

Rigney Says Giants In Better Position Than One Year Ago

(This is the eighth dispatch on the prospects of major league teams for 1959.)

By SCOTT BAILLIE
Phoenix, Ariz. — (UPI) — Take a walk through sick bay and you'll see most of the San Francisco Giants' opening day lineup for this season.

That guy with 35 stitches in his shin is Willie Mays. The husky Puerto Rican with the racking cough is Orlando Cepeda, the National League Rookie of the Year in 1958. Daryl Spencer, slated to play second base, is the one with the sore foot and sore arm. Jackie Brandt, who rates as the left fielder, is recovering from a leg operation. And the man with the wired-up jaw and battered teeth is Manager Bill Rigney, who drove into a lamp post last month.

So far this year, the harried manager has not been able to field a team resembling the club which finished a surprise third last season. But although he bawled out his charges last week for laxness, Rigney declares that the squad seems to be in better position than at this time last year.

Banking On Rodgers

"I feel good about shortstop," Rigney says. "Andre Rodgers is playing with a lot more confidence and we're banking on him to make it this time."

This is the biggest change on the club so far. Rigney moved Spencer from shortstop to second so that the hard-throwing, 6 foot 3 Rodgers could play short. Andre, a light hitter in two previous seasons with the Giants, won the Pacific Coast League batting championship last year with a .354 average.

Spencer is supposed to have made the shift to second only after some discussion.

"He'll be a better player there," Rigney says. "He won't make the throwing errors of last year and will hit better."

Spencer, who is trying to improve his hitting slud to .256 last season after a good start.

Rigney says that he will have "one of the most exciting outfields in the business" with Brandt in left, Mays in center and Felipe Alou in right. All three are fine fielders and exceptionally fast.

If Orlando Cepeda remains at first base, it will be Jim Davenport again at third. The quiet Alabamian, Cepeda and catcher Bob Schmidt were three rookies who came through big last year.

Rigney gave up some of his team's power to get power-pitcher Sam (Toothpick) Jones, the major league's strikeout king.

"There's no doubt in my mind we've improved our pennant chances tremendously with Jones coming to our team," said Rigney, in a jubilant mood ever since the trade with the St. Louis Cardinals was announced Wednesday. "I can rotate Jones with righthander Johnny Antonelli and Mike McCormick," said Rigney, adding that "I even have a possible fifth starter in Stu Miller or Curt Barclay, who also can work in the bullpen."

The pitching matter cleared somewhat recently when Al Worthington (11-7) finally signed and Ramon Monzant (8-1) said he might not retire after all.

"We need another man in the bullpen to go with Billy Muffett (4-6) at St. Louis and Gordon Jones (3-1)," Rigney says. "Joe Shipley could help us a lot if he got over his stage fright."

Schmidt is set again as the number one catcher with Hobie Landrith, another Cardinal acquisition, behind him. Smitty can belt the long ball but Rigney would like to see him tack about 10 or 15 points to his .244 average.

Syracuse Tips Boston 119-107

United Press International
The Syracuse Nationals desperately hoped today that X-rays taken of Dolph Schayes' left foot would show no fracture.

Schayes, key man in Syracuse's "rebound" 119-107 victory over Boston in their Eastern division playoff final Wednesday night, was taken to St. Joseph hospital immediately after the game to determine the extent of the injury.

The former NYU star had been bothered by pain the last few games but continued to play. His 16 for 16 effort from the foul line Wednesday night enabled the Nats to deadlock Boston at two-all in their best-of-seven series.

BURLESON TO RUN
Salem — (UPI) — Dyrrol Burleson, who set a national high school record in the mile last season, will take part in the annual Willamette relays here Saturday. Burleson, a freshman at Oregon, will run unattached in the Statesman Mile.

Some 1200 athletes from 46 high schools and 14 colleges are expected to compete.

GAME CALLED OFF

Jacksonville High's baseball game scheduled with Eagle Point yesterday was called off because of wet weather. The Jacksonville nine is slated to play Illinois Valley in a double-header at Jacksonville on Saturday afternoon. Eagle Point is to visit at Butte Falls on Friday.

Beat This!



ARE REINDEER NATIVES OF ALASKA?

