

From Midfield

By FRANK CALISE

St. Louis Browns Have Man-Trouble

Sports Briefs

By Hugh Fullerton, Jr.

Sewell Claims That Most Of His Men Are Scattered All Over the Country

CAPE GIRARDEAU, Mo., March 18 (P)—Luke Sewell of the St. Louis Browns is a manager virtually without a team. Although the Browns' reserve list of 36 players was the largest in the American league, only 19 have reported for spring training so far.

And, as Sewell said, "You can't get a team in shape when your players are scattered all over the country."

Contract trouble isn't the chief reason for absenteeism. Third baseman Harold Clift, for example, is still at Selah, Wash., trying to find someone to care for 175 head of cattle on his ranch. Pitcher Paul Dean is helping finish some chores at Holdenville, Ark.

Young Bill Seinoth, promising rookie left hander who won 24 and lost 10 games with New Orleans last season, wrote he believed he could get into condition by himself on the west coast. Sewell's reply sizzled on the telegraph wires.

Seven of the Browns' players still are unsigned, among them Clift, because he doesn't know whether he'll be able to play baseball this year. First baseman George McQuinn, Pitchers Stan Ferens and Archie McKain, Catcher Frank Hayes, and Infielders Floyd Baker and Don Heffner.

Other absentees, several of them awaiting draft summons, are Pitchers George Caster and Woody Rich, Catcher Dick Ferreri, Second Baseman Don Gutierrez, Rookie Shortstop Bob Dillinger, Utility Infielder Alan Strange, Shortstop Vernon Stephens and First Baseman Chuck Stevens.

As a result, Sewell has only one infielder in camp, Mark Christman; two recruit catches, Joe Schultz and Ardy's Keller, nine pitchers and all six outfielders.

The infield shortage is enough to wreck his training plans. On paper, several weeks ago, the Browns appeared to be pennant contenders. Barely hit by the draft, they had practically the same team that vaulted into third place last season. But then, in rapid succession, came the induction of Outfielder Walt Judnich and reclassification in 1-A of Shortstop Stephens.

He reported his right arm, injured last year by an elbow fracture, is feeling fine again.

SEATTLE, March 18 (P)—Sylvester Johnson, veteran former major league pitcher who is expected to fill a coaching and relief hurling role with the Seattle Rainiers, has delivered his signed contract to the management.

He reported his right arm, injured last year by an elbow fracture, is feeling fine again.

By HUGH FULLERTON, JR. NEW YORK, March 18 (P)—The national collegiate AA won't be holding its usual golf and tennis championships this spring, although the track meet probably will go on as usual. The reason, of course, is that by the time these events usually are run off, most colleges will have had their commencements and there won't be many top-flight competitors hanging around. . . . It seems to be the academic speed-up, rather than service calls, that are wrecking the college spring programs and by next fall Prof. Phillip Badger, the NCAA president, figures sports "will be stabilized on a new basis." . . . Anyway, stabilized or not, it will be new.

MUSCLE JERKS When the Yankees used the Asbury Park, N. J., high school for callisthenics Tuesday, some of the students watched from the bleachers. . . . The muscular maneuvers of the athletes were so funny that some of the kids laughed right out loud and had to be reprimanded for embarrassing the mighty major leaguers. . . . Maybe Col. Biff Jones, the army athletic director, was seeking to provide similar entertainment when he suggested that the Dodgers start work in the West Point field house a little earlier so the cadets could see some real expensive ivory on the hoof.

TODAY'S GUEST STAR Al Wolf, Los Angeles Times: "One very articulate Hollywood boxing fan, who used to scream 'downstairs' when he wanted a pug to shoot for his opponent's midriff, is yelling 'below deck' these days. . . . He's in the navy now."

SPRING BRAINING With five major league clubs and three American association teams training in Indiana this spring, Sports Editor Tom Stephenson of the Elkhart (Ind.) Daily Truth, suggests that the "grapefruit league" should be re-named the "limestone circuit." . . . That doesn't include New England granite, New Jersey sand or even plain Mississippi mud. . . . But Christman; two recruit catches, Joe Schultz and Ardy's Keller, nine pitchers and all six outfielders.

STEVE STIVERS, former Columbia swimmer, has been promoted to captain in the marines and sent to Camp Pendleton, Calif., as instructor in individual combat. He reports it was more than a trifle embarrassing when he got a bayonet slash over the eye recently and had to sport a bandage that proved the chief instructor was something less than perfect. . . . Two of his students (both good) are Lieuts. Reagan, ex-Penn and Giants footballer, and William Rutledge, former Rhode Island State basketball player. . . . Iowa pre-flight school coaches thought they had some record breakers when Cadet Bob Schwigel was timed in 6.7 for the 60-yard low hurdles and Webb Douglas in 5.8 for the 60-yard dash. . . . Then they re-measured the course and found it was only 53 yards.

