

Woes of Far West League Recalled by Bill Weiss

By HAL WOOD
San Francisco — There may be millions to be made in major league baseball—but no matter how much the big time boys make, the fellows in the little leagues shell out more trying to keep their heads above water.

Take the word of Bill Weiss, official statistician for a half dozen of the minors in the West. "It's a tough road for most of the club owners in the small cities," says Weiss. "Take a look at the Class C Southwestern league, for instance."

"It ended its 1956 season with 10 teams. It finished out the 1957 campaign with only four clubs."

"One of the teams to drop out was Clovis, N.M., and you couldn't blame the lack of attendance on a poor club. The owners tied up with the Cincinnati Reds and the Reds came through handsomely. They stocked the team with such good players that by June Clovis was 18 games ahead of the field. But it dropped out because fans

had lost interest in the race." Weiss was official statistician for the Pacific Coast, Western, Northwest, California, Pioneer and Southwestern leagues last year.

He got paid in full for his services from every league. But sometimes it is touch and go. "When the Southwest International league was on its last legs a few years ago they brought in a baseball fan named Harry Ledell of Los Angeles as president. Ledell loved the game and he didn't want to see the league break up. Things went from bad to worse and Ledell started paying the bills. The loop finally collapsed and he paid me out of his own pocket."

Shortly after World War II, Weiss worked in the office of Jerry Donovan, who at that time was president of the Class C California league and a Class D loop called the Far West. The Far West was a headache from the day it opened.

"I remember the Vallejo ball club had a contract to rent a

SPORTS

Jim Shanley Gains Back Rushing Lead

Los Angeles — Quarterback Bob Newman of Washington State led the Pacific Coast conference in total offense and passing today in statistics released by the PCC commissioner's office.

The figures also revealed that Oregon's Jim Shanley had regained the rushing lead with 396 yards in five games, followed by Oregon State's Nub Beamer, 389, and Stanford's Charles Shea, 386.

Newman's total of 646 yards was made mostly through the air. The sharp-shooting passer has completed 43 aeriels for 601 yards for the season. He added 45 yards on the ground.

Jack Douglas, of Stanford, was second with 30 completions good for 384 yards and Howard Willis, Idaho, was third with 27 completed passes and 334 yards. Ellingsen Best.

The best mark for pass reception—22—was held by Don Ellingsen, of Washington State. He has made 310 yards and one touchdown. UCLA's Kirk Wilson had the most interceptions with four.

Ken Hall, Idaho, continued to lead the conference in punting with an average of 48.3 yards, but Wilson, the nation's 1956 leader, was moving up with a 44.5 average.

Oregon State's Sterling Hammack led in punt returns with 210 yards. Lou Valli, of Stanford, was second with 64 and Shanley and Paul Wagar, Idaho, next with 57.

In team statistics, Oregon State was leading in total offense and total defense, despite a loss last week end to the underdog UCLA team.

Beavers Top Rushing
Coach Tommy Prothro's squad has averaged 345 yards a game in total offense while allowing opponents 227 yards. The Beavers also led in rushing offense with 264.8 yards a game.

Washington State, the possessor of the PCC's top passer in Newman, was ahead in total yards gained through the air with a 179.2 yard average. UCLA was second with 112.6 and California third, 103.4.

Stanford was second in total offense with 330 yards, and Washington State was third, 320.4. Oregon trailed Oregon State in total defense, allowing an average of 236 yards.

Budapest Quiet on First Anniversary Of Revolution

Budapest — Budapest was quiet and calm today on the rainy, cold first anniversary of the Hungarian revolution.

Life in the city was that of a normal working day with no indication that the people would commemorate the revolution.

The government had made it clear that any attempt at counter-revolutionary demonstrations would be crushed by security forces.

No black ties or mourning bands were to be seen in the city. The Budapest cemetery, which was open to the public, drew no more visitors than on any other day.

No Russian Troops
There were no Russian troops in the city, but there seemed to be more uniformed policemen patrolling the streets than on a normal day.

The Bem Square and the statue of Polish national hero, Bem, was heavily guarded by police. It was there last year that the first shots were fired into a crowd of demonstrating students.

The Budapest press today did not carry a line referring to the events of last October.

Abel Declines To Take Witness Stand

New York — Accused Soviet spy Rudolf Ivanovich Abel declined today to take the witness stand in his own defense against charges that he transmitted to Russia vital U. S. defense and atomic secrets.

The 55-year-old Russian intelligence colonel preferred to let the case go to the jury as it was presented by the government, his court-appointed attorney, James P. Donovan, said.

Donovan told reporters the defense would call no witnesses. The government concluded its case by introducing in evidence a variety of hollowed-out objects found in Abel's Latham hotel room and in his Brooklyn photographic studio. These included a yellow pencil containing 18 microfilms; a sanding block containing a tiny 250-page code book; two tie clasps, a cuff link, screws, flashlight batteries and brass cylinders.

Orange, N.J. — Dr. Robert E. Humphries, 73, orthopedic surgeon, died Monday of a heart ailment. Humphries treated many victims of radium poisoning incurred during the painting of luminous dials of watches used by soldiers during World War I.

Pond's Ankle Broken in Pelican Mix

Reserve Quarterback Bob Pond of the Medford High school football team has been lost for the season, Coach Fred Spiegelberg reported today.

Pond, who has had the duty of holding the ball for point-after-touchdown kicks, was piled on by Pelican players while performing that chore in the Klamath Falls game. His ankle injury proved to be a fracture.

A 150-pound junior, Pond is rated a "very good" linebacker by Spiegelberg. He has seen defensive service about one-fourth the time in Tornado contests this fall. The quarterback has had some offensive work.

The head coach said that he and his staff are in the process of breaking in another man for the ball-holding task, in preparation for the Eureka, Calif., mix on Friday. Candidates are Ron Reich, Calvin Dean, John Jones and Tom Hamlin. Spiegelberg pointed out that the duty requires good "hands," good reactions and a willingness to take punishment by crashing players of the opposition.

Tom Merton and Bob Gee missed Monday and Tuesday workouts this week because of flu. It was hoped they might be back in uniform this afternoon. Frank Albert went home because of sickness yesterday.

The Black Tornado had a heavier drill on Monday as it opened work for the Eureka Logger conflict on the Medford turf. Linemen were drilled at rushing passers and backs also got in practice in pass defense. Punt coverage was another item on the agenda. Defense against Eureka were an item of business yesterday. The Tornado held dummy scrimmage for its own ground attack and also labored at pass scrimmage.

Medford will be up against a T formation team when it meets the Loggers. Eureka may use a split attack and reportedly likes to pass.

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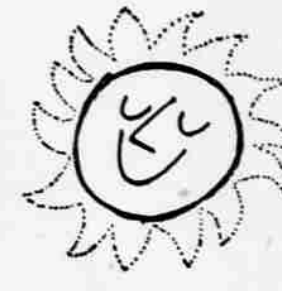
MEDFORD (OREGON) MAIL TRIBUNE—ELEVEN



SWINGING FROM TRUSSED harness is this dog in picture in Soviet newspapers. Russ claim pix was taken as dog, sealed in rocket, flew 130 miles above earth. Instruments, they said, indicated no behavior change. (International)

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