

# INDIANS CLOSING GAP AS YANKEES STUMBLE

By RALPH RODEN  
 Sports Writer

Ever since Luke Easter became a regular with Cleveland's Indians it has been said, "As Easter goes so go the Indians."

Cleveland's pennant hopes have waned and waned the past 1800 seasons coinciding with the rise or decline of Easter's fortunes at the plate. A trick knee more than lack of punch in the clutch has been responsible for Easter's failure to deliver the goods in the past.

His value to the Indians is clearly demonstrated by his performance this year. Big Luke is hot right now and so are the Indians.

Cleveland, with Easter playing a leading role, swamped the Boston Red Sox, 18-6, yesterday and pulled to within a game of the American League's front-running New York Yankees. The Yankees were humiliated, 12-3, by the Chicago White Sox. Philadelphia tripped Detroit, 4-3, in the circuit's only night game. A night game between St. Louis and Washington was

rained out.

Brooklyn moved seven games ahead of the New York Giants in the National League chase, downing Cincinnati, 6-3. The Giants and Chicago Cubs were rained out. In other games, Philadelphia lamed Pittsburgh, 3-1, and St. Louis trounced Boston, 9-2, in a game called in the eighth inning because of rain.

The Indians could take over the lead today with the help of Chicago. A Cleveland victory over Boston and a Chicago triumph over New York would enable the Indians to move out in front by one percentage point.

Cleveland enters the crucial stage of its 12-game road trip tomorrow when it invades Yankee Stadium for a two game series.

Easter, Ray Boone and Larry Doby were the ringleaders in Cleveland's rout of the Red Sox. Easter batted in six runs on a grand slam homer and two singles. Boone sent six mates across on a homer and two singles and Doby batted in a pair of runs on his 27th homer and two singles.

Since July 15, when Easter rejoined the Indians after a short exile to Indianapolis of the American Association, the Tribe has won 24 games and lost 15, a .615 pace.

During this span Easter has whacked out 26 hits in 78 times at bat, a .333 average, driven in 28 runs and clouted eight homers. Boone sent six mates across on a homer and two singles and Doby batted in a pair of runs on his 27th homer and two singles.

and that was more than Paul Rogovin needed to hang up his 11th triumph.

Carl Scheib drove home two runs and scored the winning run in the A's triumph over Detroit. Scheib singled home two runs in the seventh to tie the score at 2-2 and then pranced over the plate on one-baggers by Pete Suder and Ferris Fain.

Brooklyn found veteran Ken Raffensberger for 11 hits and all of their runs in less than four innings.

Connie Ryan was the big wheel in Philadelphia's triumph over Pittsburgh. Ryan clouted his 12th homer, walked three times and stole two bases in posting his 10th conquest.

## TIME OUT!



"I can't get over it! A swag-gone lead on April 23rd, and here you are as being the pennant!"

## Rules Offered For Fire Safety

CORVALLIS (AP) — Campers can follow a few simple rules and be certain they are not creating forest fire hazards with their fires, the farm forestry specialist for the extension service at Oregon State College said Wednesday.

The specialist, Charles R. Ross, said this is the way to do it:

Clear away all burnable material from a circle five feet in diameter, dig a hole in the center, and build a small fire.

In choosing the fire area, avoid brush, logs, overhanging inflammable material and ground filled with punky roots.

## Promoter Matches Boxer Against Grappler

By HARRY GRAYSON  
 NEW YORK (AP) — While Felix Boechicchio was making up his mind what to do about sending Jersey Joe Walcott against Rocky Marciano, and where, Al Mayer decided to put on something entirely different.

Mayer, who managed Louis

Angel Firpo, Paulino Uzcudun and others, is reviving the old question about who would win—the boxer or the wrestler.

He intends to find out at Jersey City's Roosevelt Stadium, Sept. 11, on which date he has paired Omelio Agronome, the Cuban Negro heavyweight with Marvin "Atomic" Mercer. The latter is the world junior heavyweight champion, it says here, acclaimed Mr. Physical Culture and dubbed The Atomic Wonder because of his atomic thrust or kick. You can't top the razzlers. A junior heavyweight, it seems, scales 205 pounds or less. You have to be an elephant to be a heavyweight.

Agronome, who four times boxed Joe Louis and was knocked out by Walcott in seven, and Mercer are to box, wrestle or whatever you choose to call it, under Australian rules, whatever they are. They are scheduled to go 10 five-minute rounds, the equivalent of a 15-round boxing match. Agronome will wear eight-ounce gloves. Mercer will wear with his feet.

Mayer matching the fighter and the wrestler is reminiscent of the funniest thing this observer ever

saw in a ring. It happened in the mid-'20s, when Stanislaus Zyzanski attempted to make a fighter of Steinko.

