

Presence of Berra in Yankee Lineup Aids Mantle in Homers

By STEVE SNIDER
New York —(U.P.)—Yogi Berra, a success story in his own right, rates an assist in the current surge of slugger Mickey Mantle.

"I never had such a good spring for hitting since I've been in pro ball," said Yogi and therein lies one of the many reasons for Mantle's spurt this spring—though Berra won't admit it.

But it's always great to have a pair of sluggers back to back in the lineup and Yogi is the perfect complement to Mickey. He usually comes up just behind Mantle in the batting order and opposing pitchers are mighty careful not to walk Mickey if they can avoid it, lest Berra belt a homer not for one run but for two.

Mantle rates all the credit for cutting down his strikeouts and for powering those titanic home runs. But the experts count Yogi a tremendous help because he's on such a hot streak, too.

Until this year, when Mantle was whiffing so often, the pitchers tried to get him to bite at bad balls hoping he'd strike out.

But Mickey isn't biting any more. The pitchers know they have to come in with a good pitch in a tight spot or put him on with a walk—and a walk is the last thing they want with Berra up next. Yogi happens to be one of the game's top clutch hitters.

"I think he's the best hitter in baseball," said the veteran Joe Collins, though he admires Mickey's muscular blasts as much as the next guy. "Yogi hits just hard enough to get in the seats and that's enough."

So, despite all the furor over Mantle this spring, the Yankees aren't losing sight of their old reliable Yogi—three time winner of the American League's most valuable player award.

He's currently the highest paid Yankee and will continue to be for awhile though Mantle, only 24, is certain to pass him before long.

Among other things, Mickey has an advantage over Yogi by being a switch hitter—if you're a believer in such percentages.

But Berra, a left-handed batter, long since lost his fear of left-handed pitchers.

"Half the time now I don't even know whether the pitcher

is throwing right or left handed," said Yogi. "I guess the figures would show I hit one as well as the other."

In fact, the home run figures indicate he hits lefties better. Seven of his first 13 round-trippers were off southpaw pitching.

Unlike the best previous Yankee one-two punch—Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig—Mantle and

Berra are great friends. Chances are they always will be because Mickey is maturing rapidly beyond his years and who doesn't like the amiable Yogi?

Ruth and Gehrig, however, weren't exactly buddies, particularly in the later years.

A good feud might lead to more homers but you can't beat team harmony when it comes to winning pennants.

Lint Pitches Beavers to 5-1 Victory

San Diego—(U.P.)—Royce Lint pitched himself out of trouble several times last night and went the distance to give the Portland Beavers a 5-1 victory over the San Diego Padres in the first game of a four-game Pacific Coast League series.

Both teams slammed out nine hits, but Lint proved himself effective with men on base.

The Beavers picked up a run in the first inning when Tom Saffell singled, went to second on an error by catcher Joe Astroth and scored on a single by Luis Marquez.

Saffell added another tally in the third. He singled, then advanced when shortstop Clarence Moore dropped a throw to second and Marquez grounded out, and scored on a wild pitch. Two more Beaver runs came in the fourth.

Lloyd Merriman brought Portland its final tally with a homer in the sixth.

The Padres waited until the ninth to ruin Lint's shutout game. Dick Sisler doubled, went to third on a single by Harry Elliott and brought in the run on an infield out by Astroth.

Moore 3-1 Favorite

London — (U.P.) — Ancient Archie Moore, lean and mean after a Spartan training program to take off 25 pounds, now has been boosted to a 3-1 favorite over Yolande Pompey of Trinidad for their world light-heavyweight championship bout tonight at Harringay Arena.

A capacity crowd of 11,000 and a gate of more than \$100,000 is expected for tonight's 15-rounder.

Champion Moore started as a 5-2 choice to defend his crown against the former plantation laborer from the West Indies. British Empire fans had hoped that Archie's gruelling training pace would rob him of strength—but instead he has seemed to wallop his sparring partners hard as he gets lighter.

So now the odds have moved upward on the champion, who is listed as 39 in the record books and much more unofficially.

FREDRICH SCORES UPSET

Bologna, Italy — (U.P.) — Heavyweight Hans Fredrich of Germany scored a 10-round upset decision over Europe champion Franco Cavicchi of Italy in a non-title bout Monday night.

SPORTS

Bilko Helps Angels Increase League Lead

By NEAL CORBETT
United Press Sports Writer
Like Old Man River, the Los Angeles Angels just keep rollin' along.

Monday night bulky Steve Bilko and friends increased their Pacific Coast League lead by three and one half games over the Sacramento Solons, 8-5.

Bilko, who leads the league in everything but hot dog sales, had two hits in three trips to the plate to increase a batting average that is already even bulkier than Bilko. And his friends came up with a double play in which over half the playing team participated.

Meanwhile Hollywood snapped a six-game losing streak by shutting out Vancouver, 7-0, behind the five-hit pitching of Fred Waters, and the Portland Beavers outlasted San Diego, 5-1. Seattle and San Francisco were idle.

