

Gems Nip Dodgers For Breezy Starter

2400 Fans Out For Inaugural Contest

About 2400 chilled fans saw the Klamath Gems make their debut out at the Crest street ball park last night and those that stayed through the entire game saw the Gems come off with a 10-8 decision over the Medford Dodgers. The game was the first under the lights baseball contest for Klamath Falls since pre-war days.

Standing room only and that down the left field line was available when the game got under way after opening-day ceremonies, but the steadily dropping mercury cut the crowd in half by the late innings.

The game was a virtual rout for the Gems for three innings, but the next five zipped along smoothly and the Dodgers made a game attempt to pull a victory out of the hat in the ninth.

Dick Pera, starting for the Dodgers, had no luck at all and was credited with letting three runs in and the loss. He left the mound with one out in the first frame but had given up a home run over the 350-foot left field wall by Gems' manager Joe Gantenbein with Nick Mutt on base.

Gantenbein's poke really christened the big stadium and proved that Little Joe can hit. Dick Goodwin followed Pera to the mound and he was shelled in the third frame. Andy Nunes, third Medford pitcher, had things pretty well in control the rest of the way.

Klamath Falls got only five hits off the three hurlers, but were presented with 12 walks and four passed balls. Stringbean Lou (Red) Vitous toiled for the Gems most of the way and was fairly effective even for a cold night. But in the ninth frame he loaded the bases and was yanked in favor of Joe Nicholas, who let Bart DiMaggio line into a double play to end the rally.

GOOD DEFENSE
The Gems infield nipped Medford threats time after time with four double plays, the last one by Mike Poppin, unassisted. Irv Whitt, Klamath Falls boy, broke into the Gems lineup at centerfield and got one scratchy hit in the seventh frame. He handled his only chance in the garden with aplomb.

The scene now shifts where the Dodgers open their home season tonight against Klamath Falls. Elsewhere around the Far West league, Santa Rosa's Pirates kept the circuit lead by clubbing Pittsburgh 15-9 in a slugfest match. Oroville fell 11-4 at the hands of Marysville. Willows and Redding were tied.

Box Score: Medford AB R H O A E Clardy, 1b 4 2 2 13 0 0 ...

Klamath AB R H O A E Mutt, 2b 4 1 2 0 0 0 ...

Medford 103 000 103-9 11 11 1 ...

The STANDINGS
NATIONAL LEAGUE: Pittsburgh 9, New York 10, St. Louis 7, Brooklyn 7, Philadelphia 7, Cincinnati 7, Boston 6, Chicago 5.

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Philadelphia 9, New York 8, Cleveland 6, Boston 7, Washington 7, St. Louis 5, Detroit 7, Chicago 9.

Thursday's Results: Philadelphia 8, Cleveland 5, New York 6, St. Louis 5, Detroit 8, Boston 3, Washington 5, Chicago 0.

PACIFIC COAST: San Francisco 22, Los Angeles 24, Oakland 20, San Diego 19, Hollywood 14, Seattle 13, Sacramento 11, Portland 12.

Thursday's Results: Seattle 4-4, San Diego 2-11, Los Angeles 9, Hollywood 7, Oakland 6, Sacramento 4, San Francisco 3, Portland 1.

FAR WEST: Santa Rosa 5, Marysville 4, Redding 3, Klamath Falls 3, Medford 3, Pittsburg 3, Oroville 2, Willows 0.

Thursday Results: Klamath Falls 10, Medford 8, Santa Rosa 15, Pittsburg 4, Marysville 11, Oroville 2.

Next GEM Game, May 8

Connie Mack's Crew Assumes American Lead

Feller Punched Out In Fourth As Athletics Win

By The Associated Press
Give a cheer for 85-year-old Connie Mack and his surprising Philadelphia Athletics. Five straight wins climaxed by a key decision over Bobby Feller, have boosted the A's into the American league lead.

Picked to scramble in the second division with the White Sox, Browns and Senators, the Athletics begin to look like serious contenders for a spot among the top four.

