

REDS BOW BRAVES; YANKS DEFEAT INDIANS

Joe Gordon-Bobby Doerr Batting Party Enters Its Fourth Week



Sports Hodge-Podge

BY CARLE HODGE

With the ration-forced exodus of football games from small college towns to the larger cities, Wilmington's Legion stadium committee should be able to secure a couple of good collegiate grid tilts this fall.

Time was when Joe Fan could pack his car with friends on autumn Saturdays and head for Chapel Hill and a Tar Heel game—or for one of the other campus stadiums. But a pair of poor sports named Hitler and Hirohito have changed all that.

Come this football season, games will have to go to the fans instead of the other way around. Because of the gas and tire shortages, trips by team followers will be a thing of the past.

Davidson, for instance, has switched all of its home-scheduled contests to Charlotte. And the Duke-Wildcat game will be held at Winston-Salem.

As all of the game-moving is not yet complete, Wilmington still stands a chance to get one or more of them. It would probably be possible because of the war industry-service bases boom here.

But it depends entirely on fast work by the committee.

The county commission's approval yesterday of 35-cent admission charges for non-profit Sunday afternoon games at Legion stadium was not only a nod for better local baseball but a step toward getting some good out-of-town teams for contests here.

It's probable the commissioners will ok higher gate costs for service relief tilts, and already there are plans to bring the well-known Norfolk Navy Yard nine to Wilmington.

Lt. H. A. Johnson's plea for the approval of football games on the Sabbath was temporarily shelved by the board—not for long, it is hoped, because schedules are being formed by the colleges.

However, the county officials deserve the appreciation of every fan in this section for their go-ahead signal on better sports.

Two Wilmington riders—Vera Diehl and Joe Morrison—placed in the two-day Winston-Salem horse show, which ended Sunday. Miss Diehl, riding a horse owned by Oscar Smith of Virginia, took fourth place in the amateur riders class. And young Morrison, up on his Imperial Chief, won second place in the park saddle division.

The two along with Billy Sutton, Robert Morrison and D. C. North, Jr., will enter the Sedgfield show at Greensboro this week-end.

For quite a time now, the scribes have been tabbing little Alsab the "wonder horse." More appropriately, it should be the "wander horse." Because the only place the stubby racer hasn't run lately is between tracks.

There are those soft-hearted turf followers who see Al Sabath's unpredictable color-bearer as an over-worked little animal, taking part in entirely too many races.

Still others declare Alsab thrives on hard work—the harder the work the better his race.

But the question as to whether he is a poorly handled horse may never be settled. At least, not so long as he runs for the present owner and trainer.

It's just one of those things.

SECOND SACKERS FEUD IN LEAGUE FOR HITS LEAD

Infielders Pull Away From Field Of Sluggers To Pace American Loop

CHICAGO, June 8.—(AP)—The Joe Gordon-Bobby Doerr batting party, to which the rest of the American league's hitters apparently weren't invited, is going into its fourth week now and those two slugging second basemen are really pulling away from the field.

Gordon, of the New York Yankees, had a .393 mark through Sunday's games and Doerr, of the Boston Red Sox, was swinging at a .375 clip. But whereas a week ago there were six batters above the .340 level, all of them intent on overtaking Gordon and Doerr, this week there are but four pursuers over .340, the nearest being Bill Dickey of the Yanks with a .346 average.

Don Ross, who isn't playing regularly for the Detroit Tigers but who boosted his mark from just over .300 clear up to .342 in a week's time, is the No. 4 man in the American league chase with Stan Spence of Washington fifth at .337.

Others in the top ten are John Pesky of Boston, .328; Buddy Hasset of the Yankees, .327; L. S. Fleming of Cleveland and Ted Williams of Boston, tied at .324, and Dom DiMaggio of Boston, .306.

Although Williams, who won the 1941 batting championship with a mark of .406, is holding down a mere tie for eighth at the current stage of this year's race, he holds the leadership in three specially designated departments. He has driven in the most runs, 57, hit the most circuit blows, 15, and scored the most runs, 47.

Spence is bidding for the individual titles in total hits and triples. He has rapped out 69 safeties for the lead in that department and is ahead in three bases hits with seven. Mike Higgins of the Detroit Tigers has the most two-base hits, 18, and Joe Kuhel of the Chicago White Sox the most stolen bases, 10.

When round Ernie Bonham of the Yankees finally met his first setback yesterday after eight consecutive pitching victories, the White Sox' Joe Haynes became the league's leading hurler with five wins and a no defeat. Tommy Bridges of the Tigers and Spud Chandler of the Yankees follow Bonham with identical records of 7 and 1 while Red Ruffing of New York is next with six wins and two defeats.

