

Draft, Lack of Funds Puts Squeeze On Nation's Minor League Ball Clubs

By Frank Eck

New York.—(AP)—There will be less organized baseball this year than in any campaign since world war II. Baseball is feeling the pinch.

The reason appears to be a combination of such things as minor league money losses, draft calls of young prospects and the expansion of radio and television over the past few years.

In 1946, the first postwar year, 43 minor league teams operated. The figure climbed until it reached 59 leagues in 1949 and 1950. But last year the slackening off began. Fifty-two leagues were scheduled for action but 50 opened and 49 finished a full season.

40 May Function

It now appears that no more than 40 leagues will function in 1952. The Class A Central league, Class C Canadian-American league and Class D Georgia-Florida, Far West and Ohio-Indiana leagues quit recently. The Central embraced three states — Michigan, Ohio and West Virginia — with four of its teams in Michigan.

Some major officials say "quality instead of quantity," but it is felt that Oswald (Ossie) Bluege is closer to the right answer than anybody. Says the director of the Washington Senators' minor league clubs:

"Losses, losses, losses, all the way down. A number of clubs are begging the majors to take over outright ownership."

The world champion New York Yankees, once with a 22-team system, are down to a streamlined 10. Lee McPhail, Yankee farm system chief, says 119 Yankee farmhands are in the service.

The Cincinnati Reds appear hard hit. They had a working agreement with Buffalo but the Detroit Tigers purchased Buffalo as an AAA replacement for its Toledo team. The Reds also lost a Class A club (Charleston, W. Va.) when the Central league folded.

The Pittsburgh Pirates lost an AAA team (Indianapolis) but that was expected when Frank McKinney, Democratic national chairman,



Branch Rickey

who owns Indianapolis, sold his Pittsburgh stock.

The Chicago Cubs, who have 105 players in the service, including four from the parent club, lost a Class AA club in Nashville. The Southern association team now has a working agreement with the Giants.

The Giants lost \$70,000 in Ottawa last year and have sold that International league team to the Philadelphia Athletics. Ottawa drew only 132,000 fans last season. The Giants believe 200,000 are needed to break even.

The Pacific Coast league gained added independence when two of its teams severed major league ties. The Chicago White Sox no longer have a working agreement with Sacramento, while the Cleveland Indians are out at San Diego. However, the Indians now are tied up with Indianapolis.

The Boston Red Sox have replaced Scranton in the Class A Eastern league with Albany, N. Y., in the same circuit. Scranton has been added to the St. Louis Browns' chain.

Denver Made Money

The Boston Braves lost a Class A team when Denver in the Western league decided to go it alone.



Ossie Bluege

Denver, incidentally, is one of the few money makers in the minors due to fan interest. There happens to be no television in Denver.

General Manager Branch Rickey of the Pirates, the man who built the farm system with the St. Louis Cardinals and expanded the Brooklyn Dodgers, is far from discouraged. "The past year has been an encouraging one for Pittsburgh," says Rickey. "We still have a long way to go and Pittsburgh deserves a winner. Calls to the military service may tend to slow our plans but perseverance and the will to win cannot be denied forever. I believe we are headed in the right direction. Our accent is on youth and youth has a way of asserting itself."

The Dodgers, though they have whittled their system from 19 teams to 17, still have the largest chain. They have two clubs each in A, double A and triple A ball. Their big problem will be supplying enough good AAA players for teams at Montreal and St. Paul and AA athletes for their Fort Worth and Mobile clubs.

Jolting Jackie by Pap'



President of Golf Club Reviews Purpose, Objectives of Organization

(This is the third in a series of golf articles written by Dr. John Morris, Morehead City, president of the Morehead City Country Club.)

Primary purpose of organization:

1. To acquire sufficient land at a suitable location for a golf course.
2. To construct a good 9-hole course while at the same time laying the necessary ground work for an ultimate 18-hole championship course.
3. The long-range plans will include a Country Club building and other recreational features such as tennis, yacht facilities, swimming pool, etc.

Organization and Financing

The organization will consist of members, board of directors, officers. A charter has been drawn up and is being readied for incorporation certificate, calling for financing through sale of preferred stock of \$100.00 par value, such stock to be ownership stock in the real estate and other properties owned by the club. This stock will entitle the owner to equity in all properties of the club and in the event of liquidation of assets each stockholder will receive his proportionate share. The stock will be non-transferable and will be callable at par value by the board of directors at such time and in such amounts as they deem advisable and will remain the property of the club.

