

### SANDLOT NOTES and COMMENTS

By Stan Thompson

I have a story to tell. Most of you may not believe it. Others will because the same thing has undoubtedly happened to them. Read on, sports fan, and let your imagination feel free rein.

The other night I was returning from an errand downtown, still grumbling about having to leave the late show, and was about to pull off Main street when I noticed the high school baseball field lights were on. Darn, it was awful late for any games, and I couldn't recall any scheduled for that night.

Curiosity got the best of me. I decided to drive by and maybe see the last part of a game.

I could hear cheering and all sorts of commotion as I rounded the bend by the school bus garage.

I then received the shock of my life. There was not a soul in the stands, and the field was empty. Yet I could distinctly hear a crowd—the noise and atmosphere was unmistakable.

I parked my car behind the backstop and got out. Clearing my eyes and feeling a fuzziness in my head, I looked again to the illuminated field. If I couldn't see with my own eyes that there was no person or living thing present, I would have sworn I was in the midst of a large crowd.

Suddenly without warning I was swept up as if onto someone's shoulders and carried to the middle of the baseball diamond and left on an invisible perch above the pitcher's mound.

There, in the middle of the night, dumbfounded by this fantastic happening, I sat about four feet above the ground, facing empty stands. And though I could see the stands were empty, I felt as if there were hundreds of people there, and all staring right at me.

Noise from this unseen crowd became more audible, and I could catch fragments of the shouts.

"Baseball is over!"

"Football is here!"

"Why don't you forget baseball and realize that football season is here?"

I then realized I was being put before a jury to answer for my thoughts in sports.

The noise died down, and in the complete silence a clear and unrestrained voice spoke forth from the stands.

"I am the Spirit of Football. Beside me on either side sit the Spirit of Basketball, the Spirit of Track, and the Spirit of Baseball.

"You are accused of thinking entirely of baseball and not taking into consideration that the season is over and football has begun. The audience here tonight is made up of football fans. They have patiently waited for the baseball season to end, but you insist on reviving it in your column.

"Football fans in the stands, do you find the accused guilty of persisting in baseball and neglecting football?"

"YES!" the shouts thundered in unison.

The voice spoke again.

"You are found guilty and must consent to begin news of the football season or forfeit your power of 'second guessing'."

I began to speak up in protest, but found my throat paralyzed and could not utter a word.

A one-sided jury had pronounced sentence on me, and I was helpless for my own defense. All this was happening in an empty dimly lit ball field. I couldn't believe it was actually happening.

A second voice broke the night.

"I am the Spirit of Baseball, and I must bow out each year to permit my colleagues to have their seasons. I will have my turn again next year. So you must bend to their will as I do."

The lights grew dimmer and suddenly extinguished, leaving me in quiet darkness. I realized I was alone now with only my thoughts. Barely visible was my car behind the bleachers. I drove away from the field, not looking back.

Pulling up to a gas station, I casually asked the attendant if he had noticed the high school baseball lights on. He said they hadn't been on that night. Then he asked me when I was going to start some football in my column.

You know, I wonder if maybe his thoughts were part of that crowd...

### 30-Day Dove, Pigeon Season Opens Today

Scattergunners can begin to sharpen their shooting eyes today on two of the most elusive wing targets in the annals of upland bird gunning. These two erratic-flying targets are the mourning dove and band-tailed pigeon, with the gunning season scheduled to open Sept. 1 extending to Sept. 30.

Bag limit on these feathered bombshells is set for 10 doves daily, 20 in possession and eight pigeons daily or in possession.

Dove hunters should find excellent shooting throughout the state. Reports indicate dove populations high, especially in the grain sections of eastern Oregon, the high desert water hole country, and along the canyons of the Snake, Malheur, John Day and Deschutes rivers. The Willamette valley is also expected to provide some fair to good dove shooting.

Band-tailed pigeon hunters should do the best around mineral

### WALKER ON EASTERN SQUAD OF SHRINE ALL-STAR GAME

Don Walker returned last week from a trip to Pendleton and Portland. He was a member of the eastern squad of the Shrine A-2 all-star football game at Pendleton Aug. 20. The eastern team won by a score of 13-0.

He also went to Portland where he saw the Shrine A-1 all-star game and visited the Shriner's hospital.

### R. E. CAPPER RECEIVES WORD OF SISTER'S DEATH

R. E. Capper received word yesterday that his sister, Mrs. Grace Johnson of Gering, Neb., succumbed that morning. Funeral services will be held Saturday.

Good gunning is expected to continue through at least mid-September and then ease off as doves and pigeons begin their southward migrations.

### Payette Association Schedules Labor Day Snake River Regatta

Snake River Water Sports association at Payette is sponsoring a regatta on Labor day, Sept. 5, at the association grounds located on the Snake river at the north city limits, according to Carol McNutt, secretary.

Time trials will begin at 10 a.m. with actual races starting promptly at 2 p.m. Entry fee is \$2 per boat. Anyone with a boat and motor is invited to enter the races and will have an equal chance since entries will be grouped by time trials.

Entertainment will be provided during the afternoon by local water ski acts and a concession stand will be in operation.

