

Athletics Hang Third Defeat On Boston Sox

Mackmen Get Best Pitching In League

By JOE REICHLER
Associated Press Sports Writer

If the Detroit Tigers and Philadelphia Athletics had more batting punch to back up their strong pitching staffs, they and not the New York Yankees and Boston Red Sox probably would be the co-favorites for the American league flag.

There seems little doubt the Tigers and Athletics possess the best mound corps in the junior circuit. Currently they are leading the parade with three victories and no defeats each. And it takes no Sherlock Holmes to come up with the reason—fine pitching plus clutch hitting.

Take yesterday's games, for example. The Tigers got only six hits off Rookie Howard Judson and Ike Pearson, yet defeated the White Sox in Chicago, 3-2. Virgil (Fire) Trucks went the route for Detroit, yielding eight hits. He walked one and allowed one extra base hit.

That made it only 23 hits and seven runs given up by Detroit hurlers in three games, an average of less than eight hits and about two runs per game.

The Tigers, meanwhile, accumulated only 27 hits and 12 runs themselves.

RED SOX NIPPED

Philadelphia's pitchers have been equally effective. Joe Coleman yesterday became the first Athletics hurler to fail to go the distance, but some splendid relief pitching by Bob Savage helped the Mackmen nip the Red Sox in Boston, 5-3. Savage held the slugging Red Sox to one hit in a three-inning chore. He was credited with the victory when the A's scored two runs in the ninth as Rightfielder Sam Mele lost Barney McCoskey's fly ball in the sun.

The Red Sox could muster only eight safeties off Coleman and Savage for a total of only 19 hits and nine runs in 29 innings against Philadelphia's pitching. That's an average of six hits and three runs per game.

On the other hand, the Red Sox and Yankees' pitchers have been faring badly. The Sox have used seven pitchers in three games and the Yankees six.

FREE-FOR-ALL

The National league race, as predicted, already is showing signs of turning into a free-for-all. With only four playing days gone, every club has been beaten at least once. The St. Louis Cardinals and Philadelphia Phillies, last of the unbeaten, got their first lickings yesterday. The Cards were edged out by the Cincinnati Reds in St. Louis, 4-3, while the Boston Braves walloped the Phils in Philadelphia, 10-4.

In the other National league games the Brooklyn Dodgers defeated the Giants in New York, 6-3, and the Pirates shut out the Chicago Cubs in Pittsburgh, 3-0. The Yankees, St. Louis Browns, Cleveland and Washington were not scheduled.

Pitt Outfit Picks Name

PITTSBURGH, Calif., April 23—The name of "Diamonds" has been selected for the Pittsburgh entry in the Far West professional baseball league after a two-month public contest.

The Diamonds are operating under a working agreement with the New York Giants, but closer at hand have a tie-up with the San Francisco Seals of the Pacific Coast circuit. Gus Suhr, former major league catcher with the Pittsburgh (Pa.) Pirates and the Seals, is managing the Diamonds.

The team is working out at home and this week the Seals sent down four rookies—one of them a bonus player. He is Gael Ames, 18-year-old outfielder paid \$500 for inking a contract with the Seals.

Longdon Might Make It Today

SAN MATEO, Calif., April 23 (P)—Johnny Longdon stood at the threshold of his greatest day in racing today, the chance to become the first jockey in this country's turf history to ride 3000 winners.

One short of the mark, he was committed to have the leg up on five mounts. Horses also were available to him in the other three races of the Bay Meadows program.

As Longdon readied for the big try, only Gordon Richards of England had reached the charmed circle of 3000 winners. Richards, who long since exceeded the number, is still riding.

It pays to use the Want-Ads!

Los Angeles Knocking At Seal-Held Portals

By The Associated Press

Hit 'em first and hang on is the success formula which has the Los Angeles Angels back knocking at the Coast league first place portals today.

The Angels slugged in five runs in the opening inning to defeat San Diego, 5-0, last night.

Sacramento's Solons, employing much the same tactics, tallied three times in the first inning and outlasted San Francisco, 4-3.

The defeat left the Seals with a .611 percentage. The Angels stood at .583, although no games behind the Seals. The difference: Los Angeles has played six more games.

Hal Kline, lanky southpaw stylist, was the main man in the Angel triumph, curving a nine-hit shutout. He walked six, including home-run Jack Graham three times, but three double plays pulled him out of trouble.

Veteran Jack Salveson also twirled a nine-hitter for the Seals. His mates put together five hits in their initial spurge and added the clinching tally in the fifth. The Solons banged 13 hits off Tom Fine, Dewey Soriano and Al Lien.

Mile Draws Attention At Berkeley

BERKELEY, Calif., April 23 (P)—California and Washington clashed in a dual Pacific Coast conference track meet here tomorrow with the mile contest between Bear Kaare Vefling and Husky Don Wold billed as the day's top match.

Vefling, a Norwegian exchange student, ran a 4:19 mile against the San Francisco Olympic club in the first meet of the season and Wold has a 4:19.3 mark.

It will be the sixth meeting for the two schools. The Bears have won four, and are favored tomorrow.

Phil Arnot, the top California half-miler, is out with injuries. Washington's sophomore Olympic candidate, Jack Hensley, is favored. He has covered the distance in 1:53.7.

Donny Anderson, out of Cal's meet with UCLA last week with a stiff leg muscle, is rated over Washington's Cecil Webb in the 100 and 220-yard sprints.

New Leader In WIBC Doubles

DALLAS, April 23 (P)—The Woman's International Bowling Congress had one new leader today as the tournament started its third week.

The combination of Evelyn Anton and Loraine Pubow of Milwaukee took over in doubles yesterday by rolling 1164.

