

Tornado, Indians Mix In Saturday Twin Bill

Ernie Tyler, only regular pitcher back from the 1956 Medford high varsity, is expected to be the mound opponent of Roseburg's stellar tosser Bill Oerding Saturday when the Black Tornado battles the Indian baseball club here. That was the word from Medford tutor John Kovenz.

A doubleheader is billed with the Indians with the first game to be at 1:30 p.m.

Kovenz said that the choice lies among Dick McLaughlin, Tom Lawrence and Dennis Barr for the starting call in the second game. McLaughlin, a senior and veteran catcher, hurled for junior varsity encounters last year. Lawrence and Barr are sophomores with experience in the summer baseball program here.

Ron Beamer may get the other starting hill assignment for Roseburg.

Fine Boost Possible

A win over the Indians could give Medford high baseball a fine early season boost. Roseburg can start with vets at all but one position and on the

roster are at least six youths who were on the American Legion team which won third in the nation last year. Oerding was a standout chucker for that club and Beamer had a reputation for his hitting in Legion ball.

Beamer and Oerding alternate on the mound and on first base. Other possible starters against Medford are Tom Burgess, second base; Mike Hatfield, shortstop; Lee Stone or Rod Hoenisch, third base; Paul Hansen, Jerry Anderson and Jim Brown, outfielders and Bud Conley or Ed LaRogue, catcher.

The Tornado may have McLaughlin or Bob Pond, catcher; Dennis King, first base; Larry Perkins, second base; Steve Wisely, third base; and Gordon Owsley, shortstop with Steve Shorey, right field, Ron Peery, center field and John Payne or Dick Barlow, left field.

Roseburg has a win over Grants Pass and the tussles Saturday, therefore, will be an indication on how Medford will fare against the Cavemen in the Southern Oregon conference.

Fred Haney Defended by Brave Boss

By LEO H. PETERSEN
United Press Sports Editor
Bradenton, Fla. —(U.P.)—John Quinn, general manager of the Braves, today came to the defense of Manager Fred Haney, who was accused of bunting away Milwaukee's pennant chances last year.

"There was nothing wrong with the system Haney used," Quinn maintained. "He managed on the theory that if the club scored five runs a game it could win with the kind of pitching we had. And the records prove that system was all right because we lost only a few games in which we scored five or more runs."

Haney was second-guessed, especially during the September stretch run, for bunting and trying for one run when such slingers as Ed Mathews and Hank Aaron, the National League's batting champion, were at the plate.

Close To Vest

Haney's critics claimed he played it "too close to the vest" and would have been better off had he allowed his sluggers to hit away.

"I don't go for that rot," Quinn said. "First off, no major league club hires anyone as a manager who is not a sound fundamentalist. By that I mean he knows his players, just what they can do and fits his strategy to that pattern. We would not have hired Fred had we not been convinced he was the best man for the job."

Quinn said he had not talked to Haney about it, but that he wouldn't be "surprised if Fred doesn't play the same type of game again this year."

Cleveland Indians Still Hunt for Secret Formula

(This is the 10th in a series on the 1957 prospects of the Major League clubs.)

By BILL McFARLAND
Tucson, Ariz. —(U.P.)—Manager Kerby Farrell of the Cleveland Indians still is looking in vain for the secret formula for whipping the New York Yankees.

"We need more hitting and more team speed to win," said Farrell, but so far he hasn't produced either commodity, though he has experimented all spring as patiently as a research chemist.

Thus, the Indians will head into another American league campaign with the most impressive lot of pitchers in baseball—Bob Lemon, Herb Score, Early Wynn, Mike Garcia and a solid second line—but with virtually the same supporting cast that finished nine games behind the Yankees in second place last year.

The loss of third baseman Al Rosen, one-time home run king and the league's most valuable player in 1953, complicated Farrell's first season as boss of the Indians and led to the endless experiments he has been forced

to conduct.

Until he clears his third base situation, neither his infield nor his outfield is likely to be settled. He has been trying second baseman Bobby Avila, outfielders Al Smith and Dave Pope and rookie Billy Harrel at third.

