

PRESIDENT OPENS BASEBALL CAMPAIGN

White Sox, Washington In Fracas

By ERNEST BARCELLA
Washington - (UPI) - President Kennedy, who brought a New Frontier to Washington last January, opened another today-in baseball.

This he did by throwing out a ceremonial first ball inaugurating the 1961 major league baseball season.

With that historic and traditional toss, a new Washington baseball club made its debut. So did the expanded American league, which has pushed its own frontier to Minneapolis and Los Angeles.

And so did Kennedy, whose athletic specialty is catching softball and touch football. He made his bow as opening day presidential pitcher.

Youngest To Perform

At 43, the rookie right-hander became the youngest and ninth-chief executive to perform the honorary chore. A Republican, William Howard Taft, set the fashion in 1913. Every White House occupant since has followed suit.

Kennedy did his pitching from the Griffith stadium presidential box behind the first base line a few minutes before the new Washington Senators and essentially the same old Chicago White Sox met in the gun-jumping opener before a sell-out crowd of 27,800.

Then the President relinquished the pitching to two veterans - and professional righthanders: 41-year-old Early Wynn (13-12, the former Washington pitcher who has been the star of the White Sox, and 33-year-old Dick Donovan (6-1), the former White Sox hurler who has become the standout of the Washington pitching staff.

Fascinating Era Anticipated By Big League Commissioner

By FORD C. FRICK
Commissioner of Baseball
(Written for UPI)

New York - (UPI) - Within the next five years baseball will

SF Giants Tussle Bucs

San Francisco - (UPI) - The San Francisco Giants were home from the exhibition wars today - and Tuesday they start the battle for the National league pennant by meeting Pittsburgh.

Manager Alvin Dark's team closed out its spring training Sunday by defeating Cleveland of the American league, 4-1, before 6,542 fans at Salt Lake City's Derks field.

The Giants won 15 games and lost 11 during Grapefruit league play, but they improved steadily as the regular season drew closer.

Superior pitching played the key role in both of the Salt Lake City games with Cleveland - but Sunday sharp fielding replaced the heavy hitting that gave San Francisco a 13-0 victory Saturday.

The Indians, who were shut out Saturday, got only five hits Sunday. Jack Sanford allowed one hit in four innings, and Mike McCormick held them scoreless until he was relieved by Juan Marichal in the ninth.

Centerfielder Willie Mays got all the runs the Giants needed in the first inning when he rapped a two-run homer over the left field fence. It was his fifth homer and 17th RBI of the training season.

experience the most fascinating era in its history.

For approximately 50 years, baseball stood still while the nation was growing and expanding around it.

Then in 1952 came the first franchise shift to Milwaukee and we suddenly "discovered" that baseball had a few new horizons.

This season, the American league has expanded to 10 clubs and, needless to say, it should prove an interesting year. Next year the National league will do the same.

What I am particularly interested in, however, are the next five years.

We are enjoying progress which eventually will result in, not two 10 club leagues, but expansion in some form to 24 teams by 1965. And with it must come the realignment of the minor leagues to operate in much closer relationship with the majors.

What I feel is most important at the present time is that we start thinking about the future, that we start preparing for the future right now.

Need Orderly Expansion

It's time many of us in baseball stopped crying about what used to be and get ready to do all the things necessary for an orderly expansion to those corners of the map which want and can support major league baseball.

I am often asked, "Where will we get the players to man these new major league clubs?" I'll admit it does take time. But with the increased population of the nation, we now have more youngsters by far playing baseball than ever before in our history.

There are 7 1/2 million young men between the ages of 8 and 21 who are playing on organized teams, properly coached, outfitted with proper uniforms and equipment, and playing organized schedules.

That is more than the total number of youngsters who lived in the United States in 1900. And that is the answer to that tired old cry that we can't get enough players and that there is a waning interest in baseball.

As for the minor leagues, within the next five years I should like to see the majors underwrite them as feeder leagues for talent. I think we will see the abandonment of the A-B-C-D classifications and their replacement with senior, intermediate and junior classifications, based on population of franchise cities.

With 24 major league clubs, it would be necessary for each to have at least one senior minor league affiliate. The senior leagues could be divided into groups of eight or six and play interlocking schedules.

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

SPORTS

5-Team National Chase Predicted

By WARREN C. GILES
President, National League
Written for UPI

Cincinnati - (UPI) - The 1961 season very likely will be the last one in which our 86-year-old league will operate with eight clubs - at least for some years to come. It seems almost a certainty that these eight teams will make up an extremely well-balanced league and any one of five teams appear to have a reasonable chance to win the pennant.