It's difficult to put a finger on the reason for the A's success. They are hitting only .246 as a club and the top batter, Pete Suder at .346, is spotted eighth in the order. Only five of the first 14 pitchers went the route. Still they win. Shortstop Eddie Jooss, with four homers and a .333 average, rates some credit.

Dick Fowler worked only two-thirds of an inning on relief before yesterday's 8-3 victory over Cleveland. Arm trouble handicapped him in spring training.

FELLER SHELLED
Feller was belted out in the fourth inning, never recovering from a four-run first inning during which Manager Lou Boudreau made two costly errors.

George Vico, Detroit's rookie first baseman, and Birdie Tebbets, the Boston Red Sox' catcher who once played for the Tigers, staged an impromptu fight to enliven the proceedings at Fenway park.

Two players fell when Tebbets tagged Vico as he ran back toward third base as a squeeze play went awry.

Vico punched Tebbets' mask and Birdie flung it off. Then he threw a punch. Feller had been separated and ejected from the game, they scuffled again in the grandstand tunnel to the dressing rooms.

Although the Red Sox knocked out Hal Newhouse in the first inning, they lost the game to Detroit, 8-3. Hal White walked six but allowed only four hits in 8 2/3 innings while the Tigers flattened Jack Kramer with his first loss.

There was an argument in New York, too, where the St. Louis Browns claimed Bobby Brown's game-winning homer with a foul ball. The homer, perilously close to the right field foul pole, came with a man on in the eighth for a 6-5 Yankee victory.

CHICAGO BLANKED
Washington pulled up to the 500 mark by shutting out Chicago for the second night in a row, 5-0, on Early Wynn's three-hit pitching. Wynn hurled hitless ball in the last six frames.

Pittsburgh's six-game win streak was broken in the National league when the New York Giants thumped the Pirates, 9-2. The result left the Bucs in first place only 13 percentage points ahead of the Giants.

All other National league games were washed out—Brooklyn at Chicago, Boston at Cincinnati and a scheduled night meeting of Philadelphia at St. Louis.

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Earl Newbry At Medford Opener
MEDFORD, May 7 (AP)—Secretary of State Earl Newbry will toss out the first ball at the Medford Dodgers of the new Far West Baseball league make their home debut tonight.

A capacity crowd of 3000 is expected for the game. Klamath Falls will be the opponent.

The county fairgrounds has been renovated for use as the Dodgers' home park. An electric scoreboard also has been installed.

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Western Mail Bag

The Bambino Still Manages To Draw Big Crowds

By BOB MYERS
BEVERLY HILLS, Calif., May 7 (AP)—Babe Ruth's attorney was telling about the time the Babe, Lou Gehrig and other players of a great New York Yankee reign visited his offices in Wall Street.

The group was headed for Japan and Melynn Lowenstein, Ruth's lawyer, was getting their passports in order. They came down one morning. There had been no advance notice. But the word got around that the Babe was there and in 30 minutes the street was packed and a riot call was sent in for a regiment of cops to handle the crowd, Lowenstein said.

That was in 1934. The story isn't much different today. The Babe, here to advise on the motion picture of his fabulous career, is the unrivaled king of this celebrity swarming city.

His appearance in the lobby or outside the Beverly Hills hotel is the signal for a rush for a closer look at the famous Babe.

He even stole the play from a recent honeymoon couple here—two lovers named Lana and Bob.

Back in his hotel bungalow, Babe presides over a constant flow of callers—or as many as his pretty wife, Lowenstein and others think advisable.

He looks much better than a few weeks ago, says his weight is up to 206 pounds and while his voice is deeper and huskier than ever, it seems strong. He keeps a cigar going much of the time, and a bottle of beer is handy whenever he gets thirsty.

He hasn't seen any games this year, aside from exhibitions, and wouldn't crawl out on a limb picking winners. But on most questions, some of which he undoubtedly has answered scores of times, he's quick and definite with replies.

