

Hardtop Racing Season Opens Officially Sunday

Klamath's hardtop racing season will officially get underway this Sunday afternoon with time trial starting at 1:30 on the Gem Speedway track.

The official opening should see more than 50 cars entered in a top program that Track Manager Sam Neslin has planned for the hardtop fans.

Last week the racing enthusiasts got a short look at what they will see this year, and from the showing this racing season should surpass last year's in many ways.

Neslin points out that all seats are in good position now that the barrier in front of the grandstand will not block the vision of the track action as it has done in past seasons.

Another change this year is the widening of the track and the north turn, where there were so many pile ups last year.

This season the four heat races will be ten laps in length instead of the usual eight that were run last year. This will give the customers an extra eight laps of racing excitement.

Drivers from the Medford-Ashland-Grants Pass circuit are expected to be on hand, and word from the valley officials is that they will bring a fleet of racing buggies over the hill for the opener and possibly most of the season.

Besides these drivers the California hardtoppers will again be present. Mr. Shasta, Weed, Dunsmuir and Yreka should all be represented in the opening day festivities.

The program is jam packed with four ten-lap heat races, the final heat race, the trophy dash, a consolation race, for all of those who don't qualify in the time trials, a semi-main and the main event which will go 28 laps of the Speedway track.

Admission prices this year are as follows: children under six admitted free, children 6-12 years of age, 50 cents, students, \$1.00, and general admission \$1.50 for any seat in the stands.

Tickets can be purchased at the Oregon Wooden Store for those who wish to get tickets before the racing time Sunday afternoon.

Following the time trials, the heat races will get started around 2:15.

This Friday night there will be a special meeting of all hardtop drivers and sponsors at Gems Speedway at 7:30.

The purpose of this meeting is to straighten out rules for the coming season, and make any last minute changes that the group see fit. All drivers are asked to be present at this important meeting.

PCC Playoffs Being Passed

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Because of conflict with district NCAA playoffs, the Pacific Coast Conference has decided to pass up this year's playoffs between baseball champions of the Northern and Southern Divisions.

Winners of the two divisions and two at-large teams will compete in a double elimination tournament to determine the Western district entry in the NCAA finals at Omaha.

Stanford is out in front in the Southern Division with a 6-3 record. Oregon State leads the Northerners with 9 wins and 3 losses.



GEM SPEEDWAY will house the official opening of the 1954 hardtop racing season this Sunday afternoon starting with time trials at 1:30. Above is a scene from last Sunday's practice program at Gem Speedway. In the foreground is Al Rossi, who won the practice session's main event.

The STANDINGS

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
Philadelphia	13	9	.591	
Brooklyn	13	10	.565	
St. Louis	13	11	.542	
New York	13	11	.542	
Cincinnati	14	12	.538	
Milwaukee	11	11	.500	
Chicago	9	11	.450	
Pittsburgh	7	18	.280	

Wednesday's Results

Milwaukee 5, Brooklyn 1
New York 2, Cincinnati 1
St. Louis 13, Pittsburgh 5
Philadelphia 5, Chicago 4

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
Detroit	12	6	.667	
Chicago	16	9	.640	
Cleveland	13	10	.565	1 1/2
New York	13	10	.565	1 1/2
Philadelphia	9	13	.409	5
Baltimore	8	12	.400	5
Washington	8	13	.381	5 1/2
Boston	5	11	.313	6

Wednesday's Results

New York 5, Cleveland 4
Detroit 4, Washington 2
Chicago 1, Boston 0
Only games scheduled

Western International League

Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
Vancouver	9	5	.643	
Yakima	9	6	.600	1/2
Spokane	8	6	.571	1
Lewiston	8	6	.571	1
Victoria	7	6	.538	1 1/2
Salem	8	7	.533	1 1/2
Edmonton	6	6	.500	2
Wenatchee	6	6	.500	2
Calgary	4	8	.333	4
Tri-City	4	11	.267	5 1/2

Wednesday's Results

Vancouver 10, Wenatchee 5
Lewiston 5, Salem 2
Tri-City 9, Spokane 7
Yakima 5, Victoria 1
Calgary and Edmonton, open

PACIFIC COAST LEAGUE

Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
Sacramento	21	16	.568	
Oakland	21	16	.568	
Hollywood	19	17	.528	1 1/2
San Diego	19	17	.528	1 1/2
Seattle	19	18	.514	2
Portland	17	18	.486	3
Los Angeles	18	20	.474	3 1/2
San Francisco	12	24	.333	8 1/2

Wednesday's Results

San Diego 6, Sacramento 0
San Francisco 6, Los Angeles 2
Oakland 5, Hollywood 1 (21 innings)
Seattle 2, Portland 1

Minor League Baseball

INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

Montreal 2-4, Ottawa 1-2
Havana 3, Buffalo 2
Rochester 12, Toronto 8
Richmond 7, Syracuse 0

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION

Indianapolis 7, Columbus 4
St. Paul 6, Louisville 3
Kansas City 7, Charleston 1
Toledo 6, Minneapolis 4

TEXAS LEAGUE

Oklahoma City 1-2, Tulsa 0-6 (both games 10 innings)
Beaumont 4, Houston 1

PIONEER LEAGUE

Magie Valley 10, Great Falls 7
Pocatello 10, Ogden 6

Sports

ChiSox Pitcher Not Following Reputation

NEW YORK (AP)—Once lightly around the sports beat: Bob Keegan, the streaking Chicago White Sox right-hander who just wrapped up his fourth victory against a single defeat, had a reputation before this season of being one of the worst springtime pitchers in the business. His record last year was a very undazzling 7-5, and most of his wins came in a late-season spurt, long after the Sox were out of the American League race.