BOWLING

BOOSTER LEAGUE A new three game individual series was posted Monday night by Severson, rolling for Safeway Stores. Severson's new mark was made by rolling a 235, 160 and 215 for a three game total of 610. Next high three game series was Wilbur Telford's 538 and third, Roy Eastburn with 528. High single

game for the evening went to Severson with 235, second was Roy Eastburn with 211 and Roy Carter third with 200.

Safeway Stores bowling team posted a new high three game series with 2839 by putting together a 985, 923 and 931. Their 985 for the evening was high team game.

BOOSTER LEAGUE	
Pepsi-Cola	
Combs	150 192 197 499
Arthur	149 145 117 411
Dillstrom	138 129 118 385
Muskopf	169 124 138 431
Telford	153 188 198 539
Handicap	115 115 115 345
Total	547 695 568 2000
Pacific Fruit	
Speer	134 144 138 416
Amadeo	209 165 176 550
Peterson	149 124 114 411
J. Clark	144 155 154 453
Hasehood	145 164 190 500
Handicap	65 65 65 195
Total	844 858 834 2536
Klamath Machine and Locomotive	
Johnson	139 152 168 459
Kleiver	136 182 153 471
Morris	137 139 140 416
Dahmer	150 118 170 438
Handicap	74 74 74 222
Total	635 728 768 2131
Garter's Fine Foods	
Carter	209 130 127 467
Graves	164 174 168 506
Wells	111 150 123 384
Eastburn	211 167 160 538
Handicap	104 104 104 312
Total	700 719 689 2107
Coca-Cola	
Durrell	152 155 164 471
Driscoll	149 158 211 518
Ryan	132 160 150 442
Wilkinson	111 150 123 384
DeLury	130 131 168 429
Handicap	111 111 111 333
Total	772 900 824 2496
Safeway Stores	
Hutchinson	152 155 164 471
Severson	235 160 215 610
Larson	156 167 174 497
Wells	111 150 123 384
Manlyville	154 161 153 468
Handicap	122 122 122 366
Total	985 923 931 2839

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Basketball on the Rough Side



University of Washington's Bill Morris applies wrestling technique to basketball and University of Southern California's Dick Bailey, who has a headlock in the ball. Captain Wally Leask, right, of Washington, coaches his teammate from the side. It all happened as the Huskies trounced the USC Trojans twice to cop the Pacific Coast Conference title in Seattle.

War Has Broken Apart AAU Veteran Combination

DENVER, March 18 (P)—Youth is taking its fling at the national AAU basketball title this year. War has broken apart the veteran combinations—groups of men who had played on the same teams for six or eight years or more in college and in the speedy independent amateur circuits—which could be counted on to furnish the show in the finals.

Most of the veterans are in the nation's service or in war industry, too busy for basketball. A few found time to work into a lineup here and there for the sake of playing once more in the national AAU tourney.

Only two teams of the eight in the quarter-finals tonight—the Bartlesville, Okla., Phillips 66 Oilers and the Milwaukee, Wis., Allen-Bradleys—can field more than one player who has been around much in national AAU competition.

Of the other quarter-finalists, five teams are made up of collegians and one is a squad of soldiers.

The Allen-Bradleys, who turned back the Fort Lewis, Wash., reception center players 57-44 in the third round yesterday, play the defending champion Denver American Legion in one quarter-final tonight.

Training Camp Briefs

HERSHEY, Pa., March 18 (P)—Johnny Allen, the pitcher the Phils got from Brooklyn in the deal for Rube Melton, is a holdout.

"I haven't heard from him since he returned his contract marked unsatisfactory," Manager Bucky Harris said. "Under the circumstances I guess he could be classed as a holdout."

CAIRO, Ill.—Finding his St. Louis Cardinals lagging toward the end of yesterday's one long workout, Manager Billy Southworth, ordered two shorter sessions effective today, broken by a field house luncheon.

"It is my belief the players will go more at top speed all the way if they have two short practices instead of one long one," the pilot explained.

LaFAYETTE, Ind.—The Cleveland Indians held a brisk workout in the Purdue university field house yesterday. Russ Peters was at first base, Ray Mack at second, Ken Keltner at third and Lou Boudreau at short. Otto Denning, heir apparent to the first base job left vacant by Les Fleming, missed practice because of a severe cold. There were only three other absentees—Jeff Heath, a holdout; Roy Cullenbine, whose wife is ill, and Chubby Dean, whose tardiness is unexplained.

