

Slashed Leg Sidelines Will Mays

Mesa, Ariz. — (UPI) — Manager Bill Rigney appeared gloomy as his Giants prepared to meet the Chicago Cubs in today's Cactus League tussle.

Number one reason for the usually genial skipper's gloom was the absence of Willie Mays from the lineup.

Mays tried to score from second base on a dropped pop fly in Thursday's tussle with the Boston Red Sox at Scottsdale. He beat shortstop Don Buddin's wide throw to the plate, but he slid into the shin guard of catcher Sammy White, who was stretching for Buddin's toss.

He scored, but he wound up with a badly lacerated right leg that required 35 stitches to mend.

Trainer Frank Bowman said Mays would be out of action "for at least a week." He will rest at the Phoenix home he and his wife are renting during spring training.

Number two reason for Rigney's depression was the performance of his charges. Mays' costly run put the San Francisco ahead 4-2, but the Red Sox erupted for five runs in the eighth inning to win 7-4.

McCormick Does Well

One bright spot in Thursday's performance was a good four-inning pitching stint by young Mike McCormick. He twirled shutout ball and gave up two hits.

Curt Barclay and Paul Giel followed McCormick to the mound, however, and both were hard hit, although Giel was partially undone by a pair of errors.

Mays and Jim Davenport picked up two hits each, while Ted Lepcio and the highly-rated rookie Pumpsie Green knocked in key runs for the winners.

"The club's just not hitting the way it should," Rigney said dejectedly today. "Also, our second and third pitchers in each game are not looking as strong as they should. Let's face it — we're not looking good at all up to now."

The Giants were to send a pair of 19-year-old hurlers against the Cubs here today. Ron Herbel and Gaylord Perry were to divide pitching chores.

With Ramon Monzant quitting baseball and John Fitzgerald battling a sore elbow, a good spring showing by either Herbel or Perry might keep him on the varsity this year, and do much to ease manager Rigney's gloom.

Injury Suffered By Drabowsky

Tucson, Ariz. — (UPI) — Hard-luck Moe Drabowsky, who just recovered from a sore arm which plagued him all last year, now has a fractured thumb that will prevent him from hurling for the Chicago Cubs for about six weeks.

The injury will mean that Drabowsky probably will be out of action for the first two weeks of the regular season.

Drabowsky was struck by a foul ball on his right thumb Thursday while batting in the fourth inning of an exhibition game with Cleveland. Impact of the ball practically ripped his thumb nail off and caused a fracture to the thumb just behind the nail.

Close Competition Forecast In Most NCAA Region Tussles

By JOHN GRIFFIN
United Press International

Streaking Kansas State, the nation's top-ranked team, is expected to clobber the "losingest" team in the field for its 21st straight win but the odds-makers forecast mighty close competition in almost all other games tonight when regional play opens in the NCAA major college basketball tourney.

Competition is slated at four sites as Navy's surprising team leads seven first-round winners into conflict along with nine league champions who had first-round byes.

Here's the way the odds-makers see Friday games:

At Charlotte, N.C.

Navy (17-5) 7 points over Boston Uni. (19-6).

West Virginia (26-4) 3 points over St. Joseph's Pa. (23-3).

At Evanston, Ill.

Michigan State (18-3) 3 over Marquette (23-4).

Kentucky (23-2) 9 over Louisville (17-10).

At Lawrence, Kan.

Kansas State (24-1) 16 over De Paul (13-9).

Cincinnati (24-3) 6 over Texas Christian (19-5).

At San Francisco

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California (21-4) 4 over Utah 21-5.

St. Mary's Calif. (17-5) 14 over Idaho St. (20-6).

Friday night winners will clash Saturday night for regional titles; then the Charlotte champ will meet the Evanston champ at Louisville, Ky., March 20 for the Eastern title and the Lawrence winner will meet the San Francisco winner for the Western crown. Eastern and Western champs will collide March 21 for the championship.

Kentucky, ranked No. 2 nationally by the UPI Board of Coaches, is the defending NCAA champ. But Coach Adolph Rupp has back only one starter, Johnny Cox, from last year's titlist and, what's more, his team is in the tourney only "on a pass." Kentucky inherited the Southeastern conference berth when champ Mississippi State passed.

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SPORTS

Knights Vie In Benefit Cage Fray

Hilarity reigned Tuesday night at the second annual Knights of Columbus benefit basketball game in St. Mary's school gymnasium.

Performing before a near capacity crowd, the two teams composed of members of the Rogue River chapter, Knights of Columbus, played three quarters of almost-serious basketball and finished with a fourth quarter of clowning, feigned injuries, and even the "removal" of a leg by the official scribes.

The Rev. Carl Mai was present to give spiritual solace to the "wounded."

A band, led by yell "queen" Perry Rayburn, entertained enthusiastic spectators with their parading antics on the floor, and by acting as a cheering section for both teams.