In recent years I have derived a great pleasure from giving my pre-season observations through these UPI facilities because I have felt no qualms about "going out on the limb." My predictions for an interesting and exciting season have been made to look good by the performances of our clubs in staging hard-fought pennant races which the fans find so entertaining.

Devotees of National league

Detroit Drops Ray Narleski

Sarasota, Fla. - (UPI) - Ray Narleski, who only a few years ago ranked as the American league's top relief pitcher, has been handed his walking papers by the Detroit Tigers.

However, manager Bob Scheffing left the door open for a comeback by offering Narleski a chance to pitch for the Tigers' Denver farm club. The 32-year-old righthander said he would consider the offer.

Narleski, who was attempting a comeback this spring after missing the entire 1960 season with a lame back, returned to his Haddonfield, N.J., home last week when the Tigers refused to tell him whether he'd pitched well enough to regain his job.

baseball flocked to the parks in record numbers last year, helping the NL to set an all-time season attendance record of 10,684,963 paid admissions.

and exciting race are every bit as good as we eagerly await the start of the 1961 season. I saw all eight of our clubs in action during the spring training season, and never have I seen more enthusiasm and genuine optimism than was evidenced by our clubs this spring.

The champion Pirates are confident they can repeat and have a right to that confidence. They won the pennant, and the World Series like champions last year, always rising to the occasion to win the "big game."

Nevertheless, the Pirates have their work cut out in defending their title in a tough, well-balanced league. And they know it! The Braves, Cardinals and Dodgers are just as confident they can win and, although not a great deal of "pennant talk" was heard around the Giant camp, it's no secret that the Giants feel they can go "all the way." A number of neutral observers share that opinion.

That's why I said earlier that anyone of five clubs "appear to have a reasonable chance to win the pennant."

The Reds, Cubs and Phillies aren't making any such claims, but all feel they have improved and, at this stage of the game, I feel certain they have. It is my deep-rooted feeling that - from first place through eighth - we could enjoy one of the tightest pennant races in the NL's 86-year history.

The league has been strengthened in recent years by an influx by outstanding young ball players. All of our clubs have brought along the type of "young blood" which makes for healthy competition both on, and among, individual clubs.

Major league baseball is on the threshold of a new era and now enjoys the greatest popularity in its venerable history. A total of 19,911,489 paid to watch American and National league games in 1960.

Interest is at an all-time peak, and the aggressiveness of our front office personnel and the players on the field, insures that National league baseball games will hold a great appeal for our faithful fans for a long time to come.

Beavers Nudge Richmond Nine

Homestead, Fla. - (UPI) - The Portland Beavers edged Richmond 6-5 and 1-0 in an exhibition baseball doubleheader here Saturday.

The wins gave Portland a 13-5 record for the season. The Beavers had Sunday off.

Senators, Cubs Top Exhibition Circuits

By NORMAN MILLER
United Press International

The new Washington Senators won the Grapefruit league championship and the Chicago Cubs wound up with the best percentage in the Cactus league, which proves just one thing: Don't put too much stock in spring exhibition games.

And if you need any more proof, the New York Yankees, favored to win the American League pennant, had the next-to-worst won-lost record of the 18 major league clubs as the exhibition barnstorming ended. The Yankees won 9 and lost 19. Only the Los Angeles Angels 4-9 had a poorer mark.

Pittsburgh's world champion Pirates actually finished with the best record for a club that played a full slate of games against major league competition. The Pirates won 18 and lost - for a .621 percentage. The Senators, who played only 12 major league opponents, won 8 and lost 4 for .667.

SUNDAY LINESCORES:
(Game called end of 5th, rain)

Detroit.....200 000-0 2 1
Kansas City.....012 00-3 5 0
Bruce, Regan (4) and Brown, Daley, Bass (4) and Sullivan, Winner-Daley, Loser-Bruce, HR - Colavito.

Minnesota.....200 101 030-7 10 2
Baltimore.....000 000 000-0 5 1
Stobbs, Kralick (4), Moore (7), Pielis (8) and Batten, Naragon (6), Estrada, Walker (6) and Triandou Zupo (7), Winner - Kralick, Loser - Estrada.

(Game called end of 6th, rain)

Washington.....000 000-0 3 2
Boston.....000 222-8 8 3
McClain, Woodeshick (4) and Mahoney, Muffett and Pagiaroni, Loser-Woodeshick.

San Fran.....200 100 001-4 8 1
Cleveland.....000 100 001-3 0 0
Sanford, McCormick (5), Marichal (9) and Haller, Schmidt (6), Locke, Funk (4), Allen (7) and Thomas, Winner-Sanford, Loser-Locke, HR-Mays.

