

Gripe About Masi Stresses Acute Lack of Catcher

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla., April 1 (NEA) — An old-time scout calls the Cardinals' catching the worst in history of the majors.

"Well, not quite that bad," comments Eddie Dyer, "but it's certainly a big puzzle."

The manager of the St. Louis Nationals last season had to alternate three backstops fairly evenly. Young Joe Garagiola doesn't get the ball away fast enough. The Dodgers, for example, would steal everything but the Red Birds' blazers. For his no end reasons, certain pitchers don't choose to throw to Garagiola.

Harry Brecheen, for instance, insists on Del Rice, who, it will be recalled, handled the Cat throughout the 1946 World Series. He even marched in with the little left-hander when he went in to save the pay-off game.

The trouble with Rice is that, while he treats southpaws as though he owned them, he can't hit right-handers with two bats, or a paddle. That's too bad, for the fellow has power. He manufactured a dozen home runs against left-hand pitching last season in 97 games, and wound up batting all of .318.

Del Wilber, the Cardinals' third masked man, is big and slow and doesn't hit enough. This is why Dyer is taking such a good look at sporting John Bucha, who is attempting to jump all the way from Columbus, Ga., and Omaha.

"And to think that in January, 1946, I could have had Phil Masi and \$50,000 from the Braves for Walker Cooper," moans the personable Dyer, "but Sam Breadon insisted upon the \$175,000 from the Giants."

The price tag on Cooper gives you a rough idea of what good catchers are worth today, stresses the acute

shortage of capable hands behind the plate.

Competent judges agree that in addition to Cooper and Masi there are no more than three Grade A catchers with the 16 big league clubs, giving them a total of just five. The others are the remarkable Bruce Edwards of the Brooklyn Dodgers, Buddy Rosar of the Athletics and Ray Lamanno, who teams up with the amazing Ewell Blackwell for the Reds. Rosar, by the way, is the only American Leaguer among the big five.

Jim Hegan of the Indians is one of the more promising of the younger catchers.

Yogi Berra of the Yankees has to demonstrate that he can throw quickly and accurately enough, and Niarhos has to prove himself.

The Tigers last season swapped the 33-year-old Birdie Tebbetts to the Red Sox for Hal Wagner, which was something in the way of evidence that neither club was satisfied. Certain Detroit pitchers prefer to pitch to Bob Swift.

Mike Tresh, 34, is giving Aaron Robinson a run for his money with the White Sox. If anything happened to Al Evans, who is no great shakes, the Senators would have to fall back on 41-year-old Rick Ferrell or a comparative bushier. Andy Seminick of the Phillies and Clyde Klutz of the Pirates are run-of-mine. The catching of the Cubs and Browns is only adequate.

"My advice to parents is to hand their sons catching equipment at an early age," smiles Eddie Dyer. "Catching utensils are no longer

tools of ignorance. Catchers of today hang around longer than other active combatants and then become coaches, paving the way to a manager's job.

"Every club has to have at least three catchers, preferably four, but certainly one behind the plate, one in reserve and another in the bullpen, so there is room for 64 of them in the majors alone."

In more recent years the far-flung Cardinal chain has been unable to find one that sticks out. There is no question about major

league catching being the worst in history outside of wartime.

The only explanation for this is that the better kid players consider catching too hard work and don't care to run the risk of injury behind the plate. The catching therefore, is assigned to the most inept youngsters on the lot.

Organized baseball could solve this by picking out prospective catchers from other positions at an early age.

That would be doing them a great favor.



In all of the 16 major league clubs these are the only catchers that competent baseball men say are first-line—only one is an American Leaguer.

Oiler Quint Captures Olympic Tryout Belt

NEW YORK, April 1 (AP)—Fourteen basketball players, probably the greatest collection of amateur players in the world, were named today to the squad which will represent the United States in the coming Olympic games.

Phillips players selected by the 13-man Olympic basketball committee are:

Bob Kurland and Jesse Kenick, both of whom played their college basketball at Oklahoma A. and M.; Gordon Carpenter and R. C. Pitts, both from the University of Arkansas; and Lew Beck, from Oregon State.

The Kentucky players selected are:

Alex Gross, Wallace Jones, Cliff Barker, Ken Rollins, and Ralph Beard.

Other places went to Don Barkdale of the Oakland Bitters, Vince Borjia of the Denver Nuggets, Les O'Garra and Warren Taulbee of the Bitters, Jim Owens and Bill Johnson of Baylor and Adolph Schayes of NYU.

Height and experience paid off for the national AAU champions as they turned back the NCAA titleholders in a rousing windup to the pre-Olympic dribble derby.

Probably the first to take the ring will be between Georges Dusette and ear-ringed Joe Dorsetti. And the windup will match Frankie Stojack against Frankie Hart.

Stojack and Dusette are slated to pair off in a championship bout for the former's Pacific Coast 190-pound belt here in a week or two.

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Beavers Whip Oakland Again

By The Associated Press

The racket you hear in the Pacific Coast league ball parks comes from the hits banging against the fences.

Batters bombarded pitchers in the games last night, the second day of competition in the long PCL season. Los Angeles' Angels topped them all with a 20-hit assault that sank San Diego, 17-2, a score duplicating Hollywood's opening night win over Seattle.

Seattle tallied 11 hits last night to even things with the Stars, 4-3, in 10 innings. Felt's Beavers, who beat Oakland's Will Hafey last night as they beat the Oaks, 9-4. Each team got nine hits. San Francisco used a nine-hit attack to beat Sacramento, 4-1.