Farrell starts with three 20-game winners—Lemon (20-14), Score and Wynn each 20-9. Then he has Garcia (11-12) plus excellent relievers in Ray Narleski, Don Mossi and Art Houtteman.

The catching is safe though not powerful in the hands of the veteran Jim Hegan, Hal Naragop and young Earl Averill.

The big hope to wield a big stick again is first baseman Vic Wertz, who came back after a bout with polio last season and belted 32 homers plus 106 runs-batted-in.

At shortstop there's Chico Carrasquel or George Strickland, both light hitters on their current performance.

Avila, the league's batting king with .341 in 1954, is the regular at second unless Farrell finds he can be more useful in the trouble spot at third. In that event, Strickland can play second or the job might go to rookie Raines, a .309 hitter up from Indianapolis.

Regalado Back Again

At third, there's Rudy Regalado back for another whirl hoping he can hit big league pitching, plus the others—Avila, Smith, Pope and Harrell, the latter a .279 hitter at Indianapolis last season.

In the outfield, Smith has been stationed in center and Farrell would like to keep him there.

Rocco Colavito, who hit 21 home runs in 101 games last year, is back in right field and Farrell is convinced the 25-year-old is a coming star.

Other outfielders include Jim Busby, who is back after nursing a shoulder ailment the veteran Gene Woodling, Pope, rookies Joe Caffie and Roger Maris. Maris has looked exceptionally good, though it's too early to tell until he has a few more looks at major league pitching.

Potgieter Fight Draws Criticism

San Francisco —(U.P.)—A fight scheduled Saturday in Salem, Ore., between 335-pound Ewart Potgieter and Frankie Buford "not only is a mismatch but in bad taste," according to California Athletic Commissioner Douglas O. Hayden.

Potgieter, a South African giant whose West Coast bookings are handled by Sid Flaherty, knocked out 266-pound Bruce Olson at Salem on March 2. Olson was taken to the hospital where he remained three weeks after suffering a cerebral hemorrhage.

"It appears to me that putting a giant like Potgieter against a 210-pounder like Buford—who has no victories listed since 1953—not only is a mismatch but in bad taste," Hayden said.

"These darn mismatches are bad for boxing," he added.

Eagles Have Senior Squad

Eagle Point—Twelve seniors, 11 with Eagle varsity experience, are on the Eagle Point high school baseball squad but coach Art Thompson has reported that a wet field has limited workouts to running and throwing and he says that the club enters the season shy on fundamentals.

Lopped From Roster

Branca never regained the heights after that. He left the Dodgers for Detroit, then the Yankees, then into retirement, and finally this last comeback.

Branca was one of a number of players lopped from big-league rosters today as the teams struggled to reach the 28-man player limit by the new opening day deadline.

The Dodgers optioned right-hander Bob Darnell to Los Angeles while the Washington Senators cut six men and the Kansas City A's were right behind with five released.

Players Discuss Reserve Clause

Orlando, Fla. —(U.P.)—Big-league baseball players will tell Commissioner Ford Frick next week whether they are going to "back the reserve clause" when Congress starts to investigate the diamond sport.

Player representatives Eddie Yost of the Washington Senators and Robin Roberts of the Philadelphia Phillies disclosed Thursday night that the players are "cooperating with the owners" by holding meetings to decide their stand on the controversial reserve clause in player contracts.

Several clubs already have held player meetings and others were scheduled to do this week end.

San Diego Edges Portland Nine

Glendale, Calif. —(U.P.)—The Portland Beavers and Seattle Rainiers were scheduled to battle in an attempt to reenter the win column today in an exhibition game here.

Both the Beavers and Rainiers lost in games Thursday. The Beavers were edged by San Diego, 10-8, here while the Rainiers were dumped, 10-3, by San Francisco at San Bernardino.

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE SPORTS

Joe Nuxhall Twirls Triumph for Redlegs

By UNITED PRESS
The Cincinnati Redlegs thought they had a 20-game winner in lefty Joe Nuxhall last season, until aches and pains held him to a "jinx 13," but it looks like 220-pound "Baby Joe" is ready now for that big year.

