

Indians Take AL Top Spot

Feller Gives A's Three Hits

By JACK HAND
Associated Press Sports Writer

Bobby Feller and his Cleveland Tribe have cooled off Connie Mack's Athletics and wrested the actual American league lead from Philadelphia.

By a mathematical freak, the Indians slipped into first place Tuesday night when they really trailed the A's by a half game. No longer is there any fret about it, Feller took care of that.

The fireballing righthander, who was the only American leaguer to win 20 games last season, hung up his fifth victory last night by trimming Philadelphia, 6-1, with three hits.

Feller's brilliant pitching permitted the Tribe to sweep the series from the A's, who came into town on a red hot spree after winning a double header in the Yankee stadium. They moved on to Detroit in second place.

Last night's crowd of 33,871 saw Feller retire the side in order in seven of the nine innings while the home club routed Bill Dietrich in a five-run fifth.

Hal Newhouser got back on the win path after being knocked out five straight times when he hurled Detroit to a 4-1 decision over Boston. Hal tied a record when he started four of the Tigers' six double plays.

BREAKS UP GAME

Vic Wertz broke up a 1-1 game when he homered off Ellis Kinder with two on in the last of the ninth. Pat Mullin's homer in the fourth accounted for the other run.

The New York Yankees finally got a route-going job from Lefty Ed Lopat, ex-White Sox'er, who allowed 12 hits in taking an 8-4 verdict over Fred Sanford and the St. Louis Browns.

Pitcher Early Wynn helped Washington out of trouble with his bat. Coming in as a pinchhitter he singled home two runs that started the Senators to a 4-1 nod over Chicago.

There were some high shenanigans at Ebbets field, where the St. Louis Cardinals thumped Brooklyn, 14-7, before a night crowd of 32,888. It lasted for three hours and 28 minutes and consumed five of the Brooks' seven able pitchers.

The King, who replaced Starter Clyde Barney, caught the loss and the win went to Ted Wilks, the third Card chucker.

FOURTH IN ROW

While the Dodgers were losing their fourth in a row at home, the Phils were coming from behind to shade Chicago, 2-1. Two in the last of the ninth on a triple by Johnny Blatnik and singles by Del Inns, Eddie Miller and Howie Schultz turned Cliff Chamber's potential shutout into a decision for Relfe Sam Nahem.

The New York Giants took advantage of another fine pitching job by Larry Jansen, who curved the ball past Cincinnati for a 5-0 victory. Whitey Lockman and Bill Rigney hit homers for the Giants.

Boston uncovered a new rookie, Vern Bickford, who may have an important bearing on the race. Bickford, making his first start, limited Pittsburgh to five hits in a 4-1 victory.

Game Hangs In Balance

Every game in the Far West league was rained out last night and the chances are very good that the same will happen again tonight.

The Gems got a day of rest—while the boys explored the town—but have a joust with the Santa Rosa Pirates scheduled for tonight, 7:45 at Gems stadium.

Yesterday's game was called off after morning rains and the afternoon field is still very wet. A decision whether the game will be played was expected about 1 p. m.

No games have been played in the Far West circuit since Monday night and consequently Santa Rosa still rides at the top of the heap with 11 wins and six losses, followed by Oroville and Redding at nine and six, and Marysville at eight and six.

The Gems are tied for fifth place with eight wins and nine defeats with the Pittsburg Diamonds.

Cal Boasts Oldster As Shell Boss

OAKLAND, Calif., May 20 (AP)—Coach Ky Elright of the University of California isn't going to send a boy to do a man's job on the Oakland estuary Saturday.

Boss of the UC shell when it meets the University of Washington Huskies in a three-mile grind will be Ralph Purchase of Portland, Ore. The coxswain is 31 years old.

Cal fans say Purchase probably is the oldest coxswain in collegiate crew history. He's 5 feet-7, a little taller than most—but weighs only 118 pounds.

The Husky varsity, along with the Jayvees and Frosh, arrived yesterday. The squads immediately worked out and scheduled morning and afternoon drills today and tomorrow.

Coach Al Ubrich says was anything but enthusiastic about his 1948 squad. He said the crew, as yet untested, is only in fair condition and not ready for the three-mile race.

The Bears, on the other hand, have had two 2000 meter races. Handling the tiller ropes for the Washington crewmen will be Veteran Coxswain Bob Lee. It's a second year assignment for him.

Bevens Goes On Disabled List

NEW YORK, May 20 (AP)—The jinx which follows the stars of the 1947 world series has claimed another victim—sore-armed Floyd Bevens.

The New York Yankee pitcher from Salem, Ore., went on the disabled list yesterday. He hasn't thrown a ball in a game this year.

