento 4 4 500
Portland 3 4 453
San Francisco 3 5 375
Vancouver 2 5 286
Hollywood 2 5 286

AMERICAN LEAGUE
W. L. Pct. GB
Chicago 2 0 1.000
New York 2 0 1.000
Kansas City 1 0 1.000
Cleveland 0 1 .000
Detroit 0 1 .000
Washington 0 1 .000
Baltimore 0 2 .000

NATIONAL LEAGUE
W. L. Pct. GB
New York 2 0 1.000
Philadelphia 1 0 1.000
St. Louis 1 0 1.000
Milwaukee 1 0 1.000
Brooklyn 0 1 .000
Cincinnati 0 1 .000
Chicago 0 1 .000
Pittsburgh 0 2 .000

How Series Stand
Los Angeles 1, Portland 1
Seattle 2, San Francisco 2
Sacramento 2, Hollywood 0
San Diego 2, Vancouver 0

Friday's Games
Chicago at Kansas City
Detroit at Cleveland
Washington at Baltimore
Boston at New York

Friday's Games
New York at Philadelphia (night)
Cincinnati at Pittsburgh
Brooklyn at Chicago
Milwaukee at St. Louis (night)

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Cincinnati at Pittsburgh
Brooklyn at Chicago
Milwaukee at St. Louis (night)

Bob Alexander Blanks Angels; Vets Spark

By DON THACKERY
United Press Sports Writer
The old pros were the big wheels again last night in the Pacific Coast League.

Biggest of the men getting rounder was Ferris Fain, the old athlete from the Athletics.

Fain came off the bench in the 14th inning and drove a ball to left field, giving Sacramento a 2-1 overtime win over Hollywood.

Veteran Howie Judson made his PCL debut for Seattle by pitching a 7-2 victory over San Francisco. San Diego beat Vancouver 10-5 and Bob Kerrigan was the winner. And Portland's 6-0 win from Los Angeles was sparked by Bob Alexander and sparked by Jim Baxes.

R. C. Stevens hammered a home run in the top of the ninth in Sacramento to tie the game for the Stars and the blanks kept coming up until the 14th.

Old Pro Paged
Then Sacramento got a couple of men on base with two out and called on the "old pro," Fain, who won a couple of batting championships, won another game by pushing a single.

Judson, just down from the majors and anxious to get back, was helped to his win by Joe Taylor. Taylor garnered two home runs and five runs batted across and was the whole offensive fireworks until the eighth when the Seals finally got a pair off Judson and another major veteran, Larry Jensen, had to come to the rescue.

Alexander pitched a neat four-hitter for Portland and kept Los Angeles well away from the plate. Baxes hit his homer in the second with nobody on and that would have been enough, but the Beavers rampant added five more before it was over.

It was the first shutout of the season for Portland and the first time this year the Angels had been blanked. A poor crowd of 376 saw the Angel defeat under cold gray skies.

Littell Comes Through
Los Angeles starter John Andre, who allowed all of the Beaver scoring, took the loss.

Bob Bragan Slaps Fines On 2 Pirates

By MILTON RICHMAN
United Press Sports Writer
New York — (U.P.) — Pittsburgh Manager Bobby Bragan began cracking down in earnest today, slapping fines on two of his players, one of whom said, "I'll teach me a lesson and I'll play better ball."

Angered over the Pirates' blowing their second one-run ball game in a row, 5-4, to the Giants yesterday, Bragan fined outfielder Clemente \$25 for missing a squeeze sign and first baseman Dale Long the same sum for cutting off a throw which helped New York tie the score in the ninth.

Still boiling, the Pirates' freshman manager announced a 1 a.m. curfew for the entire club and said any violator would be subject to a \$500 or \$1000 fine, depending upon the size of his salary.

"If these guys don't shake themselves, there'll be more fines," Bragan warned.

Long, who hit two home runs in Pittsburgh's opening day loss to the Giants, felt the fine would do him good—a view seldom taken by a player who is made to shell out hard cash.

Not Happy
"Don't get me wrong, I'm not happy about it," said the big first sacker, "but it'll serve as a boot in my backside and it'll only make me play better ball."

Actually, Long has to pay for a mistake in judgment.

With the bases full, one out and Pittsburgh leading 4-3 yesterday in the last half of the ninth, Alvin Dark fled to right field. Lee Walls made the catch for the second out and fired toward the plate in an attempt to double up pinch runner Gil Coan, trying to score from third base.

Long, stationed about 15 feet in front of Pirate catcher Jack Shepard, cut off the relay—because he thought it was dying—and hastily threw to Shepard but it was too late.

"I just thought I could get the ball to Jack quicker," Long explained. "The throw seemed to be dying a little and I figured I could cut it off and then get it home in time."

Ducks, OSC Vie Thursday

Eugene — (U.P.) — Oregon, in search of its fourth straight Northern Division baseball pennant, opens its 1956 counting season here tomorrow against Oregon State's tough Beavers.

Coach Don Kirsch said he was worried about his team's batting attack. The Ducks, in winning nine and losing three pre-season games, hit only .222 as a team. Jim Pifer, second baseman, a utility outfielder last season, led the team with .333 marks.

Other officers selected were Gary Colton, vice-president, and Willard Barnum, secretary-treasurer. DeBoer succeeds Herb Vessey.

Last night's meeting, held at the YMCA, was the most enthusiastic softball session held here for several years and Vessey remarked, "There's the interest we've been looking for." Twenty to 25 men were on hand.

Meeting Next Week
Entry of nine teams appears definite. There is the possibility of as many as 20 teams.

DeBoer, owner of Lithia Motors of Ashland and sponsor of teams previously in the circuit, reportedly took the post because "I want to see the league go."

The circuit suspended operations during 1955.

The president is looking into the possibility of holding the loop action in various towns of the county. He reported that Talent definitely is interested.

The Jackson county name was adopted because the loop membership in recent seasons has been countywide rather than just restricted to Medford.

Ken Natland, professional umpire and old softball player who has moved here from Portland, offered his assistance to the circuit. It appeared that all those present at the session are willing to work together to make the loop a success.

BOBO TO SPAR
Santa Monica, Calif. — (U.P.) Carl (Bobo) Olson will box a four-round exhibition with sparring partner Sonny Gill at the Hollywood Legion stadium Saturday night in preparation for his title fight with middleweight king Ray Robinson.

HOOP COACH UPPED
New York — (U.P.) — Dave Polansky will serve as head basketball coach at City College of New York during Nat Holman's one-year sabbatical leave, it was announced today. Polansky has been coaching the CCNY freshman team for the past two years.

WALT DeBOER TO HEAD SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION

Medford Softball association was renamed the Jackson County Softball association and Walt DeBoer was elected president for the 1956 season at a meeting last night.

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