Reindeer were introduced into Alaska in 1891 to provide food for starving Eskimos. They have thrived in the 49th state, but are the property of the Eskimos and protected by law from all other hunters.

TOP THIS! — To any reader submitting a letter, Tip Brady will send a signed, wallet-sized diploma. Write to: BEAT THIS, c/o this paper, Box 575, Sausalito, Calif. Enclose self-addressed, stamped envelope.

A McClure Newspaper Syndicate Feature

Pilot Net Club Victor

Ashland — Portland university wrecked the Southern Oregon college 1959 tennis start with a 7 to 0 victory here yesterday.

SOC's Raiders went into the match after only three days of drill on rain swept courts. The Raiders, who are Oregon Collegiate conference champs four years running, will next meet Shasta college at Redding, Calif., on April 2.

Singles wins for Portland were posted yesterday by Omar Pabst, 6-0, 6-0, over Bob Gouley; Lou Surville 6-0, 6-0, over Bruce Merrill; Bob Kerr, 7-5, 6-3, over John Root; Tom Clark over Dick Clark, 6-2, 6-3, and Danny Carpenter over Oris Theford, 6-0, 6-2.

Pabst is the No. 2 player in Chile and Surville is among the top five in Canada. They defeated Gouley and Root, 6-1, 6-2, in doubles. Carpenter and Kerr downed Merrill and John Russell, 6-2, 6-4.

NEW YORK WINS

Chicago — (UPI) — New York's golden glove victory over Chicago today was credited to better conditioning and more experience. The New York team, which represented the cream of the eastern crop of amateur boxers, defeated Chicago, 10-6.

Black Tornado Tips Ashland High 5-1

Medford high tipped Ashland 5 to 1 yesterday in a six-inning non-league season baseball opener for both schools.

Mike Parsons struck the big blow for Medford in the battle in the rain at Ashland. He homered over center field with two aboard for three Tornado runs in the first inning. Dennis Barr, twirling for Medford, struck out 10 batters, gave up five hits and walked three.

Parsons' swat came after Dick Ragsdale had got on base on an error and Bob Pond had walked. One Tornado run crossed in the second inning on Ray Konopasek's hit, a walk and a dropped fly ball on a swat by Wayne Thompson. Hits by Barr and Bob Quinney, a wild pitch and a passed ball got a run in the sixth frame.

Ashland tallied in the third on singles by Harley Dickerson and Bob Johnson, an error, stolen base and walk. Johnson gave up four hits to Medford, struck out five and walked four.

LINESCORE:

Medford 310 001-5 5 4
Ashland 001 000-1 5 3
Barr, Wheeler (6) and Pond; B. Johnson, McKinnis (6) and Tucker.

When and if Medford is represented in the 1960 Oregon Class A-1 high school basketball tournament, we hope that the team has much better support in Eugene than it had this year.

We mean no affront to or criticism of the loyal students and adult fans who were on hand to cheer on the Black Tornado. But, it was our observation, that the Tornado was among the teams with the least hometown support and with one of the smaller rooting sections—which doesn't speak so well of Oregon's fourth largest city.

NO BAND

This writer did not see all of the games, but so far as he recalls, Medford was the only school which did not have a band—even a small pep band—at the tournament. Klamath Falls had a pep band at Eugene and, if the Pelican can do it, so can Medford.

Whether a band and a large cheering section can make the difference between a team's winning and losing is, of course, subject to debate. Nevertheless, such support does bolster team morale and it's certain the players appreciate the stronger backing. They reserve it even though out of the running from the championship and battling for lesser honors.

1960 PROSPECTS BRIGHT

For the Medford High school basketball aggregation it is now "wait 'til next year." With so many juniors seeing regular or a large amount of service during the campaign just past, the prospects for the 1959-1960 season are, indeed, very bright. The Black Tornado will have a strong nucleus of veterans plus some help from promising players who saw jayvee duty over the 1958-1959 slate. And all hands are expected to show improvement.

An even stronger club in 1960 is the hope. Yet, Tornado success will depend a lot on how rival aggregations also come along. The Southern Oregon conference can't be expected to be a breeze, and the state A-1 tournament, should Medford again reach it, naturally will be a tougher row to hoe than District 6.

