

THE SPORTS TRAIL

By Whitney Martin



NEW YORK, Jan. 6.—(AP)—One of the major effects of the war on baseball seems to have been overlooked. That is the meat shortage, which threatens the traditional diet of the athletes and may even go so far as to force some of them to think real hard when they sit down to the bittle board.

In the past the ball player would wave aside the menu and blurt: "Never mind the schedule; just bring me a steak, that thick and medium well." Ball players and steaks

Back To Baseball



virtually have grown up together. Or rather, the ball players have grown as the steaks disappeared. Anyway, you could no more think of the diet of a major league ball player without thinking of steaks, than you could think of bread without butter or knife without fork, and it is a safe bet that many a young minor leaguer's dream of life in the majors was not complete without the picture of a thick, juicy T-bone waiting for him after a hard day's work at the apple orchard.

Perhaps it's lack of imagination, or mental laziness, but whatever the cause the ball players have only one idea when they sit down to eat, particularly if they are eating on the club. For breakfast they'll order a steak. At lunch it will be steak. Dinner will be two steaks, and to break the monotony they'll order a steak as a snack just before turning in for the night.

What effect the meat shortage will have on the quality of the baseball played is problematical, as maybe it is too much to expect porthouse performance on a potato and spinach diet. The men will become sullen and morose, and mentally weary from trying to think of what to order three times a day.

We have a vivid mental picture of the athletes traveling across the country, gazing wistfully from their day-coach windows at herds of cows and envisioning each animal sliced into tasty cuts.

The association of ball players and steaks isn't just a legend. The athletes really go for them, and in such quantities that clubs have made special efforts to see that an ample supply of beef always was on hand. If memory serves Larry MacPhail flew down a supply of choice cuts to his Brooklyn Dodgers at Havana a year or so ago when the players demanded home-grown beef.

The one advantage of the shortage is that the tendency of some hollow-legged athletes to eat themselves out of the league will be curbed. When the food is stowed away at the club's expense it's just like putting a kid behind a candy counter as far as some players are concerned, and they'll eat themselves into a balloon.

This trait has been subdued by some clubs by putting the men on a daily allowance, but the drawback there is that, if the players are paid so much a day in cash to provide their own nourishment, a few of them are liable to fade away from malnutrition, as even their appetites aren't strong enough to overcome the urge to salvage a few cents by ducking out of the swank hotels and plopping themselves on a stool at a side-street beanyery.

Anyway, the clubs might use the shortage as basis of a bonus system, with promises of steak dinners for non-murder games, home runs and such. If the players' appetites aren't basely craved on tradition, and they really crave steak and don't just order it because that's what a ball player should order, it might work.

But right now it looks like the ball players' diet will have little meat in it. Like this column.

MINOR LEAGUES SET NEW RULES

American Association Accepts 1943 Training Plans

CHICAGO, Jan. 6.—(AP)—The American Association today adopted a 154-game schedule for 1943, opening April 29 or 16 days later than last year. The season will be closed September 19, a week later than last year.

Training sites for four of the association's clubs were designated as follows: Minneapolis at Terre Haute, Ind.; Louisville at home; Indianapolis at home; Milwaukee, within 30 miles of home.

The other four clubs have not designated their sites but will train within the general area prescribed yesterday by the major leagues—the north of the Potomac and Ohio rivers and east of the Mississippi.

Recreational Gifts Sporting Goods SNEEDEN CYCLE CO. 114 Market St.

Browns Trade For 'Question Mark' Dean

YOUNGER BROTHER OF GREAT 'DIZZY' GOES TO ST. LOUIS

Former Cardinal Hurler Is Swapped For Submarine-Ball Auker

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 6.—(AP)—The hopeful St. Louis Browns, who harbor pennant ambitions, gambled today that Paul Dean would make good on his second attempt to come back as a major league pitcher.

To get the younger brother of colorful Dizzy Dean, they gave the veteran mainstay of their staff, submarine-ball Elden Auker, to the Washington Senators. Auker won 44 games and lost 39 in his three seasons with the Browns, so it was a case of trading a known quantity—and quality—for a known question mark.