Sleepless Man Takes Case Of Dodger Medic To Court, Draws Wrath

NEW YORK, June 8.—(AP)—The case of the Brooklyn Dodgers' victory callopie went to court today.

The complainant was bald, 70-year-old J. Reid Spencer, who demands his afternoon nap even if it interferes with the National league champions and he loses all his friends.

Last month the former music teacher asked a court order to stop the callopie, which booms forth over a loud speaker every day the team is home.

Spencer lives only three blocks from the field and says he is under doctor's orders to nap daily.

After 33 minutes of repartee, Magistrate James A. Blanchfield adjourned the case to July 22. That leaves Spencer with at least two more weeks to face the wrath of Dodger fans.

So far he has received numerous "scarcious letters" in which the writers went to great lengths to explain their feelings about anyone who would carp at the league leaders.

"Even some of my own neighbors have turned against me," the sleepless Spencer sighed.

Vichy Radio Reports Action Off Mozambique

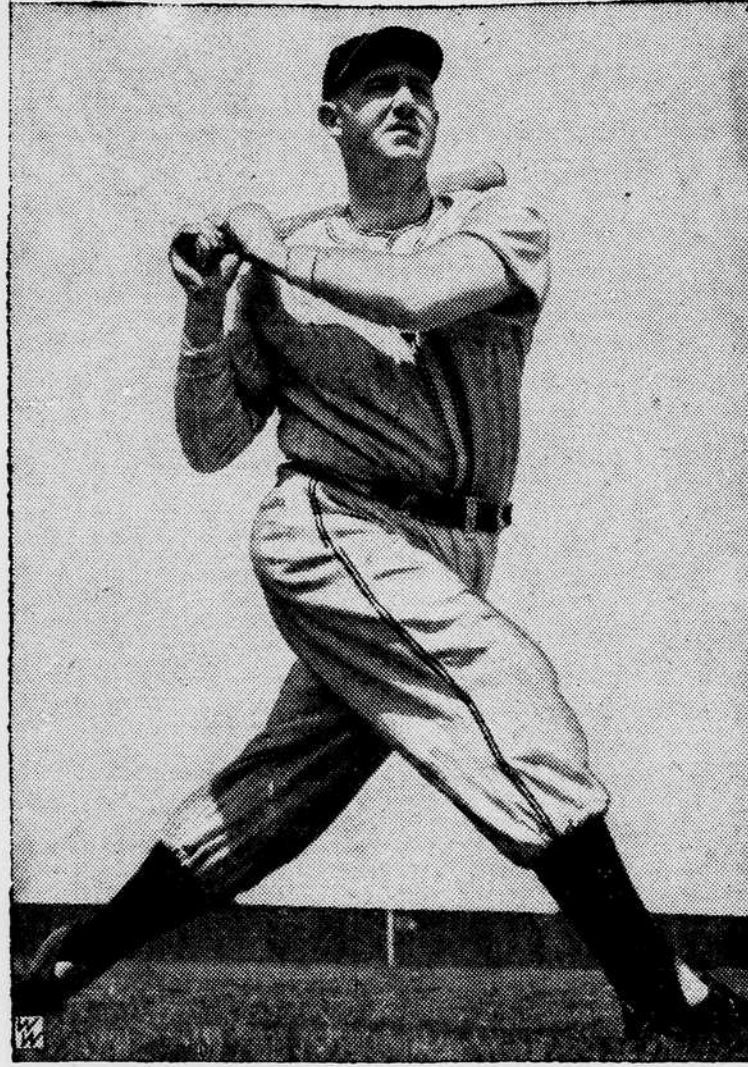
LONDON, June 8.—(AP)—The Vichy radio reported tonight that U-boats had sunk three merchant ships off Portuguese Mozambique, on the African east coast opposite the French island of Madagascar which is now being occupied by British forces.

The latest submarine activity in that area was reported by the Japanese last week when they claimed—and the British denied—that their undersea craft stole into the Diego Suarez naval base on Madagascar and torpedoed a British battleship and a cruiser.

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Doesn't Speak With Leo



Big moon-faced Gordon (Babe) Phelps, the Pirates' National league batting leader, is mad at his former boss, Dodger Chief Leo Durocher. They don't speak. Phelps captured the hitting crown in three minor leagues on his way to the majors and is striving to add the National title to his record.

Redbirds Travel Fast ---But Road Is Rough

Cards Set Winning Pace To Find Pennant Race Competition Is Tough

ST. LOUIS, June 8.—(AP)—When a baseball club travels at the pace the Cardinals have gone the past two weeks—winning 10 games and losing three for a percentage of .769—yet fails to gain ground in a pennant race, brother, it is up against a tough proposition.