BOWLING

ROYAL ANN LEAGUE
Standings:
Eagle Point Teachers 13 1/2
Chitwood & Stone 12 1/2
1st Christian Three 12
Medford Plywood 11 1/2
1st Christian Two 11
Stevens Corp 10 1/2
Baker's Moulding 10
Pacific Motor Trucking 9 1/2
Coca Cola 8 1/2
1st Christian One 7 1/2
United Radio 7

Results:
Teachers 3 (B. Hall 548); Baker's 1 (A. Bauman 497);
Taylor-Salade 3 (W. Fowler 566);
Plywood 1 (W. Fischer 544);
Chitwood 2 (G. Brooks 514);
United 2 (F. Knox 368);
1st Christian Two 3 (G. Couch 388); 1st Christian One (E. Purdy 481);
1st Christian Three 1 (C. Stockstill 431); PMT 3 (D. Carson, 7; Coghill 433);
Coca Cola 4 (D. Atkinson 503; Stevens' 0 (J. Tash 408).

LADY ELKS LEAGUE No. 2
Standings:
Cassin 3 39 5
Phonies 28 1/2 15 1/2
Sage 24 1/2 15 1/2
Terrible Trio 23 1/2 12
Jolly 3 22 22
Hilo 20 24
Antlers 18 1/2 25 1/2
Astors 16 28
VIMaRu 12 1/2 31 1/2
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SIX OF SQUAD RETURN

All-Stater Jerry Anderson, Lowell and Calvin Dean, Both Deakins, Jerry Shults and Ken Durkee are members of the 1959 state tourney Medford squad who are due back for another season. Klamath Falls will have Bob Lewis, Dean Dunsen, Paul Bishop and Bill Santo back from its tournament contingent. On the Crater high squad this year Dennis Pfaff, Jim Wood, Chuck Turner, Dave Sharp and Earl Cooper were juniors, and Dennis Edwards, Loyal Higinbotham and Tom White, sophomores.

Rex Benner is the only Grants Pass regular not graduating this spring. Among GP reserves due to return are Ron Erickson, Jim Purkett, Dave Mannan and Larry Janssen. Doug Forrest will be the only returning Ashland regular. Grizzly juniors who saw quite a bit of duty were Bob Hardy and Steve Gray.

PIRATES PEGGED

Marshfield is already being pegged as the team to beat in 1960 Oregon prep basketball. It's mainly because the Pirates will have 6-9 all-stater Mel Counts on hand again. The Bucs will miss Walt Hunter and Gary Rossi but will have such capable hands as Karl Coke, Dick Shanley, Bob Burles and Lorance Eickworth again. Franklin won the 1959 A-1 crown, defeating Marshfield in the title game, was virtually a senior ball club. Only non-senior among the regulars was junior Steve Jones.

DID GOOD JOB

Coach Frank Roelandt, in summarizing the tournament and season play of the Medford high basketballers, pointed to the good and bad ball played at Eugene and declared that "overall the kids did a good job" despite not being used to state tourney play and "tournament living."

The Tornado, he said, had turned in better ball at times during the season and at Eugene "it was a matter of being inexperienced and not playing as consistently as they could." Yet, Roelandt stressed, "they gave it all they had and nothing more than that can be asked."

The mentor said that his charges were up for all their game and characterized the 19-win 6-loss season as "real good. Roelandt stated that the Tornado came along good as the season progressed and he feels that with this experience behind them, they will look better next season. Some of the helter-skelter show at times this season was attributed by Roelandt to the "pressing" by the hoopsters in their efforts to beat out each other for positions in the club.

ESSELSTYN DOES JOB WELL

Refereeing job done by Dan Jones, Portland, and Bill Esselstyn, Medford, in the Franklin-Marshfield state hoop tourney finale is right up with the best we saw all season. They let the "pitty-pat stuff" go, ignoring the accidental and incidental contact that did not interfere with the course of the conflict. As one observer said: "They let the boys play basketball." Efforts of the two officials and the keyed up play of the participants made the championship tussle a great one to watch.

In the overall tournament there were some bad calls and some times when the games got out of hand. Still we would hesitate to go as far as one of our colleagues who commented concerning "the



DRIVING OVER FINISH LINE, Bobby Morrow (left) wins special 100-yard dash at Odessa, Tex., defeating Dave Sime (right). Third was Ollan Cassell, Houston U.