The board of directors will be elected by the stockholders at a called meeting in the near future. A group of temporary officers are now acting in lieu of a board of directors.

Immediate Goal
To acquire 60 members in Morehead City and Carteret county. Each member will be asked to buy as many shares of stock as he feels he can afford.

To acquire a total of 200 members the majority of whom will be summer residents and cottage owners in Morehead City and Atlantic Beach.

The outside solicitation for membership will begin as soon as we have acquired the 60 local members or whenever the local membership drive is concluded.

Advantages of Joining Now

1. To get in on the planning

stage and give the club the value of your help and suggestions.

2. To voice your criticisms at a time when they will be really worth something to you and to the club.

3. To help "pull the wagon" for your community in a project which will directly or indirectly benefit everyone who makes his living in Carteret county.

4. By joining now you will save an appreciable initiation fee which will certainly be required at a later date.

The Proposed Site

The D. B. Webb tract of land at Crab Point — approximately 225 acres — on the Newport river with 1 mile waterfront and paralleling the new road to be hard-surfaced from Crab Point to the intersection of U. S. Rt. 24 and U. S. Rt. 70 near the race track. An option to buy this property at a fair market price has been obtained and the first object of our activities is to raise sufficient funds to accom-

plish this at once. You are invited to visit this location at once and view the property.

The Club House

We want a clubhouse and will eventually have one. However, a clubhouse without a golf course is a tremendous liability and would be too much of a financial strain at the outset. Once the golf course is established the clubhouse will be the next addition. Those who want the clubhouse can get it more quickly by aiding in the financing of the organization now.

Touchdown Frustration

Durham, N. H.—(AP)—When Dale Hall, University of New Hampshire basketball coach, was a star halfback on Army's football team he once scored on three consecutive plays against Pennsylvania — but each time the touchdown was nullified. The Cadets were offside on each play and were penalized five yards at a clip. On the fourth play, Hall tossed a touchdown pass to Doc Blanchard to end the frustration.

Wake Forest Freshman Wins Basketball Acclaim

By Reese Hart

Wake Forest, N. C.—Folks here in Baptist Hollow will tell you Dickie Hemric, sensational freshman center, is the greatest thing to happen to Wake Forest in basketball.

Hemric, a giant-sized youth of 18 with the build of a football tackle, is causing statisticians to rewrite Wake Forest's scoring records.

Coach Murray Greason terms him "the greatest offensive player in my 19 years of coaching here. He is undoubtedly one of the outstanding centers in the nation."

By early February, Hemric had scored 444 points and had made 48 per cent of his field goal shots. This is more points than any freshman has scored in the state's history, including Duke's great Dick Groat and North Carolina State's former ace, Sammy Ranzino.

Hemric is 6-6, weighs 220 and has tremendous reach. He is a great rebounder and has lots of stamina as shown by the fact he has played 12 games this season without substitution.

Hemric is from Jonesville, N. C., where he scored 937 points in his final year in high school. His home town folks have driven miles to see him play.

Popular with his teammates, too, Hemric has scored more points in one season than any other Wake Forest player.

Hemric was outscored by Groat in their first meeting, 35-33, but the Wake Forest flash got 32 to Groat's 31 in their second meeting. Duke won both games, 70-74 and 90-69.

During the third annual Dixie Classic, Hemric set records by pulling down 31 rebounds in one game and 81 for the tournament. He has tallied less than 10 points only twice this season — against West Virginia and Hanes Hosier of Winston-Salem, N. C. His average is well over 20 points per game.

Hemric was a tackle in high school and may try for a place on the Wake Forest team next fall. He passed up football last season.



Dickie Hemric

Pacer, Trotter Hit Big Time

Columbus, Ohio.—Harness racing's leading money-winner, Proximity, still holds the greenback crown, but the retired queen of the turf is in danger of being overhauled by a pair of stars in the prime of their careers.

Good Time, the pacer, and Pronto Don, the trotter, have an excellent chance to dethrone the mare from Victor, N. Y., who was retired at the beginning of the 1951 campaign. Proximity won \$252,929.67.

