

Ralph Kiner Reports Plans Of Retirement

By MILTON RICHMAN
United Press Sports Writer
NEW YORK (UP)—Ralph Kiner of the Cleveland Indians, the leading home run hitter of the post-war era, said today he is retiring from baseball at the end of this season because of "physical reasons."

The 32-year-old outfielder, who has hit a total of 367 homers during 10 active seasons in the majors, said he was "tempted to quit" several times during the middle of the current campaign because of a back condition.

"The only thing that kept me from quitting during the season was the possibility that I might be able to help the Indians win the pennant," he said.

Reduced to part-time status with the Indians this year, Kiner, who is receiving an estimated \$50,000 salary, has hit 16 home runs so far and is batting .342 with 51 runs batted in.

TRADED
Those figures are a far cry from the ones he posted while playing with the Pittsburgh Pirates from 1946 until he was traded to the Chicago Cubs on June 4, 1953.

During that stretch he won the National League home run title or tied for it seven straight years. As a sophomore in the National League, he hit 51 home runs in 1947 and then threatened Babe Ruth's all-time mark in 1949 when he hit 54.

Kiner received an estimated \$75,000 salary in 1953 and the only National League player ever to top him in that department was Stan Musial of the Cardinals, whose peak earnings were between \$80,000 and \$85,000. In all, Kiner's estimated baseball earnings total \$517,000.

Prothro Has Eyes On Future

By MATT KRAMER
CORVALLIS, Ore. (UP)—Oregon State's new coach, Tommy Prothro, who apparently figures he has nothing to lose anyway, ordered a scrimmage on the first day of practice.

When the players emerged without injury, Prothro grinned over his luck, and said it proved his boys were in excellent condition. He at once ordered scrimmages daily to keep, and perhaps improve, on that condition.

Now if condition and luck could win the Coast Conference title, Prothro and his boys might be the ones to watch.

But not even the grinning Prothro, former assistant at UCLA, believes that.

He has a team that (A) finished last in the conference last season; (B) has started to learn a new offensive system, and (C) has no sure-fire stars.

So he is making the best of it, with one eye to the future.

The new offensive system will be the single wing—the UCLA version. The hope is to correct some of the faulty blocking shown by Oregon State last season.

Prothro believes the double-teaming possible in single-wing play will open more holes for the Staters than did the single-man blocking of T-formation.

As for the standout players, Prothro will just have to develop them.

He has a couple of fine prospects to begin with. One is John Witte, the 240-pound tackle who was on the verge of stardom as a sophomore, just before going into the Army for two years.

Now he is back, looking as fast as before and twice as tough.

Another is Ray Westfall, a junior from Honolulu who showed brilliance at times last year as a T-formation quarterback.

He can also run and punt, and so is expected to be the tailback in the new system. His replacement is another player from Hawaii, sophomore Bud Francis. Francis is faster, but the edge in passing goes to Westfall.

Prothro also has 23 other lettermen, but they were not impressive as a group last year, when the line was leaky and reserves lacking. This still may be the case, although some improvement is to be expected.

Five of last year's regulars will be among the starters to bolster the team. They include tackle Howard Buettingbach, guard Bob Riggert, center Larry Stevens, halfback Dick Mason and fullback Tom Berry.

Oregon State will open against Brigham Young at Corvallis, Sept. 17.

Double Race Program Set For Hardtops

Another double hardtop racing weekend is in store for the Basin racing fans this Friday and Sunday at Klamath Speedway according to Klamath Racing Association president Benny Morrison.

The regular weekly program of hardtopping will be held this Friday evening at the speedway, then on Sunday a special benefit race will be held for Sam DeMorgandie, one of the local drivers.

DeMorgandie suffered a broken lower-left leg in last Sunday's special Labor Day Weekend program. Club members and track officials will be donating their time to help Sam take care of his doctor bills.

The accident came when DeMorgandie's K-28 was braked by another hardtop in one of the Sunday races. The roll bar inside of K-28 was broken loose and snapped against DeMorgandie's leg resulting in a fracture.

This is the second driver put on the disabled list. Earlier in the year, Dale Hankins was shelved when he fell and broke both wrists while working on the track's lighting system.

The races Friday evening will open with time trials at 7 o'clock and the first competitive action is slated for 8 o'clock. Sunday the time-trials will be held at 4:30 and the first race opens one hour later.