RV Retriever Trial Has Largest Entry

Annual field trial of the Rogue Valley Retriever club will have its biggest field in history, it was reported today.

The American Kennel Club-licensed event will run Friday, Saturday and Sunday with most of the series possibly in the Game Commission Management area on the south side of Rogue river in the Camp White district.

Owners, handlers and trainees and from a few other localities will have dogs entered in the local trial which is on the western circuit. Some of the nation's finest retrievers, labradors, golden retrievers and chesapeakes will be run.

Entry list shows 50 dogs in the open stake, 33 in the amateur, 38 in the qualifying stake and 32 in the derby.

Competition will begin at 8 a.m. Friday with the amateur. The derby will follow. Next, but not sooner than 8 a.m. Saturday, will be the qualifying stake. Open all-age rivalry will conclude the trial.

Exact location of Friday morning's starting activity will be determined today. The three judges are going over the grounds to determine sites of the various series. Persons going to the scene of the trial are advised to drive out Crater Lake highway. For people new to Medford, it means taking the right fork at the Y at the north edge of Medford.

Signs, however, will be posted from that point. Special notice of the signs should be taken when the Crater Lake highway Four Corners is reached. For one of three directions might be designated there.

While most series are expected to be in the management area on the south side of the Rogue, some may be run on the north side of the river in management land at Hoover lakes or near Medford Gun Club.

Hi-Flyer Entered

Among the top entries in

First Chinook Taken at Galice

Portland — (UPI) — The weekly report on fishing conditions prepared by the State Game Commission:

Southwest: Opening on chinook salmon in upper Umpqua was slow and outlook is about the same; lower Umpqua also slow; first bass of season taken at Loom lake; Coquille river fair for steelhead; first chinook was taken at Galice on the Rogue river.

GIANT HURT

Phoenix, Ariz. — (UPI) — Doctors reported today that San Francisco Giants shortstop Andre Rodgers apparently would get off with only a sore, discolored cheek as a result of being smashed in the face by a pitched ball. Rodgers was struck Wednesday taking his turn at bat as the Giants walloped the Boston Red Sox for the second straight time in the Cactus League. The score was 9-4.

obviously low caliber of the officiating" as the consensus of coaches, visiting officials, fans and writers. We didn't take it upon ourselves to inquire for a general opinion but we know several persons who didn't go along with that viewpoint.

SIDES ARMY PITCHER

Pic. Duane Sides, ex-Medford high pitcher and twirler also for Southern Oregon college and the Cheney Studs, has been given special services duty with the Seventh Army Command, Karlsruhe, Germany, and will play for the command's baseball team, traveling all over Europe. Should his team take the crown in its theater, it will take part in the all-Army play-offs this summer in California.

The Army man has been attached to an air field as senior operator at Bonames control tower, Frankfurt, Germany. After the baseball season he is to return to control tower duties unless picked to play basketball.

BASEBALL

EXHIBITION RESULTS

St. Louis 000 001 000-1 5 1
Cincinnati 001 101 100-2 9 2
G. Blaylock, Kellner (8) and Green, Pena and Bailey, Loser — Blaylock, HR — Robinson.

Philadelphia 000 010 300-4 2 0
Detroit 010 000 020-3 5 1
Cardwell, Owens (7) and Lopata, Thomas (7), Banning, Raugh (8), Spencer (9) and Wilson, Winner — Cardwell, Loser — Banning, HR — Harris, Post, Bouchee, Chrisley.

New York 000 100 001-2 6 0
Kansas City 200 010 000-3 8 0
Ditmar, Freeman (7) and Howard, Garver, Meyer (6), Brunut (7) and House, Winner — Garver, Loser — Ditmar.

Chicago (A) 103 000 000-4 7 3
Pittsburgh 000 002 000-2 7 1
Wynn, Donovan (6) and Batteny, Friend and Hall, Winner — Wynn.

Milwaukee 030 010 202-8 14 0
Los Angeles 300 000 100-4 8 0
Hartman, Jay (7) and Crandall, Podres, Labine (6), Muffett (9) and Pignatano, Winner — Hartman, Loser — Podres, HR — Hodges, Crandall, Aaron.

Baltimore 000 000 010-1 8 0
Boston 002 001 001