One question, "When will the west coast get major league ball," drew a prompt counter, and a laugh: "When we gonna get it back there?"

Who was the best pitcher he faced? Babe thought a second, and said, "George Uhle gave me the most trouble." Uhle started for Cleveland in the mid-twenties and in 1926 hurled 27 victories.

Of his many feats in baseball, Ruth said, he prized most his record of pitching 29 scoreless innings in world series competition—with the Boston Red Sox in 1916 and 1918. "I don't think that record will ever be beaten."

He discouraged the idea of a pitcher working his regular turn and playing another position on other days.

"I know—I tried it. It'll ruin your arm," said the Babe. In 1918, Ruth played 85 games in the outfield and had a 13-7 pitching record.

"All wet," was Ruth's rejoinder to the claim by Charlie Root that the Babe didn't call his famous homerun shot in the Chicago-Yankee series of 1932, and when someone inquired: "What made Miller Huggins such a great manager?" the old boy didn't hesitate.

"The first thing was, he had a helluva ball club." The Sultan of Swat is rapidly regaining homerun stride.

FIGHTS LAST NIGHT
BROOKLYN—Dick Wagner, 171, Portland, Ore., and Tom McKeagney, 170, Boston, drew, 8.

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Wenatchee At Top In WIL Pennant Run

By The Associated Press
An almost complete reshuffling had the Wenatchee Chiefs atop the Western International league standings today as the class B circuit switched opponents for new four-game series.

The apple town nine blossomed out with early inning forays last night to dump Tacoma in both games of a twin bill and win 4-3 and 9-8.

Yakima took a pair of one-run decisions from Vancouver 6-5 and 5-4, Victoria doubled Spokane 4-2, while Salem and Bremerton split. The Oregonians took a seven-inning opener 7-1, dropped a nine-inning nightcap 6-1.

Off the night's decisions, Wenatchee went into third over Tacoma. Yakima soared to first and dropped Vancouver to its previous fifth. Victoria moved up to seventh, easing Spokane back into the cellar. Bremerton and Salem retained fourth and sixth on their split.

New series this evening send Victoria to Wenatchee, Vancouver to Salem, Tacoma to Spokane and Bremerton to Yakima. Each is for four games, including a Sunday double bill.

Wenatchee bunched all four of its first game runs into the first inning, with Bill Wilson's three-run circuit smash as the punch provider. Four-run spurts in the first and third frames of the second game, with a single tally in the fourth, sewed up that encounter. McCullom pitched hitless ball for the Chiefs until the fifth inning when Gilson

homered. Dick Greco added another circuit blow in the sixth with two on base to highlight a six-run Tacoma spurt after the two were out. Long base knocks also figured in Yakima's sweep over Vancouver. A two-run triple by Neil Bryan and a two-run homer by Catcher Harry Eastwood topped the Yakima first game effort. Vancouver's Bob Costello gave away the nightcap with a ninth inning streak of wildness. After doubles by Bud Fortier and Gene Thompson and a walk to Gay French tied the score, Costello hit Bryant with a pitched ball and walked Diamond Cecil to force in the winning run.

Salem jumped on Bremerton's John Marshall for 11 hits, seven for extra bases, to win their opener handily. Jim Johnson's homer was the longest. Bremerton also picked up 11 blows in the second game, sewing up the contest in the sixth on Frank Volpi's base-clearing double.

Spokane dried off its infield by burning 250 gallons of gasoline but the heat didn't hit the ballplayers until the sixth when four straight Victoria singles pushed over three runs—enough to win.

Fight On Again
CHICAGO, May 7 (AP)—Ezzard Charles, Cincinnati light heavyweight challenger, and Elmer (Violent) Hay, Hastings, Fla., heavyweight contender, will meet tonight in Chicago stadium in a return round bout which has twice been postponed.

SPORTS

Pels-Tornado Scrap In District Events

Coach Paul Deller's Pelican thin-clads set out for Ashland bright and early this morning for the district track and field meet, slated for running at Ashland high school's stadium.