Scoring Threat Jumped
Los Angeles jumped right off with one run in the first inning, but the Solons took a temporary lead in the second with two. Then the Angel machine ground out four more in the third and shelled starter Bud Watkins from the mound with two more in the fifth. Sacramento made a futile effort with a three-run rally in the sixth, but were held scoreless in the last three innings while Los Angeles scored one more in the eighth frame just to keep in shape.

The Angels nipped one scoring threat in the bud with a nifty double play that went from short, to second, to third, to catcher, to pitcher. Starter Dave Hillman notched his fifth win and Watkins took his first loss.

Hollywood broke out of its slump in fine style. While Waters was tossing golf balls at the

Mouties, the Stars scored two runs in the first, one in the fifth, one in the sixth and three in the eighth.

Lint Give Up Double
Jim McDonald went all the way for Vancouver in taking the loss.

San Diego and Portland got nine hits apiece in their game, but Royce Lint of the Beavers was able to pitch himself out of trouble. He lost his shutout in the ninth on a double by Dick Sisler, a single by Harry Elliott and an infield out.

Portland scored one in the first, one in the second, two in the third and one in the sixth to hand workhorse Edditt Erautt his ninth loss in 13 decisions.

Lloyd Merriman of Portland came up with the only homer hit in the loop with nobody aboard in the sixth.

The linescores:
Los Angeles 8 12 2
Sacramento 5 7 3
Hillman and Tappe; Watkins, Osenbaugh 5, Jones 8 and Baich.

Vancouver 0 5 2
Hollywood 7 11 0
McDonald and Neal; Waters and Hall.

Portland 5 9 1
San Diego 1 9 2
Lint and Calderone; Erautt, Peece 7, Gettel 8 and Astroth.

Yakima Now In 1st Place

By United Press
Yakima displayed its "clutch" potential Monday night and strengthened its hold on first place in the Northwest League by clouting last-place Salem, 17-10. All of the winning runs came in the extra 10th inning.

Rain washed out the Wenatchee-Lewiston fracas at Lewiston, but Tri-City poured it on in the last inning for a four-run outburst and an 8-6 triumph over Spokane.

The Bears were one run down going into the ninth inning at Salem. With two out and a mate on second, Yakima shortstop Elwayne Wilcox slashed out a double that tied the contest. In the extra inning, Bob Wilson, Roy Nixon and Wilcox singled and Vince Moreci socked a three-bagger. Added in were three Salem errors and the end result was a seven-run spurge that ruined the Senators' hopes for a win.

Ten pitchers, seven of them Bears, saw action in the game. A chilled audience of only 125 spectators saw the hometown Indians lose out to Tri-City. Vern Kindsfather was credited with the Braves' win; Bill Bottler was charged with the loss. Both hurlers came on in the ninth stanza.

Eddie Murphy socked a bases-empty four-baser in the first inning for Spokane. Duane Helbig countered with a two-run homer in the next frame.

"I'd worked for a month on the heavy bag to improve my punch," Tex said. "And my trainer, Roscoe Manning, kept telling me I could really punch if I just had the self-confidence to set myself and let drive."

Tex, weighing 158½ pounds to Smallwood's 160¼, registered his 22nd victory in 28 fights before 1,231 fans.

A notoriously light puncher, Gonzalez of East Orange, N.J., suddenly seemed to have bombs in his fists as he floored the worker from a Brooklyn bubble-gum factory in the first round and staggered him a dozen times thereafter.

U. S. TEAM DELAYED
Stockholm — (U.P.) — The American equestrian teams for the Olympic Prix de Nations will not be able to start its workouts until next Wednesday since its horses won't be ready until then because of a quarantine.

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

Major Leagues Adjust to TV; Minors Have Suffered

By WILLIAM EWALD

New York — (U.P.) — It used to be "Take me out to the ball game," but now it's "Stock the cooler with beer, dad, the Yankees play tonight."

After a hesitant courtship, baseball and television have finally become real electronic bedfellows. But baseball still isn't sure whether TV is trying to hug it or strangle it.

The impact of television on baseball, and vice versa, has been one of the most interesting and troublesome of all the outgrowths of this communications miracle which makes it possible to see a moving object the size of an orange from 50 miles away.

Last year 65 million different people watched the World Series on the video screens. The all-star game alone was seen by 35 million. The regular season games draw a living room crowd that dwarfs the fans in the ball park. And all for free.

Major Leagues Survive
But certainly television isn't killing major league baseball. The national sport has made an adjustment more satisfactory, for example, than have the movies.

It is a valid point that TV has made fans of millions of youngsters who, once caught by the game, manage to stir fathers out to battle the traffic jam and get a real live look at their team.

And fresh cash that runs into the millions from sponsors usually cigarettes, beer or razor blades hasn't pained the big league clubowners. It takes a lot of turnstile clicking to match it.