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Dean had a meteoric career with the St. Louis Cardinals in 1934 and 1935 but developed arm trouble and drifted back to the minors. He made an unsuccessful appearance with the New York Giants in 1940.

Paul was nicknamed "Daffy" because his brother was Dizzy, but actually he was the quiet, steady, member of the duo of pitching fame and off-the-field foolishness.

Egged on by Dizzy, the brothers staged a strike with the Cardinals in June, 1934, because they were dissatisfied with Paul's pay. The walkout fizzled but it provided Dizzy with an opportunity for one of his best quips—"Me 'n' Paul are three-strike men, not a two-man strike."

They showed their three-strike ability by pitching the Cards to a pennant and world championship in 1934, Paul winning 19 games during the regular season and 2 in the World Series with Detroit. He won 19 games again in 1935.

Paul and Dizzy had relief chiefly on a blazing fast ball and both burned themselves out. Dizzy, traded to the Chicago Cubs in 1938, quit baseball in 1941 and became a radio sports commentator in St. Louis. Paul kept trying.

After missing with the Giants, he returned to the Texas league and won 19 games last season, while losing only seven with Houston. Reports from there said he was "pitching with his head," mixing curves and a change of pace.

"He indicated that his arm was sound," Barnes asserted, "and he has shown that with a sound arm he can win in the majors."

Remainder Of Princeton Quint Coaches Resigns

PRINCETON, N. J., Jan. 6.—(AP)—Princeton University lost the remainder of its varsity basketball coaching staff to the nation's war effort today, and the task of tutoring the Tiger quint was turned over to William F. Logan, developer of Princeton's powerful LaCrosse team.

Asa S. Bushnell, acting director of athletics, announced that Head Coach Franklin C. Cappon and his assistant, John P. (Kats) Kadlic, had resigned to enter the armed services, joining Edgar L. Walker, another assistant, who became a second lieutenant in the Army last August.

County Commissioners Group Outlines Program

RALEIGH, Jan. 6.—(AP)—The State Association of County Commissioners transmitted today to the General Assembly, in a petition to Rep. D. B. Fearing of Dare, a 14-point legislative program including a request that all revenues received from intangible personal property be returned to counties and cities.

The commissioners also asked power to regulate hours in which wine and beer may be sold.

J. L. Skinner of Littleton, secretary-treasurer of the state association, transmitted the recommendations, which follow resolutions approved unanimously at last year's convention of county commissioners.

Warrant Issued For Movie Star

SANTA MONICA, Calif., Jan. 6.—(AP)—Police Lieutenant Clyde Brown signed a warrant today for the arrest of actress Francis Farmer for non-payment of the balance of a \$250 fine.

Miss Farmer was convicted of drunk driving in a dim-out zone last October. Police said she told them "you bore me," when they cited her. The fine was \$250, half of which she paid. The balance was due Dec. 15.

Brown said no payment had been made and he could not locate her at her Hollywood apartment.

Sailors Trounce 'Cat Cagemen, 30-24

NBA Lists Ring Ratings For 1943 Boxing Season

NEW YORK, Jan. 6.—(AP)—The National Boxing association announced its regular quarterly ratings of fighters in all divisions today, along with a statement from President Abe Greene that "full responsibility" for "cleavage" in boxing championships lies directly with the New York State Athletic Commission.

Most pointed factor in the ratings was that of the top seven men in each of the four heavier divisions—welterweight through heavyweight—a total of more than half are in one branch or another of the armed forces and thereby out of active competition for the duration. Altogether 17 of these 28 tusslers are wearing one of Uncle Sam's suits, headed by the four champions—Heavyweight Joe Louis, Light Heavyweight Gus Lesnevich, Middleweight, Tony Zale and Welterweight Red Cochrane.

Greene referred directly to the lightweight and bantamweight title situations in "pointing a finger" at the New York Commission.

He also mentioned the fact that the Manhattan fistic fathers refused to put the crown on Zurita's head.

"How can the public have faith in such contortions?" Greene asked. "If we are to have boxing, then personal aggrandizement, prejudice and influence should be eliminated."