Proceeds to Convent

Guests of honor for the evening were the Holy Names Sisters of St. Mary's convent, to whom the proceeds of the game are presented each year.

During a serious half-time ceremony, Grand Knight Gordon Boner paid tribute to St. Mary's High school basketball team, Jackson County B league champions and winners of the sub-district 5B basketball title. Certificates were presented to the individual team members in honor of their championship and outstanding sportsmanship.

An honorary certificate also was presented to the team's coach, Bill McKibbin; and another was accepted by Sister Superior Gerard Mary on behalf of St. Mary's school.

Coaching the Knights of Columbus "red" team was Bill McKibbin, while Neil Murphy tutored the "whites." Referees were Gary Miksche and Dick Evans.

George Holtzinger was general chairman in charge of arrangements for the event.

Smith Leading In Titleholders

Augusta, Ga. — (UPI) — Chubby, readheaded Wiffie Smith, who mopped up the field of women's amateur golf before he turned 20, carried a one-stroke lead into the second round of the Titleholders today in her continuing drive to become one of the nation's top women professionals.

Miss Smith, now only 22, took advantage of her long game Thursday to post an even-par 75 over the rough Augusta Country Club course. She was the only one among 46 of the nation's finest women golfers to equal par during the first 18 holes of the 20th Titleholders.

Fay Crocker, from Uruguay who now plays out of Wichita, Kans., was close behind Miss Smith with a 76. But the golfer to watch appeared to be 24-year-old Mickey Wright of San Diego, Calif., who was another stroke back at 77.

Trainers Face Investigation

Bowie, Md. — (UPI) — Two trainers at Bowie Race Track faced investigation by the Maryland Racing commission today following disclosure that saliva tests of their winning mounts on Monday proved positive.

The trainers were identified as C. F. Wagner, conditioner of J. A. Galazia's Jerry's Gem, and R. W. Duncan, who handled Shamrock Farm's John Hernon. The horses won the second and fourth races that day. Shamrock Farms is owned by Art Rooney, president of the Pittsburgh Steelers in the National Football league.

BASKETBALL

THURSDAY COLLEGE GAMES National Invitation Tournament (First Round)

Butler 94, Fordham 20

St. John's 75, Villanova 67

NCAA College Division Regional (Semi-Finals)

SW Missouri 72, Los Angeles 59

Evanville 110, NC A&T 92

NAIA Tournament (Quarter Finals)

Ft. Hays St. 88, W. Va. Wesleyan 83

SW. Tex. St. 80, Lenoir Rhyne 78

Tenn. A&I 121, Illinois Normal 74

Pac. Lutheran 97, Ga. Techs. 65

Evansville To Encounter Southwest Missourians In Small College Final

Evansville, Ind. — (UPI) — Evansville's record busters were installed as favorites in tonight's title clash with Southwest Missouri in the NCAA small college basketball tourney.

The home-based Aces set three tourney records in Thursday night's 110-92 rout of speedy North Carolina A&T, while the Missouri Bears gained the payoff with a 72-59 win over Los Angeles State.

The losers vie for consolation honors before the title clash.

Hugh Ahlering, a 6-foot senior guard from Evansville,

scored 31 points, including a record 17 of 18 free throws, to lead the home boys to victory. Their total of 110 points and 46 free throws were other single game records in this three-year-old tourney.

Ahlering hit 12 straight free throws before missing. He also dumped fielders, mostly when the Aces needed them to stay in front, for the best individual effort in the eight-team finals.

The Missouri crew trailed by 10 points early in the game against Los Angeles, but took the final lead early in the second half on a one-hander by Jack Israel and coasted in.

California Teams Picked As Favorites in Western

By HAL WOOD
San Francisco — (UPI) — California's "starless" Pacific Coast conference champions battle "clumsy" Utah and St. Mary's "Galloping Gaels" tangle with the stretch-running farmers from Idaho State as the Western regional NCAA basketball play-offs get underway at the Cow Palace tonight.

A crowd of 14,000 or more is expected to jam the pavilion to see the two Northern California favorites, California and St. Mary's in action.

The home-area clubs will be favored to win — but not by more than a whisker in either case.

Newell Fears Utah

"We have no illusions," was Coach Pete Newell's final word on California's chances. "Utah has a big, solid, hard-running, fine-shooting ball club — well coached."

Said Coach Jack Gardner of the Utes: "We are a clumsy basketball team. The only thing we can do real well is win."

The Redskins worked out at the Cow Palace Thursday — and liked the floor and the baskets, but not the rest of the surroundings.

"No place to dress, no good showers," commented Gardner.

Bahama Slight Bout Favorite

New York — (UPI) — Yama Bahama became a slight 6-5 favorite today to beat Wilf Greaves, Canadian middleweight champion, in their TV fight at Madison Square Garden tonight.