Good Time is the leading money-winning pacer with \$208,433 to his credit. He was named after the race track over which his owner stages The Hambletonian stake at Goshen, N. Y.

Pronto Don, Harness Horse of the Year and the top money winner for 1951, has won a total of \$170,797.

Both Good Time and Pronto Don must keep up their rate of victories this year to overcome Proximity. But, barring unforeseen accidents, they should surely topple the mark by next year.

Among the 20 leaders, trotters and pacers, eight are still active. Five are pacers. Three are trotters. Two of them — Star's Pride and Tar Heel — are four years old or younger.

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Top-Notch Bowler Gives Tips

By Joe Wilman
(Recently elected to Bowling's Hall of Fame)

A common mistake among all types of bowlers is the tendency to substitute force and speed for timing and coordination in delivering the ball. These bowlers mistakenly believe they can score better by increasing the speed of their ball than by an accurate, well-timed delivery.

In seeking proper timing, the bowler should experiment with his delivery. Naturally, a person using a 3-step delivery and a person using a 5-step delivery will not have the same type backswing delivery and follow through.

The Push-Away

In the 5-step delivery the ball should be pushed directly away from the front of the body as the first step is taken with the left foot. This is an almost imperceptible motion, as this first step is a very short one.

As the right foot comes forward for the second step the ball begins its descent and starts into the backswing. As you take the third



Joe Wilman

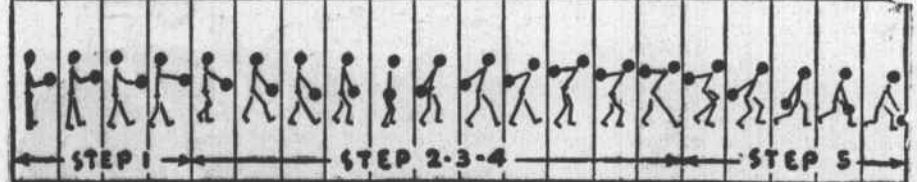
point the ball should be no higher than the bowler's shoulder. Any tendency to bring the ball back higher than the shoulder in the backswing generally has a disastrous effect upon the accuracy and effectiveness of the delivery.

The fifth step is all-important. The left foot and the right hand should move forward almost in unison. As the left foot begins its slide in this final step the ball has been brought forward by the right arm, passing the body and then is sent out over the foul line with a lifting motion.

Over Foul Line

Be careful here to avoid dropping the ball or setting the ball down on the approach. Be sure the ball is sent out over the foul line before it touches the alley.

As in other sports, the follow-through is very important. The right arm should continue upward as the ball is released, and the bowler should retain his balance. The right hand should finish its follow-through about face high and directly in front of the body.



In order that all phases of the delivery may be studied, the bowler's legs and arms are shown above. Making your back swing faster or slower, higher or lower than natural will automatically get the ball out of time with legs and body as you go into the last step.



Timing is an important factor in bowling. The above time study shows there are two places where the ball seems to pause. This is where it has to change direction. And this is the place where many bowlers get out of time.

Editor of Golf World Writes

Robert F. Banks, member of the Morehead City Golf Club, recently received a letter from Bob Harlow, editor of the Golf World, Pinehurst, expressing pleasure at efforts to build a golf course in this area.

Parts of Editor Harlow's letter follows:

"... I am delighted to hear that there is a movement to build a golf course in the Morehead City area. A golf course will certainly be a distinct addition to the recreational facilities of the community. No game is gaining greater popularity in this country than golf.

"If the proper sort of land is acquired, the cost of construction need not be too great and with good management a golf club and course should be self-supporting

Smyrna Champions Lose In All-Girls Tournament

In the first round of the New Bern All-Girls tournament Carteret's champions from Smyrna were defeated by Jones Central 42-33.

Annie Gaskill scored high for the losers with 17 points and the leader on the defensive was Terry Lynch. High for the winners were Lois Jarman and Polly Trott with

11 points each. The defensive leader was Lottie Chadwick. Quarter scores: Smyrna..... 2 11 21 33 Jones Central.....16 26 31 42

Five American League baseball clubs use Florida as their spring training headquarters. Two prefer California. One goes to Arizona.

either as a private venture or as a municipal undertaking... "If you need help in selecting a site or constructing a course, advise me further and I will be happy to be of service."

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