Bevens was within one put-out of becoming the first pitcher in history to toss a no-hit world series game. But that put-out never came.

Bevens might be back. The rules say he can't return to action for 60 days. Meanwhile he will nurse his arm which went bad in spring training.

FIGHTS LAST NIGHT

MILWAUKEE—Willie Pep, 129½, Hartford, Conn., outpointed Charles "Cabe" Lewis, 130½, Brooklyn, 10. (Non-title.)

OAKLAND—Livio Minelli, 149½, Milan, Italy, outpointed Danny Boy Williams, 150½, Detroit, 10.

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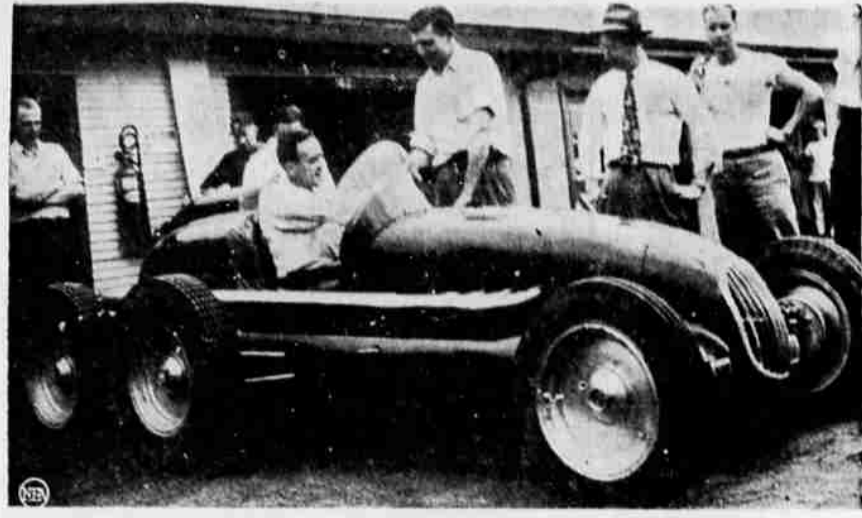
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One of the most unusual cars entered in the 500-mile race at Indianapolis is this six-wheeler that has just arrived for the 1948 renewal of the annual classic. Billy Devore, veteran driver seated in the mount, will be the pilot. Shaking hands with Devore is A. J. Bowen of Memphis, Tenn., one of the designers of the car, while other racing enthusiasts look over the entry.

The STANDINGS

Pacific Coast

San Francisco	32	14	696
Los Angeles	30	20	600
Oakland	27	21	563
Seattle	22	20	324
San Diego	25	24	510
Hollywood	19	25	432
Sacramento	14	29	326
Portland	15	31	326

Yesterday's Scores

San Diego 8, Hollywood 3.
Oakland 8, San Francisco 0.
Los Angeles 12, Seattle 3.
Sacramento at Portland postponed.

American League

Cleveland	15	6	714
Philadelphia	16	8	667
New York	14	9	609
Detroit	13	14	481
Boston	11	13	458
Washington	11	13	458
St. Louis	9	12	529
Chicago	4	18	182

Yesterday's Scores

New York 8, St. Louis 4.
Detroit 4, Boston 1.
Washington 4, Chicago 1.
Cleveland 6, Philadelphia 1.

National League

St. Louis	15	7	692
New York	14	9	609
Boston	13	11	542
Philadelphia	14	12	538
Pittsburgh	13	12	520
Brooklyn	11	14	440
Chicago	9	14	391
Cincinnati	9	19	321

Yesterday's Scores

New York 5, Cincinnati 0.
St. Louis 14, Brooklyn 7.
Boston 4, Pittsburgh 1.
Philadelphia 2, Chicago 1.

Longden Boots Four Winners

INGLEWOOD, Calif., May 20 (AP)—Johnny Longden, 1947 riding champion, is hard at it again.

The tireless ace jockey booted home four winners yesterday at Hollywood park, one of his favorite tracks. Longden won with Nikelet, Willow Way, Challenging and Timber. All were favorites.

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Spot-Pitcher Jansen Might Win 20 Again

NEW YORK, May 20 (AP)—Larry Jansen, the tall, thin man of the New York Giants, in his own quiet and efficient way, is using the critics who predicted he would not repeat the 21 victories he racked up as a freshman last year.

The 27-year-old righthander from Forest Grove, Ore., refuses to venture an opinion himself, but his four victories to date, including three-hit, four-hit and seven-hit performances, give him a good talking point.