Both of the hardtop shows will carry the full load of races including three heats, the final heat, two trophy dashes, the 15-lap B-main and the 25-lap A-main. Morrison said special events will accompany both of the speedway programs.

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By UNITED PRESS
EUGENE, Ore. (UP)—Working under the assumption that the spies will be out early this year, Coach Len Casanova sent his University of Oregon Ducks through a secret session yesterday.

The interior of the Ducks' line got considerable attention as Casanova worked to fill holes vacated by guard Jack Patra, center Ron Pfeister and tackle Keith Tucker.

CORVALLIS, Ore. (UP)—Joe Francis looked like the most likely candidate for a starting tailback spot yesterday as he consistently got off the longest kicks during an Oregon State practice session.

Coach Tommy Prothro welcomed sophomore guard Bob McKittick to the squad and looks forward to the arrival of tailback Ray Westfall. Both men were delayed by ROTC summer camp training.

SEATTLE, Wash. (UP)—University of Washington's top quarterback candidate Steve Roake split a right hip muscle during practice yesterday, weakening the Huskies' offensive hopes.

Coach Johnny Cherberg said he did not know the extent of the injury, but that it was the type that could keep Roake out of action from one day to one month.

PULLMAN, Wash. (UP)—Four quarterbacks got a workout yesterday as Coach Al Kircher ordered his Washington State Cougars to take to the air—and he said the results were "better than average."

Kircher said that senior lettermen Bob Iverson and Frank Sarno were holding down the first two quarterback spots now, but that sophomores Dwight Hawkes and Dick Temby, switched from halfback only last week, looked "impressive."

MOSCOW, Idaho (UP)—They were coming and going at the University of Idaho yesterday, and Coach Skip Stahley hopes he broke even.

CBS Covers Big Ten

CHICAGO (UP)—The first of five Big Ten football games to be televised on a regional basis in the Midwest this fall by the Columbia Broadcasting System will be the Michigan State - Indiana game on Sept. 24. The other games to be announced, will be on Oct. 8, Oct. 22, Nov. 5, and Nov. 12.

GOT TO BE TOUGH
SAN DIEGO, Calif. (UP)—John Heydler, former president of the National League, believes there must be strict discipline in the administration of the game.

Said Heydler: "You must be fair but you've got to be tough."

The 86-year old Heydler, who served as loop president from 1918 to 1934, now lives here in retirement but keeps up with the game via radio, television, newspapers and correspondence.

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Pacific Coast Conference Football Camp Briefs From Here and There

Senior fullback Larry Gorrell, who lettered in 1953 but was kept out of play last year, dropped out because his old leg injury was bothering him. Center Wallace Brown, who turned out last spring and then decided not to return to school, showed up ready for action.

BERKELEY, Calif. (UP)—The University of California Bears scheduled their first all-out scrimmage for today, and Coach Lyn Waldorf hopes to find out what he has besides kickers.

Yesterday he took a long look at his punters and place kickers. He said sophomore quarterback Gus Giamulias and guard Don Gilkey looked best on the punting assignment and named Giamulias, guard Nick Poppin, end Ed Brandt and quarterback Joe Contestabile as outstanding in the placement department.

STANFORD, Calif. (UP)—Coach Chuck Taylor of Stanford University was singing the injury blues today as his Indians were being carried to the sidelines.

Donald Geddes, leading center candidate who played varsity last season, suffered a knee injury and will be out indefinitely. Ernie Dorn, a starter at halfback, was struck by a virus infection and rushed to Palo Alto Hospital.

SAN JOSE, Calif. (UP)—The San Jose State Spartans were rewarded for their "hard work" yesterday when Coach Bob Bronzan gave them half a day off.

He said the squad was "one of the hardest working groups" he has ever seen. He added that several of his old hands were beginning to hit their stride—particularly ends Clarence Weesmen and Leon O'Neill, tackle Jim Adams, guard

Jim Hughes and halfback Bill Hahming.

JACKSON, Calif. (UP)—Coach Jack Myers and his College of Pacific Tigers suffered a setback yesterday when left halfback Gene Peterson announced that he would not play football this year.

Peterson, an all Big-Eight Conference star the last two seasons with Modesto J.C., had been a standout in spring practice here. He said he was passing up the sport for academic reasons, but might return for the 1956 season.

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