There is, however, no question that TV has hurt minor league baseball severely. In 1949 there were 59 minor

leagues and 454 clubs. Now there are 27 circuits and 206 clubs. Attendance has fallen in seven years from 50 million to 19 million.

Baseball men will also argue that they aren't getting a fair return for the entertainment the sport produces. They contrast the TV revenue they get from a five-hour doubleheader with a cast in the dozens to what a sponsor would pay for another type TV show capable of holding a dedicated audience so long.

One solution advanced is the pay-as-you-see TV in which a set owner would put a quarter or 50 cents in a slot to see a game. But that whole subject is extremely controversial and has a lot of kinks.

Top Golfers Aim For US Open Berths

By UNITED PRESS

Most of the nation's top tournament pros fire away at Dallas today for the last 37 berths in next week's U. S. Open Golf Championship at Rochester, N.Y., but they'll have to be plenty hot to steal the nationwide lead from chunky Walter Burkemo of Frankin, Mich.

Burkemo, 1953 PGA champion, led 108 qualifiers in 24 circles Monday with a 10 under par 66-68—134 over two of Detroit's toughest courses. He had nine one-putt greens and picked up 11 birdies in 36 holes by way of letting the rest of the pros know he'll be a distinct threat at Rochester June 14-16.

Even so, the next U. S. Open champ may emerge from today's test at Dallas where the non-exempt stars who competed in the rich Texas International championship will shoot for the last 37 places in the starting field of 162 for the big show next week.

Among them are Gene Littler, Ted Kroil, Jimmy Demaret, Jerry Barber, Don January, Don Fairfield, Billy Maxwell, Bo Wingner, and Arnold Palmer, plus former champions Lloyd Mangrum and Lawson Little.

MILWAUKIE BOY SIGNED
Portland — (U.P.) — Larry Irwin, 18-year-old pitcher for Milwaukee high school the past two years, yesterday signed a contract with the Boston Red Sox.

Irwin will report to the newly formed all-rookie Class D, Nebraska State league which opens July 1.

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Thompson Takes Title

Dallas, Tex. — (U.P.) — Stocky Peter Thomson, the Australian who has his eyes on a third straight British Open crown, won the \$70,000 Texas International title Monday because he was the only one of the contenders able to master Preston Hollow's No. 2 "graveyard hole."

The imperturbable, 28-year-old Melbourne native defeated Gene Littler of Singing Hills, Calif., and Cary Middlecoff of Dallas in the second hole of a sudden death playoff after all three tied with 13-under-par 287s after the regulation 72 holes.

Out of the four rounds of golf played in this rich tournament, Thomson was the only one of the top six finishers who was able to play the par four hole in even par—and he conquered it with a dramatic 12-foot birdie putt in the playoff that was worth \$13,478.

UW Coach Claims Team Benefited

Portland — (U.P.) — The new football coach at the University of Washington, Darrell Royal, paid his first visit to Portland last night and said that recent penalties imposed on the school by the Pacific Coast Conference might benefit the Huskies in the long run.

Royal, former mentor at Mississippi State, said putting the school on probation midway through spring practice didn't dampen the spirits of the team but added that it didn't help them, either.

He said that in the long run Washington should benefit from the move and be a stronger contender than ever.

SEALS OBTAIN SURKONT

St. Louis — (U.P.) — Max Surkont, right-handed pitcher whom St. Louis obtained from the Pittsburgh Pirates a month ago, has been sold by the Cardinals to the San Francisco Seals of the Pacific Coast League. Surkont, who has pitched a total of 5-13 innings, was traded to the Cards. for right-hander Luis Arroyo.

Medford Auto, NG Get Wins

National Guard and Medford won convincing victories yesterday in Jackson county softball association play on the Medford football field.

National Guard downed the 20-30 club 10-5 with Fisher getting credit for the win, fanning nine. Leading the winners' attack was Matyka, Landers, Phillips, Yarnell and Snook, who all scored two runs.

House and Green highlighted the game for the losers. Sanders, who fanned eight, was the losing pitcher.

Medford Auto trounced DeMolay 19-6, which included homers by Riley, Parker and Stone. Also leading the Medford Auto attack was Smith, Pool and Granger, who rapped doubles. Riley, whiffing two and walking five, was the winning pitcher.

Swinney led the DeMolay onslaught with a double and a single. Colton was the losing pitcher.

SOVIET 'FRIENDSHIP'

Wellington, New Zealand — (U.P.) — The new Russian "friendship" policies have been extended to Soviet radio hames. New Zealand amateur radio operators reported they talked with their Russian counterparts this week for the first time in seven years. All previous efforts to contact the Soviets during that period had been ignored.

BUS CRASH INJURES 13

Chicago — (U.P.) — A Chicago Transit Authority bus went out of control and crashed into a viaduct Monday, injuring 13 passengers. One of the passengers was in serious condition with a possible skull fracture. The driver said he lost control of the bus when it hit a foot-deep hole in the street.

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