There will be no admission charge for spectators and parking space will be provided.

Trophies will be presented by the association to the first three winners in each race.



From where I sit... by Joe Marsh

### Whitey's a Man With Both Feet on the Ground

Whitey Fisher and his missus got back from their first European vacation the other day. But before they left, Mrs. Fisher tells us, Whitey had some pretty strong feeling about their transportation—a new jet plane.

"Should go by boat," Whitey complained as they boarded the jet. When they were seated Whitey murmured, "I'll get air-sick on this thing for sure."

And a few minutes later, he added, "Course I'm all right now, but wait until we take off." Just then the pilot announced, "Folks, we're now

cruising at an altitude of 26,000 feet!"

From where I sit, sometimes we all jump to conclusions without knowing the facts. For instance, some people are like that about my favorite beverage—beer. They insist that coffee or tea goes best at dinnertime, when actually it's a matter of choice. We ought to be tolerant—and know before we take off on our opinions.

Joe Marsh

Copyright, 1960, United States Brewers Foundation

## STOCK UP for the long LABOR DAY week-end!

Libby's—Delicious  
**PINEAPPLE GRAPEFRUIT DRINK**  
3 Cans For . . . . . **79¢**

Folger's  
**COFFEE**  
2 Lbs. For . . . . . **\$1.29**

TREASURE VALLEY—TOP QUALITY  
**MARGARINE** 6 **\$1.00**  
... Lbs.

Swift's—Canned  
24 Oz. Size Your Choice  
**CHILI** . . . . .  
24 Oz. Size **39¢**  
**BEEF STEW** . . . . .  
12 Oz. Size—Prem  
**LUNCHEON MEAT** . . . . .  
CAN

Kraft's—Salad Dressing  
**MIRACLE WHIP**  
Quart Jar . . . . . **49¢**

Finest Quality **MEATS**  
**FRYERS**  
Grade A—Whole Cut-Up—Pan-Ready  
**33¢** Lb. **37¢** Lb.

**FROZEN FOODS**  
Berry's—Assorted Flavors  
**Ice Cream** **55¢**  
1/2 Gallon . . . . .

King's "Red Rose"—All-Meat  
**WIENERS** 2 Lbs. **75¢**

**PRODUCE**  
Local—Solid  
**CABBAGE** **5¢**  
Per Pound . . . . .

Extra Lean  
**SLAB BACON**  
BY THE PIECE SLICED  
**45¢** Lb. **49¢** Lb.

Prices Effective Thursday, Friday and Saturday  
**M. & W. MARKET**  
We Give SRV Green Stamps on All Purchases!  
424 MAIN STREET

We Will Be Closed Sunday and Monday FOR THE LABOR DAY WEEKEND!

### NYSSA THEATRE

Dial FR 2-3932 214 Main

FRIDAY and SATURDAY Sept. 2 and 3



THIS IS THE FINEST FAMILY PICTURE OF 1960



SUNDAY and MONDAY Sept. 4 and 5

YUL BRYNNER KAY KENDALL

"Once More With Feeling" In Technicolor

TUESDAY—Sept. 6 SPANISH NITE

"Rebellion De Adolescentes"

"Musica Y Dinero"

WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY Sept. 7 and 8

"Surrender—Hell!"

—Starring— KEITH ANDES SUSAN CABOT

—Plus— Madder 'n Mad... The Jet Hot Age Is Here!

"Speed Crazy"

BRETT HALSEY YVONNE LIME

### Big Game Pack Area in Oregon Opens Saturday

Oregon rifle hunters possessing controlled hunt big game tags for the Wallowa and Snake River Pack areas will get in the first licks of the big game seasons Saturday, Sept. 3, when these two areas are scheduled to open for deer hunting.

The early season will run through Sept. 7 in the Snake river area and through Sept. 11 in the Wallowa area. In addition to the early controlled season, unsuccessful hunters may also use their controlled tags in the areas throughout the general deer season, Oct. 1 through 23.

During the early and general seasons, controlled hunt tag holders have the privilege of hunting for two deer within the prescribed areas, a buck deer on the general deer tag and a doe deer on the controlled tag.

Hunters who would like to get in on the controlled deer hunts in the Wallowa and Snake Pack areas are advised surplus tags are still available and are being issued on a first come, first served basis. A fee of \$5 is charged for the controlled tag.

Hunters are cautioned that both the Snake river and Wallowa are pack areas requiring horses to get into the back country. No roads enter the Snake River Pack area, and only two or three roads enter the Wallowa Pack area, and these only on the outer fringes. Both areas are steep and rugged.

FIRST PRIZE FUN FOR EVERYONE!

OREGON STATE

SALEM

9 DAYS SEPT. 2 thru 10

LOUIS "SATCHMO" ARMSTRONG STAGE SHOW

BIG RODEO HORSE SHOW

RACING

FLOWER SHOW

GAYWAY EXHIBITS

FARM SHOW

FREE BAND CONCERT

GATES OPEN 10 A.M. EVERY DAY

ADMISSION 75¢

So much to see So much to free