

Cronin Got Biggest Thrills Watching Baseball's Greats

By JOE CRONIN
(Written for the Associated Press)

BOSTON—The great thrills of my active playing days were provided by some great players who wore my teammates or rivals in both the National and American leagues.

With the Pittsburgh Pirates, I thrilled every time our great outfielder, Max Carey, reached first base. Max would take an unbelievable lead off the bag, always managing to get back if the pitcher threw to the base. He often stole second with ease as the result of the phenomenal jump he would get on the pitch.

Pie Traynor's great third base play was also a pleasure to watch. I still recall the thrill Kiki Cuyler gave me in the World Series of 1925 with a double down the first base line to drive in the tying and winning runs and climax a 9 to 7 comeback victory for the Pirates in the deciding game with Washington.

The 1927 World Series provided a thrill despite the disappointment of four-straight Pittsburgh defeats at the hands of the Yankees. In the third game, Herb Pennock pitched seven hitless innings for the Yankees. He was poetry in motion on the mound, something I will never forget. Another rival of those National League days I will long remember was Gabby Hartnett, the Chicago catcher. Every throw he made to second base was a thrill to behold.

I experienced a great personal thrill with the Washington Senators in 1933, being picked for the first American League All-Star team. The first three balls off National League bats were hit to me that day. I also experienced a memorable thrill in the 1939 All-Star game, when second baseman Joe Gordon made a great stop of Arky Vaughan's grounder and I was the middle man on a game-saving double play.

There was an August day in 1933 when our Senators were battling the Yankees for the pennant. We led 7-4, but the Yanks had Lou Gehrig on second base and Dixie Walker on first. Tony Lazzeri belted one over Goose Goslin's head in right center, but the ball bounced off the fence into his hands and he pegged to me for the relay to the plate.

You can imagine the thrill watching catcher Luke Sewell tag out both Gehrig and Walker, who had also raced around third on the hit. It was a double play to remember.

I guess my own "biggest thrill" home run was one hit in Yankee



JOE CRONIN

Stadium in July of 1939 in the ninth inning of a game that enabled the Red Sox to sweep a five-game series with the Yanks. However, the top thrills I ever received from homers were provided by my Red Sox teammates, Ted Williams and Jimmie Fox.

In 1939, Williams belted one clean out of Detroit's Briggs Stadium, over the third deck in right field. Two years before, Fox slammed a spectacular homer into the deepest part of the stands in left center field of Cleveland's Municipal Stadium.

These were indeed highlights of my playing days. There was also, of course, the 1934 All-Star game when Carl Hubbell struck out Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig, Jimmie Fox, Al Simmons and a guy named Cronin in succession. That would have to be classified as a sort of "negative thrill"—but merely being grouped with men like the Babe, Gehrig, Fox and Simmons is a thrill in itself.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Joe Cronin played major league ball from 1926 through 1945. He was one of the game's hardest hitting shortstops and hit .318 for Washington in the 1933 World Series. He also was player-manager for the Red Sox. He batted .302 in 2,124 games and had 1,423 runs batted in. In eight of the 12 years in which he played 100 or more games, he batted above .300. He played in seven All-Star games. He was elected to the Cooperstown Hall of Fame this year by veteran sports writers. Cronin is now general manager of the Boston Red Sox.

Drive Is Minus-Yards

CHEROKEE, Okla. (AP) — Clee Doggett thinks he has the best example on just how hard the wind blows in Oklahoma.

To feed off into the wind and the ball sailed high. However, it suddenly stopped in its flight, reversed itself and landed far in back of Doggett.

TIPS FROM THE MASTERS

(The following story on use of the No. 3 wood was written especially for AP Newsfeatures by Shelley Mayfield, winner of the 1956 Baton Rouge Open.)

By SHELLEY MAYFIELD
AP Newsfeatures

When using a No. 3 wood the shot is played off the left heel with a slightly closed stance. The stance is approximately the same width as used with the driver, possibly a bit narrower.

The hands should be level with the clubhead.

The ball should be hit at the depth of your swing. Use a full swing.

Keep the clubface square to the line of flight.

Use a full pivot for a maximum hit.

For the average player the three wood should be preferred over the two wood. It really takes an expert to hit a good two wood shot.