The lefty lefty looked pretty near his best form Thursday in giving up only four hits at Clearwater, Fla., to beat the Philadelphia Phillies, 5-2. He fanned five

batters and, though he walked five, was in trouble in only one inning when a hit batsman, a walk and a balk helped the Phillies score twice.

Nuxhall won without the Redlegs' famed power. A three-run third-inning rally included only an error, four walks, and a sacrifice fly.

There was glory for another pitcher Thursday—Red Murrif, the Milwaukee Braves' much-traveled reliever. Murrif, who won his last game with a double, made lightning strike again in the same place — and this time against the world champion New York Yankees. The Braves defeated the Yanks 6-4.

Ralph Branca Ends Career On Diamond

By UNITED PRESS
The dream, that really never has been clear and bright ever since Bobby Thomson hit "that home run," has ended at last for Ralph Branca.

The tall, husky righthander, who has been trying to make a comeback as a pitcher with the Brooklyn Dodgers, heeded the advice of his wife today and retired from the game at the age of 31—exactly 10 years after he became a 21-game winner and one of baseball's top youngsters.

"I'm going to call it quits," said Branca at Orlando, Fla. "I'll probably try the insurance business."

Steeplechase Title Taken By Sundew

Aintree, England —(U.P.)—Mrs. Geoffrey Kahn's Sundew won the Grand National steeplechase today. Wyndburgh was second and Tiberetta third.

The race decides the Irish Hospital sweepstakes winners throughout the world.

Sundew was an easy winner of the world's most grueling horse race. He romped across the finish line eight lengths in front after completing 30 rugged jumps in the four-mile, 856-yard race. He was 20 to 1 in the betting.

Wyndburgh, 25 to 1 in the closing odds, was six lengths ahead of the 66-to-1 Tiberetta at the finish.

Relay Meet On Saturday

Salem —(U.P.)—Some 36 varsity performers from the University of Oregon and 22 from Oregon State college will head a field of 1750 track and field hopefuls at the annual Willamette relays here tomorrow.

Some 19 colleges and 70 high schools will take part.

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Medford Junior Varsity Nicks Jacksonville Nine

Medford junior varsity baseballers combined two of their three hits with an error in the sixth inning for the only run in a 1 to 0 nod over the Jacksonville high varsity here yesterday afternoon.

Jerry Fields and Dick Barlow singled and Bob Pond's blow to the outfield, a hard chance to field, was dropped to permit the run.

In addition to scoring the winning run, Fields made a nice defensive play at third base to wreck Jacksonville's big scoring opportunity. Clyde Smith of the Redskins hit a tremendous drive to deep right field for a triple and Walter Couch drew a base on balls. Gary West tried

a squeeze bunt but Fields nabbed the ball and threw to the plate for the putout. Tom Lawrence then fanned Gary Silva and Frank Plant to end the inning.

Jacksonville outhit the Medford club by one blow with Joe Hogan doubling and Eddie Paxton and Gary Hueners slapping singles. Dennis Barr got a safety for Medford.

Lawrence whiffed six batters and gave one hit in three innings and Barr struck out four and gave up three hits in four frames. For Jacksonville Smith had three strikeouts and a hit in three innings while Hueners fanned four and yielded two safeties.

The Junior Tornado opened with eight sophomores in the lineup.

Racing Season Dates Approved

Portland —(U.P.)—Dates for dog and horse racing in the Portland area were approved yesterday by the state racing commission.

Fifty days of horse racing at Portland Meadows were approved between May 1 and July 13. The same number of days was assigned for dog racing, starting July 15 and ending not later than Oct. 31. Indications were that horse racing would start about May 17 and dog racing about July 15.

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Fun for "F" Friday . . .

Fun-for-Foot-Friday is a fine holiday that is good for anything . . . excellent on Saturdays. Only Barker's are alert enough to bring this splendid thing to Medford for the first time. Barker's have imported something entirely new in shoes . . . the true stupid endless look. \$7.95 buys at Barker's a pair of these ranch-tan cowhide leisure shoes. Do they have a plaid lining? (Well . . . yes! they actually do). All day Saturday in celebration of Fun-for-Foot-Friday, Barker's are giving away free a pair of dollar Interwoven sox with each pair of shoes sold!

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