Pre-meet dope has it that the actual contest will be between Medford and the local lads, and previous competition would bear out that prediction. The Tornado and the Pelicans have come to grips four times before this season, and all four times the Tigers have come out in first place with the locals just a few jumps behind in second.

Winners in the district meet today will be eligible for slots in the state go, scheduled for next week end at Corvallis. The principal early season ace up Dellar's sleeve was John Stone, team captain and standby point-gleaner in the hurdles and pole vault, but a leg injury incurred in the Grants Pass meet two weeks ago considerably limited the red-headed speedster's oval antics.

Stone, however, is reportedly in good shape and will be relied upon heavily for honors in today's tangle. Deller will also be counting on points by such boys as Tommy Edwards and Jim Flora in the broad jump, Jerry Schubert in the dashes and Jack Nichols and Les Foster in the discus and javelin.

The Pels are expected to return home tonight. Around The State
More than 1500 high school athletes will compete throughout the state this week end for the chance to enter the spring's big sports spectacle—the Oregon high school track meet at Corvallis.

District eliminations this week end—in which only the top two performers in each event will qualify for the state meet—are expected to trim the field down to less than 300 for the meet at Corvallis next week end.

The district meets may bring the best performances of the season to date. Wet, cold weather has held back training, and few outstanding marks have been reported in previous meets.

Good Salmon Fishing Outlook Of Week-End
PORTLAND, May 7—The first of its weekly fishing season bulletins put out today by the state game commission has a forecast of good salmon fishing in the Rogue and Umpqua for this week-end. Those streams have been fairly productive this past week. The forecast:

Southern Oregon:
Douglas county (Roseburg)—Good Chinook catches made in main and North Umpqua river last week. The stream is high and muddy but expected and clearing. Angling is expected to be good if weather clears. Lure for trout is eggs and worms; Chinooks are spinners. South Umpqua same condition. Upper Umpqua system, water is high, cold and roily. Salmon fishing fair. Trout probably poor. Spinners and bait most productive. All small streams muddy but clearing. Expected to be good for bait fishing over week-end.

Josephine county—Fair trout fishing expected in Rogue river with improving weather conditions and warmer weather. Tributaries will produce poor catches. Flies on upper river and single eggs in middle section. Salmon fishing expected to be good in Grants Pass and Galice sections.

Klamath county—Angling conditions in Northern Klamath county have been only fair due to cold weather and snow water. Crescent lake, poor. Odell lake, good; some fair catches of bluebacks, 1 to 2 pounds and some 3 and 4 pound rainbows have been taken. Best lure is flatfish. Rosary lakes still frozen over. Miller lake road still closed. Little Deschutes river and Crescent creek, fair; some catches of browns and eastern brook. Big Marsh creek, poor. Best lures in small streams are single eggs and anglworms.

WILD CARD IS SLATED AT ARMORY
What has the makin' of the wild card mat card of the season at the Armory is on the schedule for tonight, with Georges Dusette, the French Canadian strong man, and Glenn (Curly) Knox tangling in the 200 lb. match.

The match is billed as a grudge affair between Dusette and Knox, growing out of last week's tag match at which Dusette and the bald-headed Knox were members of opposing teams.

It is slated for a finish, two falls out of three with no time limit. Coming on before that fight will be a natural match between Frankie Stojack, present and seemingly unbeatable holder of the Pacific Coast junior heavyweight wrestling crown, and Pete Belcastro.

Belcastro is making his unteenth return to the local ring, after having been on the retired list for many months. He got the fight with Stojack by way of a challenge issued by proxy last week. The Belcastro-Stojack duel is slated for five stanzas.

Thrown in to get the card rolling at 8:30 is a four-rounder putting Buck Weaver up against Al Szasz who, like Belcastro, is returning to the armory after a lengthy absence. A year ago Szasz was a prime favorite with local railbirds.

A standing-room-only crowd is expected to witness the night's card.

FACE FACTS BY KEN TUCKY
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