Los Ang. (N) 000 000 020-2 5 1
San Diego.....000 001 000-1 4 2
Kouss, Golden (5), Warren (8) and N. Sherry, Lines, Horlan (7) and Napier, Winner-Golden, Loser-Horlan, HR-Snyder.

Philadelphia.....101 001 001-4 10 0
Pittsburgh.....001 000 100-2 6 6
Mahaffey, Lehman, Farrell (7) and Dairymple, Witt, Gibbon (4), Cheney (7), Face (9) and Smith, Winner-Mahaffey, Loser - Witt, HR-Callison.

Dallas-Ft. Worth (Amn. Assn.).....000 000 300-3 7 1
L.A. (N).....000 031 104-3 8 0
Sprout, Hannah (6) and Rodgers, Williams, L. Sherry (5), Newcombe (6) and Camilli, Winner - L. Sherry, Loser-Sprout.

Aaron, Law Probable Stars in NL

By FRED DOWN

New York - (UPI) - Hank Aaron of the Milwaukee Braves and Vern Law of the Pittsburgh Pirates were picked Sunday to be the individual batting and pitching stars of the 1961 National league season.

The selections were made in a survey of 57 baseball experts, all of whom viewed the big league teams in action this spring. The UPI's board of experts was made up of three writers or broadcasters covering each of the 18 teams in addition to UPI sports editor Leo H. Petersen and UPI sportswriters Milton Richman and Norman Miller.

Off Year

The consensus of the experts was that 1960 was just an "off year" for Aaron but the culmination of Law's rise to stardom.

Aaron, a two-time NL batting champion, hit only .292 last season but the experts see him rebounding to enjoy a campaign more like the ones he had in 1956 and 1959 when he won titles. Hammerin' Hank hit .328 to win his first title in 1956 and .355 to win his second in '59.

Law enjoyed his first 20-victory season in 1960 and was voted the Cy Young Award as the outstanding major league pitcher of the year. The experts apparently believe that he will do every bit as well this year.

Bearcats Snap Webfoot String

United Press International
Willamette snapped Oregon State's nine-game winning streak to highlight college baseball action in the state Saturday.

The Bearcats nipped the Oregon Staters 3-0 in the first game of a doubleheader at Corvallis. The Beavers took the nightcap 8-4.

Oregon and Linfield split a pair at Eugene. The Ducks won the opener 7-2 and Linfield the second game 9-6.

In other play, Portland State walloped Oregon College of Education 9-4 and 6-1 in opening Oregon Collegiate Conference baseball action. Portland took a pair from Pacific 12-3 and 12-10. Humboldt State beat Southern Oregon twice 5-4 and 8-0 and St. Martin's and Pacific split a twin bill. Pacific triumphed 13-2 and St. Martin's won 11-1.

LA Dodgers Await Phils

Los Angeles - (UPI) - A rush of last minute activity marked today's return of the Los Angeles Dodgers to the Coliseum on the eve of the start Tuesday night of the 1961 baseball season.

The activity included speculation that manager Walt Amon would name Spokane outfielder Carl Warwick to replace ailing hurler Ed Roebuck on the roster.

Dodger players arrived

here Sunday night after playing split-squad exhibition games in San Diego and Long Beach. The Dodgers won the San Diego encounter against the San Diego Padres, 2-1, and beat Dallas-Ft. Worth, 5-3, in nearby Long Beach.

The Philadelphia Phillies, whom the Dodgers meet Tuesday night in their National league opener, followed the local team into the Coliseum today for final workouts.

Angels Bill Baltimore

Baltimore - (UPI) - The Los Angeles Angels today hold their final workout before starting their first major league season Tuesday against the Baltimore Orioles.

The warmup was to be held in Municipal Stadium. The two teams clash Tuesday in Baltimore Memorial Stadium.

Manager Bill Rigney's latest lineup to the opener has former Albie Pearson slated for

the right field because of his familiarity with the stadium's vast outfield.

Other tentative starting positions include Eddie Yost at third base, Ken Aspromonte at second, Ted Kluszewski at first, Bob Cerv in left field, Ken Hunt in center field, Fritz Brickell at shortstop, Del Rice behind the plate and Eli Grba pitching.

RETURN TO MINORS

Daytona Beach, Fla. - (UPI) - Three former major leaguers, pitchers Dick Hyde and Herb Moford and infielder Ron Samford, today were returned to Rochester of the International league by the parent Baltimore Orioles.

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7.50-15	29.50	33.50	\$5	7.10-15	27.75	31.95	\$5
7.50-14	31.95	35.95	\$5	7.60-15	29.75	33.45	\$5
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