Kathryn Creme Part of Chicago held onto first place in the team division with 2812. Jennie Virkett of Grand Rapids, Mich., stayed in the lead in singles with 666 and Virgie Hunter of Burlington, Ia., remained the all-events leader with 1850.

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Best Of Pelican Cagers



Don Zarosinski, guard and captain of the Pelican basketball team last season, received the 20-30 club's trophy as the outstanding player on the squad for 1948. His brother, Joe, held it in 1947. Don is shown receiving the award from Bob Hall of the 20-30 club.

Cap Nine Wins Close Ones -- And On Road

By The Associated Press

Two baseball bywords for title hopefuls: Win the close ones; win on the road.

Vancouver's Caplanos, rapidly setting themselves up as early season favorites to recapture their Western International league title, qualify in both departments.

The Canadian nine won its third straight one-run victory last night—its second extra-inning tilt in a row—by squeezing past Wenatchee 9-8 in 12 innings.

In sweeping the three-game series, Vancouver went a full game ahead of the Salem Senators. The Oregonians' tilt with Victoria was washed out for the second straight night, as was Yakima's scheduled festivities at Tacoma.

Vancouver now boasts a record of four wins in five starts, all on the road, and goes into Spokane tonight to open a four-game stand against the Indians.

The inland empire nine battered Bremerton 13-3 last night to take the odd game of its first home series.

Larry Mauer went the full 12-inning distance for Vancouver last night. He gave up 11 base hits but staggered in to win despite seven errors behind him. Wenatchee tied

the game in the ninth inning with two runs, but after two scoreless frames, Bud Hjelmaa singled for Vancouver in the 12th, went to second on a sacrifice, moved up on Jack Warren's infield hit and scored as Catcher Les Dalrymple dropped a throw at the plate.

Spokane unleashed a 16-hit attack on two Bremerton pitchers to build up a 9-1 lead after three innings and was never threatened.

In addition to the Vancouver-Spokane set, other series switches tonight send Victoria to Tacoma, Yakima to Salem and Wenatchee to Bremerton, each for four games.

Planes Still Look For Fort

GUAM, April 23 (P)—Fifty planes ranged over 54,000 square miles of ocean north of here today in a continued search for a Superfortress missing since Tuesday.

The Superfort has not been heard from since it took off for a practice bomb run on Farallon de Medinilla island, 350 miles to the north.

Names of the 11 air force men aboard were released today. They included: T/Sgt. Kenneth L. Eades, 1010 South 29th avenue, Yakima, Wash.

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MEDFORD MENTOR MOVING?

PORTLAND, April 23 (P)—L. H. Gregory, the Oregonian sports editor, predicts that Bill Bowerman will be track coach at the University of Oregon next year.

Bowerman's track teams at Medford high school have been state powers for years. His team won the Hayward relay title at Eugene this year for the seventh time in the 11 years of the meet.

Gregory wrote in his sports column that Bowerman's appointment would be announced soon. He said the selection was made before the recent death of Bill Hayward, veteran Oregon track coach.

John Warren, head basketball coach who also assists in football, has been handling the track team. Bowerman is a protégé of the late Colonel Hayward and at Medford he has been head coach of both football and track, bringing many championships to the Black Tornado.

There has been no announcement from Medford that Bowerman will be leaving, although some time ago it was rumored that another football coach was being sought for Medford.

Duff Will Enter Southern Cal

PORTLAND, April 23 (P)—Pat Duff, the sought-after halfback from Grant high school here, will enter Southern California next fall.

He announced this yesterday after disclosing he had tried to enter West Point, but failed to pass the eye test.

A six-foot, 190-pounder, Duff starred for the Grant football team the last three years. He also was a standout on basketball and track teams. There long had been speculation on which college Duff would select.

Western Mail Bag

Root Still Claims Bambino Didn't Call Shot

By BOB MYERS

WHITTIER, Calif., April 23 (P)—Charley Root seems destined to go down in baseball fame mainly as the victim of that spectacular home-run Babe Ruth hit in the bitter 1932 world series.

Sidetracked or forgotten, it seems, is Root's record stretched over 16 years as a wheelhorse for the Chicago Cubs—the 200 games he won, the four pennants his iron right arm helped capture, his low earned-run average, and far from least, his unblemished career as a fine sportsman.

But inevitably—here in Whittier while Charley watched his youngsters of the Billings, Mont., team of the Pioneer league train—the talk turns to that 32 series between the Cubs and the Yankees.

And the Babe's second homer of the day in the third game at Wrigley field, which broke a 4-4 deadlock, and now 16 years later is still argued.

Ruth, the historians tell us, stood at the plate with two called strikes against him, pointed to the deep center field stands with the wonderful arrogance of a champion, and belted Charley's third pitch into the remote reaches of those stands.

Charley, sitting in the dugout here, grinned, shifted a chew of tobacco to his left cheek, aimed at an imaginary ant (a near miss it was), and said:

"I'm tired of being the goat in that one."

He insists the Babe did not point, but merely hoisted two fingers to indicate to the derisive Chicago fans and players that had had two strikes on him, but another one left.

Others, perhaps more objectively, saw it otherwise. Alan J. Gould, assistant general manager of the Associated Press and then general sports editor, reported the dramatic gesture at the time, and today says:

"The Babe unquestionably called his shot... I was there. Regardless, Root feels not bitterly but sincerely, that it didn't happen. He feels it so strongly that he refused to let his name be used showing the

County Thinclads

MALIN, April 23—Several county high schools are competing here this afternoon for the unofficial county track and field championship, led by the Henley entry. There will not be a regular county title in track this year as some schools have passed up track in favor of baseball.

DENVER—Milo Savage, 154, 86-1/2, outpointed Frankie Augustin, 161, Yuleta, Tex. 10.

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