Kewpie Dick Barrett, the perennial of the Seattle mound staff, won his 199th game as a Coast leaguer in holding Hollywood to eight hits, but it required a fielding gem in the ninth by the Rainiers' speedy outfielder, Bill Ramsey, to save the game. Ramsey made an electrifying catch on a terrific smash by Frank Kelleher that would have ended the ball game.

The Rainiers and the Stars drew only 3059 spectators, despite comfortable weather.

Los Angeles hammered 20 hits off three San Diego hurlers, among them homers by Broadway Bill Schuster, Dominic Dallesandro and Eddie Malone. Fred Schmidt was touched for 10 hits but he scattered them, got good fielding support and wasn't scored on after the third.

Portland's Vince Dibiasi coasted along against Oakland, being spotted a 9 to 2 lead by the fifth, but the Oaks touched him for two runs in the ninth. Tom Hafey, who started for Oakland, had to be derricked in the fourth. Herman Reich and Ford Mullen hit home runs for the Beavers.

Manny Perez, former Hollywood chucker, turned in a steady five-hitter for San Francisco as the Seals took their second straight from Sacramento. Singles by Joe Marty and Johnny Rizzo, plus a Seal error, produced the Solons' only run.

The Sox:				
Name	AB	H	R	A
Perland	4	2	2	1
Rucker, cf	4	2	2	1
Zak, ss	4	0	0	0
Smith, lf	4	0	0	0
Storey, 3b	3	0	0	0
Mole, 1b	3	0	0	0
Reich, rf	3	2	4	0
Mullen, 2b	4	2	4	1
Ballinger, c	4	1	1	1
Dibiasi, p	4	1	1	2
Totals	30	9	27	9

Oakland:				
Name	AB	H	R	A
Hilder, lf	3	3	4	4
Samcoff, 2b	3	3	4	4
Combs, 3b	4	2	3	0
Scarcella, rf	4	0	0	0
Eiten, 1b	4	1	0	2
Christopher, cf	3	0	0	3
Hamrick, ss	4	0	0	3
Lillard, c	4	2	4	1
T. Hafey, p	1	0	0	0
Hittle, p	1	0	0	0
Pocskay, cf	1	0	0	0
Van Robays*	1	0	0	0

Firearm Exhibit Planned

Ernie and Dot Lind, nationally known firearms experts, will be in Klamath Falls Sunday for an exhibition of rifle, shotgun and pistol shooting at the Wocus firing ranges of the Klamath Gun club.

The Gun club and Matt Finnigan's sporting goods store are sponsoring Linda's exhibition, featuring Remington-Western ammunition.

Time of the exhibition will be 1 p. m. and the public is invited to watch. The show takes a little over an hour.

Sunday morning the Klamath Gun club will hold its regular weekly trap shoot. Last week's outing saw Clyde Fox of Tulelake lead all guns with 49 hits from the 16-yard line and 48 in handicap firing. J. H. Martin and K. O. Scribner each had 49 in regular firing.

Following Fox in the handicap were Nelson Reed, Vern Moore and Tom Watters at 44 hits in 50 tries. A large crowd of shooters is turning out to the Wocus ranges each Sunday and the better weather is helping them post some excellent scores. High latest results:

Name	16-yd. Hdcp.
Clyde Fox	49 45
J. H. Martin	49 49
K. O. Scribner	49 49
Bill Davis	49 49
James Horn	48 48
Nelson Reed	47 44
J. M. Adams	47 41
Paul Hilton	47 41
Frank Broyles	47 41
Prent Puckett	47 42

PRESNO — Pedro Jimenez, 158, Vallejo, stopped George Smith, 157, Oakland, Calif., 9.

Twenty-Seven In Speedway

INDIANAPOLIS, April 1 (AP)—Five more entries for the 500 mile auto race next May 31 came to the Indianapolis motor speedway office today.

Three were from Thomas S. Lee Enterprises, Inc., Los Angeles. Another was from Les Anderson, Portland, Ore., lumber man, and the fifth from Ralph S. Miller of Dayton, Ohio.

Wilbur Shaw, speedway president, said 27 cars have been entered. The time trials next month will limit the starting field for the race to 33 cars.

Anderson's entry is a new 4 cylinder car. He will drive it himself. He made his first start in the 300 mile race last year and finished eleventh.

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Women's Kegling Tourney Starts

The women's city association bowling tournament starts tonight at 7 p. m. on Recreation alley, with one dozen five-place teams taking to the hardwood.

Doubles and singles will be run off Friday afternoon and evening, starting at 4 p. m. There are 54 individual entrants in the Friday rolling—18 in class A, 20 in class B and 15 in class C.

Trophies and cash prizes will go to the various event winners.

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Colorful Studying

PULLMAN, April 1 (AP)—Feather or not it works, students of Washington State college's wildlife management course are having a colorful time. A dozen pheasants, colored red, green, yellow or purple, have been released in the Pullman area.

The students hope the colors will make the birds easier to follow for a study of their habitat.

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ATTENTION!
MOOSE MEMBERS Meeting Tonight, 8 p. m. Election of Officers
Following meeting there will be a **DUTCH LUNCH**

WRESTLING

Frank Stojack vs. Frankie Hart 5 Rounds
Georges Dusette vs. Joe Dorsetti 5 Rounds
Joe Lynam vs. Bob Kenaston 4 Rounds

8:30 P. M. FRIDAY ARMORY

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