

Klamath Boy Still With Missions

Gabby Street Keeps Johnny Rohr on Squad, Promising Future Described for Big Right-hander. Manager of Reds May Send Him into Lineup Shortly.

The Mission Reds, second place team in the Pacific Coast league, have a lad throwing to batters in practice, scooping up balls tossed around in workouts and knocking out flies to the outfielders who may yet bring San Francisco club a mite nearer the un-touched Los Angeles outfit.

He's Johnny Rohr, right-hander who was picked up from a tree-trouper camp in Klamath county and shipped down to Woodland while the Missions were training. The fate of most rookies, such as Rohr—coming up absolutely unknown—is an early release. Only the best manage to catch hold on some farm team and even then their tenure is a matter of great uncertainty.

But Rohr did the almost impossible. He stuck. Gabby Street, manager of the Reds, has kept Rohr with the team since the season started. The big young fellow with the overpowering fast ball hasn't pitched a game. Street is building him up, watching him carefully and has developed an abundance of confidence for his fellow's future.

Perhaps by the end of the season Rohr will be ready to take a turn on the mound. And if the Reds can continue to hang onto second place, Rohr may be the spark to touch off a pennant rally.

Walter Connolly, San Francisco sports writer, wrote the following long story the other day on the Klamath youth:

"Whatever happened to Johnny Rohr, the 22-year-old right-hander whom 'Gabby' Street dubbed 'Another Walter Johnson' the first day he saw him in Woodland last March? Johnny is still around and kicking. He'll be paraded to the mound very soon now.

"This journalist was at the Woodland camp the day Johnny arrived, unannounced, and uninvited. He was shipped down from an Oregon CCC camp by a friend of Johnny Fitzpatrick, Mission catcher. Out of a sense of duty, Fitz caught a couple of Rohr's pitches to see what he had. The first half dozen balls, straight as a string, almost tore Fitz's glove off. Fitz hollered for Street, who came running over and stood



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behind Johnny while he pumped them in.

"Street knows a fastball pitcher when he sees one. He caught Walter Johnson the first year the 'Big Train' joined Washington from the post office of Idaho.

"I'd say Rohr is as fast now as Walter was the first time I saw him," opined Street at Woodland. "Walter had more natural grace in his pitching motion and his fireball was effortless. Maybe when this kid develops form he'll be still faster."

"Rohr didn't have the suggestion of a curve at camp, but neither did Johnson. Rohr's curve now has only a slight bend. However, that's no worry. If he can keep his smolder down around the batter's knees he'll have no need of a curve ball for seasons to come.

"After the first blast of publicity Rohr went into a slump. Fans surprised he had met the same fate as 10,000 other Johnsons, Mathewsons, Ruths, etc., who bloom in the spring. But he's been with the club all the time, pitching in early batting practice before the fans arrive, changing files and catching throws for the player who hits fungoes to the outfielders. If you see a 6-foot 2-inch 200-pounder in last year's uniform chasing balls on the sidelines, that's Johnny Rohr. Notice his big legs and ape-like arms.

"Street was reluctant to use Rohr not that his control was abominably bad but because he is dangerously fast. The best of pitchers hit a batter occasionally without serious damage, but with Rohr the first wild pitch might mean a couple of shattered ribs. On the whole the youngster's control is pretty good but not so good that batters can take a toehold.

"Before the season is over Rohr may be our salvation," said Street, surveying the wet grounds at Seals Stadium Thursday. "The first time I need a relief pitcher at night I'll use him. If he gets by, I may start him in a night game against Hollywood in the south two weeks from now. From what I've seen of night games in this league his fastball seems to be a natural."

"Wait until the second section of the 'Big Train' pulls into the station.

"Street is considering putting Johnson, the big south-paw, through an iron man act this week. If he survives tonight's effort Johnson may be sent against the Stars for the seven-inning second game Sunday."

Sporting News



SEATTLE BOATS WILL COMPETE

Two Fast Craft Entered From Puget Sound; Jones Will Race.