Yet that's the record of the scrapping Redbirds who still are confident of winning the 1942 flag despite the fact that today, on the eve of an important three-game series with the Brooklyn Dodgers, while the Cards were winning 10 of the last 13 games the Dodgers were stretching out with 11 of their last 14.

"A contending club figures to beat the favorite perhaps 50 per cent of the time," said Manager Billy Southworth as his Cardinals rested up for tomorrow night's engagement, "and we have a slight edge on the Dodgers.

"But they're a good ball club and you're not going to kick their around.

"If anybody beats them, it'll have to be us because nobody else in the league has been doing anything with them."

Southworth plans to pitch Southpaw Max Lanier in the opener and use Ernie White another lefty, and Mort Cooper or Lon Warneke, both right-handers in the two day games. A clean sweep of the series would still leave the Cards four games behind.

Tarboro Youth Medalist In Junior Golf Tourney

GREENSBORO, June 8.—(AP)—Young Harvie Ward, Jr., 16-year-old high school student from Tarboro, N. C., captured the qualifying medal in the 16th annual Carolina Junior Golf championships here today, shooting the Greensboro Country club course in 70 strokes.

Ward, who is the defending champion, was five strokes ahead of his nearest challenger, Keely Grice, Jr., son of the acting Charlotte postmaster. After Grice's five over par 75 came Bobby Burnberger, of Hickory, N. C., and Larry Stafford, of Greensboro, each with 76s.

NO CHAMPAGNE CHRISTENING Instead of the usual champagne, seppimong wine from the "Mother Vineyard" on the site of the first colony at Roanoke Island, N. C., was used to christen the Virginia Dare, third Victory cargo ship to go down the ways of the shipyard at Wilmington, N. C. According to legend, the vine which produced the grapes was growing on Roanoke Island at the time of the birth of the first child of English parentage in America, Virginia Dare, in 1587.

Pete Reiser Hottest Hitter In National

Babe Phelps Is Loop Batting Leader But Brooklyn Fielder Is Pacemaker

NEW YORK, June 8.—(AP)—Gordon (Babe) Phelps, the bulging catcher of the Pittsburgh Pirates still is leading the National league in batting, but the hottest hitter in the senior circuit at present is Pete Reiser of the Brooklyn Dodgers.

The fleet-footed centerfielder who won the batting crown last year as a rookie has been surging upward ever since returning to the lineup after an injury last month. Yesterday he made six hits in a double-header at Chicago and boosted his average to .365. This is 22 points higher than the mark which brought Reiser the championship a year ago.

Phelps, whose pace-setting average is .376, has been out of action because of a spike wound and his first appearance in more than a week came yesterday. He went to the plate twice as a pinchhitter and made one hit to raise his mark from .373.

There was a big spread behind these two contenders for the title and the rest of the league's principal batters and for the first time this season there were less than ten regulars batting over .300. Based on games to and including Sunday the top ten were, Phelps, .376; Reiser, .365; Ernie Lombardi, Boston, .331; Joe Medwick, Brooklyn, .329; Ray Lamanno, Cincinnati, .325; Mickey Owen, Brooklyn, .324; Dixie Walker, Brooklyn, .318; Danny Murtaugh, Philadelphia, .304; Max Marshall, Cincinnati, .304; and Enos Slaughter, St. Louis, .297.

Reiser also has scored the most runs, 38, and tied for second in doubles with 16, one less than Stan Hack of the Chicago Cubs.

Sharing the top honors in total hits was Tommy Holmes of Boston while Slaughter has the most triples, five.

BOXING BOUTS TO BE JUNE 22

Shipyards Group Sets Date For First Bouts As Fighters Report For Work-Outs

Nine prospective boxers reported to Trainer Plunk Moring yesterday for initial work-outs as date of the Shipyards Athletic association's first ring show was set for Monday night, June 22, at Thalian hall.

Both shipyard employees and local fighters are being considered for the bouts, Moring pointed out, and work-outs will be held at Thalian each night at 7:30 o'clock with the exception of Mondays and Fridays.

Negro boxers are training at the Brooklyn gymnasium.

Fred Barnhill, former Wilmington heavyweight Golden Gloves champ, Mus Lockamy and Harry Barnhill were the only local boys who appeared yesterday. Lockamy and Harry Barnhill each weigh 135 pounds.

Shipyards workers who reported were: Willie Cates, 160 pounds, a ship's carpenter from Rockingham; Bill Wilson, 220, burner department from Hickory; Charley Hornaday, 170, shipwright from Rockingham; Delmar Mobley, 150, joiner from Wallace; Claude McCall, 145, timekeeper from Southport; and Ler Hair, 175, welding school from Fayetteville.