The three wood gives you a better chance to play for position. For instance, when I won the Baton Rouge Open last February I used a three wood on the 7th and 13th holes, both par fours. That means in four rounds in that tournament I used the three wood eight times on those two holes. I used it because they are fairly short holes with narrow fairways.

The club gave me the position I desired.



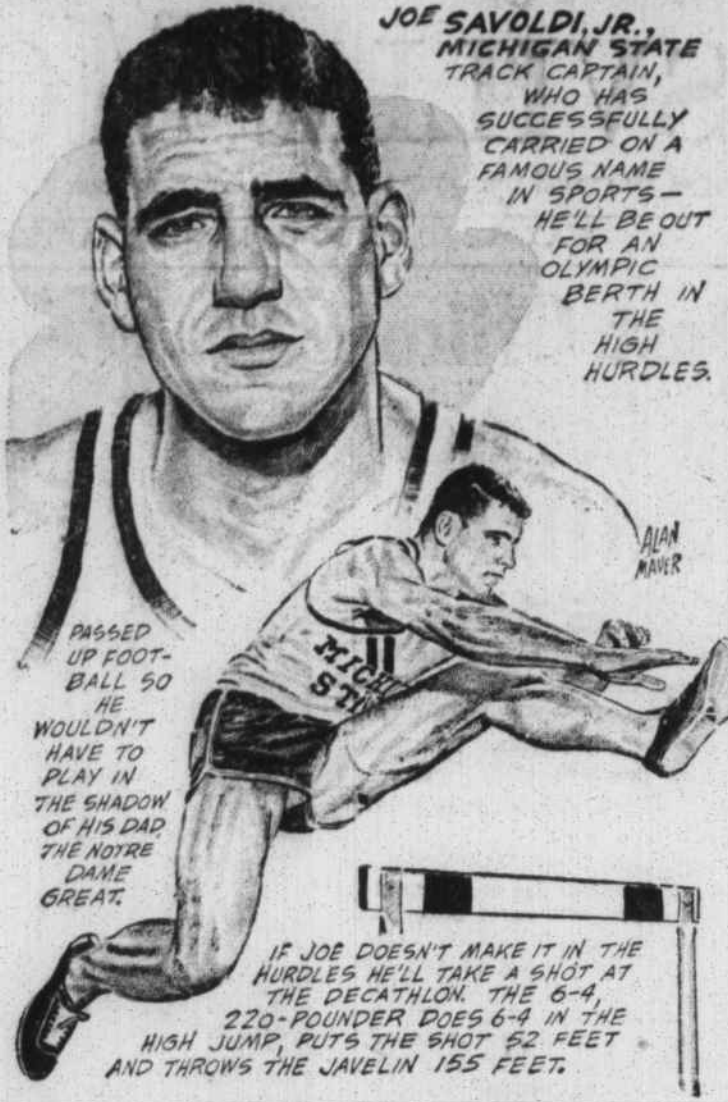
SHELLEY MAYFIELD
Position for 3 Wood Shot

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Dick Tracy G-Men

CARRIES ON NAME . . . By Alan Maver



Champion Y Softball Team Runs Season Mark To 44-5

Champion Y's softball team ran its season record to 44-5 Saturday night by taking a pair of games from Buck's Restaurant of Asheville, 13-3 and 5-2.

On Friday night in the opener of a doubleheader Champion Y turned back Champion Mills, 9-0, and also shut out Dayton Rubber, 3-0, in the second game.

In the first game Friday night, Nazi Miller gave up only three hits and struck out 16 Champion Mill batters as his teammates collected eight hits, including a homer by Clyde Miller in the sixth inning with nobody aboard. Bobby Holcombe led the Y attack with two for four.

In the nightcap Friday, Wade Garrett gave up only a pair of safeties and struck out 14 opponents.

In the first game against Buck's Saturday night, Snake Moore hit a three-run homer for Champion and George Moore had a perfect mark at the plate with three for three.

Waldrop started on the mound for Champion and Pace came on in the fifth inning.

In the finale Saturday night, Bob McCracken of Clyde pitched the Southern Regional champions to their 5-2 victory.

When you splurge on a porterhouse steak, have the meatman grind the tail meat because it is less tender than the rest of the steak.

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Starring
CLAUDETTE COLBERT
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5 COLOR CARTOONS

Hazelwood, Canton Little League Stars Meet At 4 Today In District Playoffs

Lake Junaluska Golf Team Nips Bryson-Franklin

In a close match Saturday a group of local golfers representing the Lake Junaluska Golf Course edged a team of swingers from Bryson City and Franklin by a three-stroke margin on the lake links.