The Seattle Outboard club, one of the best-known racing organizations on the coast, will send a representative to Klamath Falls June 17, in an effort to lift major prize in the Upper Klamath Lake regatta.

The prestige of the Puget Sound organization will be upheld by Pat Cummins and his two swift boats, Bottoms Up and Here's How.

Jones Enters Boat Both outboards will race under the colors of the Seattle club. They will compete in the C hydro division.

Wilbur Jones of Klamath Falls will offer a strong defense for this region with his 31-horsepower Bluestreak.

The Bluestreak will be entered in the C hydro division. Jones has had his craft on the lake this year, and unofficial times indicate he should be among the leaders for cash prizes put up by the Junior chamber of commerce, sponsoring organization for the regatta.

Entries, coming in rapidly each day, have now reached a number far more than expected.

Among the cities represented thus far are Klamath Falls, Marysville, Calif., Medford, Bend, Van-

RODNEY BLISS LEADS GOLFERS AT PHILADELPHIA

Merion Cricket Club, Philadelphia, June 7, (AP)—While the professional brigade struggled to overcome a poor start over the breezy Merion course, Rodney Bliss, Jr., of Omaha, home-town amateur rival of the defending champion, Johnny Goodman, shot a sensational 33 for the last nine and shared the pace setting honors today at the outset of the first round of the U. S. open golf championship.

Bliss and Jimmie Thomson, Los Angeles professional, led the early finishers for 18 holes with 74 each, four over par, while a majority of scores ballooned.

On their heels were Charley Yates of Atlanta, another amateur, and Joe Kirkwood, professional trick-shot, each with a 75.

Goodman, followed by a gallery of 500 spectators and playing steadily, reached the turn in 38, only two over par, as he began the defense of his title.

Bob Jones, who completed his grand slam here in 1933, was in the gallery following the long hitting Lawson Little, Jr., newly crowned British amateur titleholder.

HANSEN VICTOR OVER TED COX

Seattle Dane Prepared for Match Against Billy Edwards.

Charley Hansen's victory at Medford and Billy Edwards' draw at Portland put these two heavyweight wrestlers on edge for their meeting at the Legion hall Friday night.

Hansen, the huge Dane from Seattle, captured the Medford Jubilee honors when he thumped down Ted "King Kong" Cox in the feature match.

Edwards has trouble The Seattle man won the second and third falls after the apple-like Californian had taken the advantage with body press.

Billy Edwards, Kansas City, had considerable difficulty in coming through to a draw at Portland Wednesday night against Jack Forsgren of Van-

WALTER MAILLS STOPS ANGELS IN CLOSE GAME

By Associated Press It took San Francisco's great man to stop the nearly unbeatable champion Angels after they had run up a string of nine straight victories.

Walter "The Great" Maille did the trick Wednesday night, pitching fine ball for 12 innings, and then singling in the last half of the twelfth to send John Thomas home with the run that gave the Seals a 3-2 win. The Seal veteran, who first talked and pitched himself to fame in the Coast league and majors many years ago, allowed eight well-scattered hits.

Dick Ward, returned to Los Angeles by the Chicago Cubs, suffered his first defeat after marking up three triumphs. He granted but seven blows in the extra inning game. Frank Demaree 25th home run of the season was the Angels' only earned tally off Maille.

Lou McEvoy turned in another creditable mound performance as he hurled Oakland to a 9-1 victory over Sacramento, dropping the Senators into fourth place behind San Francisco. Given an

DETROIT OUTFIELDER FAILS TO GET HIT

DETROIT, June 7 (UP)—Goose Goslin, Detroit Tigers' left fielder, failed to get a hit Wednesday. That broke the streak of consecutive games in which he hit safely at an even 30.

The Goose grounded out once, walked twice and vainly tried to bunt in his last chance. He was thrown out by Mel Harder, pitcher for the Cleveland Indians.

By failing to hit in his 31st consecutive game Goslin fell 11 short of the record hung up by George Sisler.

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