EVANSVILLE, Ind.—Add signs of the times: Two women are covering the training camp of the Detroit Tigers. They are Miss Hallie Lemmert, a writer, and Miss Julia Neville, a photographer, both representing an Evansville paper. They arrived yesterday in time to see Rookie Joe Hoover belt the camp's first homer.

BEAR MOUNTAIN, N. Y.—Curt Davis has the doubtful honor of being the first major leaguer to break a bone this year. The Brooklyn Dodger pitcher suffered a fractured left thumb when struck by the ball during an infield workout at the West Point fieldhouse yesterday. He will be able to continue light drills.

NEW ORLEANS—Bobby Rufin, 127, New York, knocked out Bobby McIntyre, 151, Detroit.

ELIZABETH, N. J.—Bobby Farrell, 115½, Newark, outpointed Marvin Bryant, 130½, Dallas, Texas (6).

Giants Workout Stalls With No First Baseman

Ott Marking Time Waiting Till Mize Reports for Army Physical

By JUDSON BAILEY LAKEWOOD, N. J., March 18 (P)—The tipoff on how times have changed in baseball is the way the New York Giants are stalling along in spring training without a first baseman.

Manager Mel Ott acknowledged today he is just marking time waiting till Johnny Mize reports for his physical examination for induction next week before he makes a move about filling what looms as the biggest void in his lineup.

Ott's first reaction to the probability that Mize will be lost to the team was to assign Outfielder Herbert (Babe) Barna to the initial sack. Barna, a big man but fast, played first base at West Virginia university and came up to the Philadelphia Athletics several years ago at that position. But since then he has put in an extensive minor league career in the outfield.

It has taken only two outdoor workouts here to convince Ott that Barna is not a big league first baseman.

"He just doesn't seem to fit in there," Ott explained today. "He's played the outfield so long he can't back into the swing of the infield."

Then Ott added that he intended to give a trial at first to utility infielder Joe Orenco, who reports this weekend.

The Giants, of course, are not the only club having difficulty filling first base. The New York Yankees don't know yet whether they have Nick Etten; Manager Joe McCarthy has lanky John Lindell, the hard-hitting pitcher, working out with a first baseman's glove, and the Cleveland Indians are hoping to transform reserve Catcher Otto Denning into a first baseman to replace Les Fleming, who has decided to remain in war work.

Buck Shaw Calls Off Grid Drill

SANTA CLARA, Calif., March 18 (P)—Coach L. T. "Buck" Shaw has called off spring practice for his Santa Clara Broncos with the four prediction that unless the army gives him an hour or so a day to whip a team into shape "fall football looks hopeless."

About 98 per cent of Santa Clara men are in the ROTC, Shaw said, and the army has these boys working on callisthenics most every afternoon, leaving him little time for football.

Shaw said he might consider taking over the army callisthenics program, in which case he would devote an hour or more each day to football, but as things stand "it is improbable that we could get a football team from among the 4-F boys or those under 18."

Santa Clara is the first school in this section to drop spring practice. Stanford and California plan to start theirs next month.

Grants Pass Hoop Coach Resigned

GRANTS PASS, March 18 (P)—Paul Davis, who coached the Grants Pass Cavemen hoop squad to the first league championship ever won here, resigned today. Other activities make it impossible to continue with the teaching job, Davis said.

Davis, retired coach from Omaha, Neb., came to Grants Pass about two years ago to make his home. When Arnold Bernard, basketball coach, was called to the armed forces in November, Davis' services were procured.

He is owner and operator of the Redwood motel, one of the city's finest motor courts. Shortage of help in operation of the motor court is a contributing factor in leaving the coaching job.

No successor has been obtained, M. B. Winslow, superintendent of schools, said.

Second Bagger Out Of San Francisco Seals' 1943 Lineup

SAN FRANCISCO, March 18 (P)—Count Second Baseman Olie Bejma out of the San Francisco Seals' 1943 lineup.

The San Francisco Pacific Coast league club announced it had traded him on an even basis for Henry Steinbacher, former Chicago White Sox player, who finished the 1942 season with Buffalo at the International league. Steinbacher was with the Sacramento Pacific Coast league club from 1930 to 1935, before going east.

Seal officials also disclosed that Clint Wise, southpaw hurler, purchased recently from Muskegon of the Western association, had joined the armed forces.

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