Some 60 players participated in the match, whose outcome was in doubt until the final foursome came in. In that match, the accurate and "long-hitting" play of "Dangerous Dave" Schaffer and the sure putting touch of "Silent Hog" Collins won the day for the Junaluska team. A return match between the teams will be played on the Franklin Golf Course July 29.

Winners of the blind bogey tournament were H. Dvrdak of Franklin, Gene Alley, Ben Phillips, and Hog Collins of the Junaluska team.

Dodgers Switch Entire Field

BROOKLYN, N. Y. (AP) — An example of the powerful bench and the versatility of the world champion Brooklyn Dodgers came about in a 10-5 slugfest against Chicago when Jack Robinson, playing first base, twisted his neck.

Jim Gilliam started in right field, Carl Furillo in center and Gil Hodges, normally a first baseman in left, Robby's injury forced Hodges to return to first, Duke Snider entered the game as a center fielder, Gilliam moved to left and Furillo moved to right.

Robinson was put on first base when Rocky Nelson was benched.

Young Ideas

LANCASTER, Pa. (AP) — Colored baseball bats? Yes. But the idea goes all the way back to Michael Angelo.

Michael is the 9-year-old bat boy for the St. Anthony's midget-midgets team. He doesn't guarantee the results of his innovation, but he does say:

"It sure might get the pitcher to see everything green."

Want ads bring quick results

All stars of the Hazelwood and Canton Little Leagues will clash at 4 p.m. Monday on the Hazelwood diamond in the first game of district playoffs.

On the mound for Hazelwood's Little Leaguers will be either Doug Hill or Weaver Kirkpatrick, both of whom have good records in league play this season.

Other members of the Hazelwood all star squad are Ray Edwards, Ralph Henry, Troy Inman, Bill Owen, Larry Holloway, Max Marcus, Walter Witbe, Randy Scroggs, Bruce Bowman, Marty Scroggs, Steve Milner, and Joe Bridges.

The winner of the game here will advance into the semi-finals of the district meet.

Bowman Promoted To Specialist Third Class

FORT BENNING, Ga. — John Bowman, 20, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Bowman, 120 N. Main Street, Canton, recently was promoted to specialist third class at Fort Benning, Ga., where he is a member of the 2d Special Troops Battalion.

Specialist Bowman, a heavy-equipment operator in the battalion's Company B, arrived at Fort Benning from an assignment with the United Nations Command Military Armistice Commission in Korea. He entered the Army in 1953.

Hole In One

HOT SPRINGS, Ark. (AP) — Paul Runyan, former PGA champion and now resident golf pro at La Jolla, Calif., showed the home folks that he hasn't forgotten where he learned the game.

Returning to the course where he caddied nearly 40 years ago, Runyan dinked a hole-in-one on a practice round for the \$15,000 Hot Springs Open tournament.

His Own Punishment

MEMPHIS (AP) — A middle-aged Little League baseball coach here deals five running laps around the field as punishment for players arriving late for practice.

The coach himself was late the other day. Somewhat sheepishly, he stepped from his car and, without a word, began running.

Van Landingham In Training Exercise

AUGSBURG, GERMANY — Specialist Third Class Grady L. Van Landingham, whose wife, Judith Ann, lives in Canton, recently participated in a field training exercise with the 11th Airborne Division in Germany.

Specialist Van Landingham, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Van Landingham, Ackerman, Miss., is a mechanic in the division's Headquarters Company.

PARK Theatre Program

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JULY 23 & 24
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ROBERT MITCHUM
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• Just fill it in—we'll mail it for you. • Only one entry will be accepted from each person. Entrants must be at least 18 years old. • A drawing will be held September 11, 1956 by Reuben H. Donnelly Corp. in Chicago, Ill. • Winners will be notified by mail, and we'll post a list of the winners during the week of Oct. 15, 1956. Hurry! Your entry must be in our hands by the close of business on August 18, 1956. This promotion subject to Federal, State & Local regulations. See us for complete rules.
LOOK! 575 CHANCES TO WIN!
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• 4th prize, \$5,000
• 5th prize, \$2,500
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• Prizes 21-25, \$300 each
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