Looks like Manager Paul Richards might have found that "difference" he was looking for by sticking with the Rochester product. Gene Conley, the Leaning Tower of Milwaukee, made a great impression in blanking Brooklyn 2-0 in his first local appearance. The experts were dubious about his control in the spring, predicting that smart major leaguers would wait him out, but the 8-foot-7 rookie was cutting the corners against the Dodgers and coming in boldly with his fast ball when a walk threatened.

Sitting forlornly in the local office of the Amateur Athletic Union is a large and ornate silver trophy for which no home can be found. It was donated by Col. Hans Lagerloef of the Swedish-American Athletic Club in 1941 for presentation to the first American citizen to run a four-minute mile. Only thing was, the colonel stipulated it had to be done within 10 years, which time has long since run out. Now they're just sitting around and looking at the blamed thing.

There is disquieting news from

the Catskills, where Rocky Marciano is training for his coming defense against Ezzard Charles. They are trying to make a boxer out of the champion. His trainer Charley Goldman, claims not to have been affected by the high mountain air when he says: "We have worked in secret to streamline him. We have trimmed the rough edges. He will not be the awkward, missing fighter he's been in previous fights. He will do the same things with class and precision." Wanna bet?

Local Gun Club Preparing For Registered Shoot

Klamath's Gun Club will have a busy two weeks ahead of them as they prepare for their annual two day registered Pacific International Trapshooters Association shoot that will be held in Klamath Falls May 22 and 23.

Over 50 outside gunmen will be in Klamath Falls for the weekend shoot. These trapshooters will be from California, Washington, and most of the other seven western states.

This Sunday the local club members will be shooting for the Klamath Sportsmen's Trophy. Carl Olney has already won one leg of the cup, and it takes three to have permanent possession.

In last week's shoot, Bud Cloake and John Catalano tied with a 48 out of 50 at sixteen yards, and Vern Moore walked off with the handicap event with his 45 out of 50 score. The win for Moore gave him one leg of the Dr. Adams Trophy, which Marion Grant has two legs and needs just one more for possession.

Three Willies are among the leading jockeys this year — Willie Harpitz, Willie Shoemaker and Willie Hartack.

Oaks Outlast Stars In 21 Inning Duel

Oakland outlasted Hollywood Wednesday night to snatch a 5-1 decision in a 21-inning pitchers' battle between Oakland's 36-year-old Al Gettel and Hollywood's strong armed Bob Hall. It was Pacific Coast League history.

Both teams scored a run in the first inning, and after that the pitchers dominated the situation. Both Gettel and Hall were in tight spots in several of the late innings, but they either overpowered the hitters or were saved by seemingly miraculous catches in the infield or outfield.

The crowd and the players thought the game had ended in a 1-1 tie as the 20th inning was completed. The scoreboard clock showed the curfew hour of 12:30 a.m. had passed. After that hour, no Pacific Coast League inning may be started. But Umpire Al Mutart's watch showed there was a fraction of a minute to go, and it was his watch that sent the players back on the field.

Oakland won the game in the 21st inning when first baseman Jim Marshall doubled after Hall had loaded the bases. Art Cutili's single scored Marshall.

Hollywood manager Bobby Bragan was tossed out for disputing a decision in the 14th and Hollywood's center fielder, Tommy Saffel was guided to life showers in the 17th. Saffel complained to Umpire Mutart about a pitch and just as the arbiter ordered him back into the batter's box, Gettel shot a third strike across the plate and Mutart called Saffel out. Saffel's fellow players had to get between him and the umpire after Mutart ordered him off the field. There were some real pitching

heroics at Seattle where Van Fletcher stepped in to relieve Tommy Byrne and with the bases loaded proceeded to strike out two men to preserve the Rainiers' 2-1 edge over Portland. Byrne got credit for the win. Rocky Kresch, a former Seattle infielder, hit a sacrifice fly that scored Walt Judnich with Portland's run in the fourth. In their half of the fourth the Rainiers tied it. George Schrevers tripped in center and counting on catcher Ray Orlic's

140 MPH Seen For 500-Miler

INDIANAPOLIS (AP)—Hot practice rounds indicate that the Indianapolis Motor Speedway may yield its first 140-mile-an-hour lap when the heavyweight drivers go for the pole position Saturday.

The lap record they'll be going for is 139.6 set in 1952 by Chet Miller, who was killed last year in a pre-race accident.

The fastest car to qualify Saturday will be on the inside in the front row of the 33-car lineup for the 500-mile race May 31. Additional qualifications are scheduled for May 22-23.

It took a two-hit pitching job by cradly Ed Evers to stop resurg-ing Sacramento as San Diego snapped out of a bad slump and won, 6-0.

The Sacs' loss forced them to share first place in the standings with Oakland.

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Weibel and Rossi; Byrne, Fletcher (9) and Orlic.

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