"I feel better and stronger than I ever did in my life but I can't say I'll win 20 games again," he begged off. "That takes a great deal of luck and you've got to have circumstances in your favor."

What about the theory that Jansen, primarily a control artist, hasn't the high, hard one deemed necessary to win consistently in the majors?

"I rely mostly on the slider and spot pitching," explained Jansen. "My fast one—such as it is—certainly isn't my best pitch. I don't throw it often. I threw it only three or four times in today's game—just to let them know that I have it."

With or without the fast ball, Jansen set the Cincinnati Reds down with seven hits and shut them out 5-0. He fanned four to take the leadership in the majors with 32 strikeouts. It was his first shutout of the season and equalled his entire 1947 total. He walked only one man, which is just about his quota per game.

Manager Mel Ott says it was just about the best game Jansen has pitched this year.

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Graders Set For Tourney

The annual city grade school track and field tournament for the little fellows will be held Friday afternoon at 2 p. m. on Modoc field, with Pelican school as the defending champion.

Pelican won the 1947 city track meet, with Calvin Gilmore setting three records in class B events. The youngsters are divided into three age and size divisions. Gilmore also holds one class C mark set in 1946, and this year will be competing in class A events.

Here are the standing records of the grade school meet:

CLASS A—

75-yard dash—Richard Hafer, Mills, 1946, 9 sec.

Broad jump—Hawkins, Pelican, 1944, 16 feet 10½ inches.

Shot—Bob Boardman, Fairview, 1947, 35 feet 11 inches.

High Jump—Dale Craig, Fremont, 1944, 4 feet 8½ inches.

Football throw—Tom Sandoe, Roosevelt, 1944, 121 feet 5 inches.

440-yard relay—Mills school, 1946, 55.6 seconds.

CLASS B—

60-yard dash—Calvin Gilmore, Pelican, 1947, 7.6 seconds.

Broad jump—Calvin Gilmore, Pelican, 1947, 14 feet 7½ inches.

High Jump—Calvin Gilmore, Pelican, 1947, 4 feet 9½ inches.

Football throw—Gary Dawes, Mills, 1944, 115 feet 1 inch.

60-yard shuttle relay—Fairview school, 1945, 50.3 seconds.

CLASS C—

50-yard dash—Matt Finnigan, Riverside, 1947, 6.9 seconds.

Broad jump—John Tilman, Pelican, 1947, 12 feet 8½ inches.

High Jump—Calvin Gilmore, Pelican, 1946, 4 feet 7 inches.

Baseball throw—Rolly Allen, Mills, 1944, 208 feet 5 inches.

50-yard shuttle relay—Fairview, 1945, 45.5 seconds.

Huskies Favored

PULLMAN, May 20 (AP)—Paced by Jim Brink, 11th ranking amateur in the nation, the University of Washington Huskies were established today as top-ranking favorites to retain their northern division coast conference tennis title here tomorrow and Saturday.

Idaho, Oregon, Montana State and Washington State also will compete.

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Broken Neck Doesn't Floor Old Pete Alexander

By STEVE LOWELL

ALBUQUERQUE, N. M., May 20 (AP)—Grover Cleveland A. Alexander has a broken neck, but that isn't enough to put the famous old big league baseball pitcher in a hospital bed.

Injured in a fall on a stairway at his hotel, "Old Pete" stayed in a hospital just long enough for the X-rays, which revealed a fractured neck vertebra. Then he signed a release and left.

"He's a very stubborn man," sighed his physician. He said another fall might sever Alexander's spinal cord.

The 61-year-old Alexander, one of the outstanding pitchers of all time, came to Albuquerque to visit Dr. Chester F. Rehder, an oculist. They were World War I buddies.

Dr. Rehder tried to arrange treatment for Alexander at the veterans' hospital here but again the answer was a flat "no."

For 20 years, from 1911 to 1930, "Old Pete" lowered the boom on big league batters with his whip-lash curve. Of the 696 games he pitched for the Phillies, Cubs and Cardinals, he won 373 of them.

At the age of 51, in 1938, he still was pitching an occasional game for the House of David. That year he was voted into baseball's hall of fame. Only three pitchers—Christy Mathewson, Walter Johnson and Cy Young—preceded him into this honor club.

Alexander still has fans. Due here in a few days from Bridge-water, Nova Scotia, is S. J. Gamester, who telegraphed he "would travel 8000 miles to meet Grover Alexander."

Mrs. Alexander is living in Long Beach, Calif.

Alex says he can't understand the prevalence of sore arms among ball players today. He says he never had a sore arm in his life.

Right now he has something worse than just a sore arm, but he still isn't bothered about it.

AIR SHOWS



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Paid Adv. by Red Milhorn