A ring has been set up at the yard by the association so that boxers may utilize their lunch hour and other spare time for training.

Moring will be the matchmaker for the cards and Bert Causey, the promoter.

Major League Standings

Table with columns: National League, American League, Team, Won, Lost, Pct.

STAR-NEWS TEN BOWS FIREMEN

Newsies Take Softball Tilt From Owensby; Air Base Blues Beat City Optical

Paced by Butler, who got two hits in three times at bat, the Star-News ten copped a Hanover softball league game 7 to 6 from the Firemen at Robert Strange park last night.

Batteries were R. Cook and Bohanan for the Newsies and Owensby and Wolf and Jordan for the firefighter team.

The Air Base Blues nosed out the City Opticians, 3-2, in a Victory league tilt. Ship of City Optician made a home run in the third inning, but was bested at bat by Soldier Kostelny, who scored twice.

Dachiewicz for the Fliers and Snip were the pitchers with Pevce and Benson catching. In the only game scheduled tonight, the Apprentice Maroons will play the Shipbuilders at 8:30 o'clock.

Helen Hayes Will Use Bus For Commutation

NYACK, N. Y., June 8.—(AP)—Actress Helen Hayes bought a commutation bus ticket today for daily trips between New York city and her home here for two reasons: Patriotism. Gasoline rationing. Her limousine, in which she had been making the trips for rehearsals, was tucked away.

PAUL DERRINGER HOLDS BOSTON AS CINCY WINS

CINCINNATI, June 8.—(AP)—Big Paul Derringer almost got a no-hitter today as the Cincinnati Reds beat the Boston Braves, 3 to 1, and swept their series of six.

Fore eight innings the only Braves to get on base was Eddie Miller, whose easy grounder bounced out of Bert Haas' hands in the first inning.

From then until the ninth, when Lew Grempe broke the spell with a single, followed by two more singles, the big Kentuckian was everything and everybody.

Ernie Lombardi, once Paul's hitery-mate, sent a long fly to the scoreboard in the seventh, but Rookie Clyde Vollmer brought it down.

CINCINNATI 000 000 001—13 1 2. Walker, Two base hits—Joe Mauer, Double play—Miller, Haas and Grempe. Salvo—Boston 2, Cincinnati 10. Base balls—Salvo 2, Miller 2, Struck out—Derringer 3, by Derringer 2. Hits—G. Earley 3 in 2-3 inning; off Salvo 7 1-3 innings. Losing pitcher—Earley.

CHAMPS RALLY AND EDGE OUT TRIBE, 11 TO 10

NEW YORK, June 8.—(AP)—The New York Yankees spotted the Cleveland Indians four runs in the first inning today and then battled their way to an 11 to 10 victory in the 11th inning when an error at across the deciding tally.

It was the only game of the day in the American league and the rivals went after each other with hammers. The result was 21 hits, including two homers by Jeff Heath and five safeties by Ken Elder of the lowers.

There was little to choose between the clubs until the 11th when Joe DiMaggio led off with a single and Charley Keller beat out a safe bunt. Then Joe Gordon, who already has extended his hitting streak to 25 games, bunted and relief pitcher Tom Ferrick threw what past third to let DiMaggio race home with the deciding run.

COWBOY LUTTRALL MEETS SAUNOKE HERE THIS WEEK

Texan, Indian To Clash On Mat Friday As Preliminary To Londo-McCoy

Advance tickets sales for the Jim Londo. Bibber McCoy wrestling match at Thalian hall Friday night indicate a sellout. Promoter Bert Causey said yesterday. Most of the ringside seats have already been purchased.

Entire card was completed Monday when the ugly, loud-mouthed Texan, Cowboy Luttrall of Fort Worth, was signed to meet enormous Chief Saunoke, the Indian from Cherokee, North Carolina.

Luttrall, complaining that he has been cheated the past two weeks, promised Causey he would beat the big redskin two straight falls within an hour or ask no pay for his services.

The show, one of the best ever planned here, is expected to draw a record-breaking crowd. Londo, the popular "Golden Greek" was five times the world mat champion. And McCoy is one of the leading contenders.

Thalian hall will open at 7 o'clock with the preliminary bout beginning at 8:45.

Junior Lawn Tennis Meet To Open Today

CLINTON S. C., June 8.—(AP)—The Boys' and Juniors' championship tournaments of the Southern Lawn Tennis association will open tomorrow at Presbyterian college concurrently with the seventh annual National Model Tennis clinic of the U. S. Lawn Tennis association.

Approximately 70 net stars will participate in the tournaments. Teddy Prior of Palm Beach, Fla., will battle for his second crown in the junior division. Jack Tuero of New Orleans, last year's boys' champion, will be a strong challenger in the junior division.

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