In his first start, Steinko was thrown in with Long Tom Hawkins, a stringbean Negro of San Diego, at Los Angeles' Olympic Stadium. Hawkins could box very well, reddened Steinko's pan with a steady left jab in round one as the muscle-bound German lunged after him.

Hawkins resumed the tattoo in the second round, when Steinko turned to what he knew best. Gloves on his hands and all, he picked up the panicky Hawkins with a crutch hold and nearly broke him in two flopping down on him on the canvas and pinning him.

It was a smash finish.

## Pel City In Tough Loss

One-sided scores resulted from both the women's softball circuit games played at Conger field last night.

Midland beat the Rockets 18-9 while Tik Tok whopped Fray-Tex 3-4. Only the night before Fray-Tex had been clobbered 21 to 5.

In Junior League baseball competition last night Pelican City gathered in its 11th loss of the season in heart-breaking fashion, losing to Heilbrunner's 8 to 7.

Pelican City had its own 7-6 in the last inning, and swung a strike-out for the last out. But the catcher dropped the ball, allowing the batter to get aboard and the tying run to score from third. A hit moments later drove in another run and that was it.

## AAU Pool Meet

THE DALLES, Ore. (AP) — Some 250 swimmers from six Western States and Canada will compete in the Oregon Open AAU swimming and diving championships here Saturday and Sunday.

Closed in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, California, Montana, Colorado and British Columbia are expected to send representatives.

## Urness Out For Season

THE DALLES, Ore. (AP) — An ankle injury has sidelined Eddie Urness, Boston Red Sox bonus baby, for the remainder of the baseball season.

Urness, young high school pitcher, signed by the Red Sox for a reported \$60,000, was sent home this week by the Roanoke, Va., team in the Piedmont League.

Urness twisted an ankle while backing up home plate. Club officials sent him home since there are only three weeks left in the season and he would not regain full use of the ankle in time to see action again.

## Middlecoff Favored

FORT WAYNE, Ind. (AP) — Cary Middlecoff, the Memphis dentist, hoped to make a good start Thursday toward pulling \$2,400 first money out of the Fort Wayne Open Golf tournament.

Winner of a playoff over Jack Burke Jr., of Houston Monday in the Kansas City Open, Middlecoff said he liked the looks of the Fort Wayne Elks course as he started the 72-hole event.



## By The Associated Press AMERICAN LEAGUE

	W	L	Pct.
New York	70	50	.583
Cleveland	68	50	.576
Boston	62	53	.539
Washington	62	56	.525
Chicago	62	58	.517
Philadelphia	60	55	.517
St. Louis	59	70	.457
Detroit	30	80	.328

Wednesday's Results  
 Cleveland 18, Boston 4  
 Chicago 12, New York 3  
 Philadelphia 4, Detroit 3  
 St. Louis at Washington, rain.

## NATIONAL LEAGUE

	W	L	Pct.
Brooklyn	73	38	.654
New York	68	45	.602
St. Louis	68	49	.585
Philadelphia	61	53	.534
Chicago	62	58	.517
Boston	49	66	.426
Cincinnati	50	69	.420
Pittsburgh	35	87	.287

Wednesday's Results  
 Brooklyn 6, Cincinnati 3  
 Philadelphia 3, Pittsburgh 1  
 St. Louis 9, Boston 2 (called 7 1/2 innings rain)  
 New York at Chicago, rain

## PACIFIC COAST LEAGUE

	W	L	Pct.
Hollywood	85	58	.594
Oakland	84	59	.587
San Diego	78	64	.549
Portland	70	70	.500
Seattle	71	69	.507
Los Angeles	68	76	.472
San Francisco	59	84	.413

Wednesday's Results  
 Seattle 5, Oakland 1  
 San Francisco 2, Sacramento 0  
 Los Angeles 5, Portland 0  
 Hollywood 2, San Diego 1

## Western International League

	W	L	Pct.
Victoria	89	41	.681
Spokane	73	55	.570
Vancouver	60	57	.513
Salem	60	63	.488
Yakima	57	67	.460
Lewiston	57	68	.456
Tri-City	53	68	.438

Wednesday's Results  
 Tri-City 6, Victoria 0  
 Spokane 2-2, Yakima 3-1  
 Salem 3, Vancouver 1  
 Wenatchee 13, Lewiston 6

## SPORTS MIRROR

By The Associated Press  
 TODAY A YEAR AGO — Phil Cavarretta was signed to manage the Chicago Cubs for the 1952 season.

FIVE YEARS AGO — Sugar Ray Robinson knocked out Sailor Sammy Seccombe in the first round at Akron, Ohio.

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