The ratings left the lightweight championship vacant, named Beau Jack the "leading contender" and then grouped as "logical contenders" 11 other 135-pounders, all of whom are eligible for the nationwide title tournament the NBA has planned. Under this plan, the tournament survivor would meet Jack for the title.

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'Jolting Joe' Denies Intention Of Withdrawing From Baseball In '43

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This tempest in a teapot stemmed from a telephonic interview two night ago with sports Columnist Prescott Sullivan of the Examiner. Joe was in Reno visiting Mrs. DiMaggio, the former night club singer-actress, Dorothy Arnold, who established residence there Dec. 1 presumably to sue for divorce.

Asked if he was there trying to effect a reconciliation, Joe snapped "none of your business" but to the question "what effect has the absence of spring training in Florida likely to have on your

play this season" the baseball star reportedly declared "spring training won't concern me this year."

Columnist Sullivan asked DiMaggio if his reply meant he was going to retire from baseball. Did Joe intend to enlist in the Army or Navy? He quoted Joe as saying "I'm not saying. You can draw your own conclusions." The columnist concluded something was on the fire.

Strong Arm Stuff

George Babish, 5, of Fordham, steals basketball from Armand Cure as Bronx Rams defeat Rhode Island State by record score, 84-75 before record crowd of 18,394 at Madison Square Garden.

MIAMI, Fla., Jan. 6.—(AP)—John C. Clark, president of the Miami Jockey club, said today that Hialeah Park would not open for horse racing "until such time as there is full approval of the continuance of racing."

The track was scheduled to open January 13 for a 46-day meeting. When informed of the Office of Price Administration ban on all pleasure driving, Clark issued the following statement:

"It being the desire of the government, as expressed by the Office of Price Administration, that all motor transportation to race tracks cease, Hialeah Park will fit into the war pattern by suspending racing until such time as there is full approval of the continuance of racing."

General Brady, director of racing at Tropical Park which now is in the midst of a meeting, had no immediate comment.

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While expressing full willingness to cooperate with the order, Reeder said transportation was not much of a problem at the Fair Grounds because of its central location.

"We are not concerned much about transportation since many persons walk to the track and others, when the transportation systems are not crowded, use street cars and busses," he said.

March 25 for the Yanks and Stoneham indicated the Giants would get underway not later than March 28.

Ott expects to be here several days, inspecting training sites and going over player prospects and contracts with other officials of the Giants. He said five players had joined the armed forces since the close of the season—Billard Young, Bob Carpenter, Willard Marshall, Dave Koslo and Hal Schumacher—and that he understood Johnny Rucker had applied for a Naval commission.

Four major league clubs already have definitely located their training sites. The Detroit Tigers announced today they would work at Evansville, Ind., the Chicago Cubs and White Sox previously selected French Lick Springs, Ind., and the Boston Red Sox chose Tufts University at Medford, Mass.

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World's No. 1 Hurdler Preps For Combat Duty

Hialeah Park Turf Meet Cancelled By Officials

HOUSTON, Tex., Jan. 6.—(AP)—Flying Freddie Wolcott, who covered plenty of territory on the ground with his record-breaking hurdling feats, wants to cover more from the air in combat duty for his Uncle Sam.

In fact, so great was the famed track man's desire to get into the thick of battle that he went partners with three other men in the purchase of an airplane to get his training beforehand.

Wolcott, the world's top hurdler, has been instructor in military track at the Athens, Ga., Naval Pre-Flight school where he is a lieutenant junior grade, but soon will be transferred, at his own request, to naval aviation.

When that comes he already will have 70 hours of solo flying.

"The pre-flight schools are doing a great work," said the blond Rice flier who is visiting in Houston where Mrs. Wolcott's parents reside.

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NEW HANOVER LADS GO DOWN UNDER ATTACK

Southport Naval Section Base Team Too Much For Locals

After a defeat at the hands of the local shipyard team Tuesday night, the Navy Section Base squad of Southport turned back fighting New Hanover basketball team 30-24 in a fast contest at the high school gym last night.

The locals led the first half, dominating the court with their lightning-fast offensive plays and showing unusual ability on the defensive. Leonard McKay, Wildcat center, led the scoring during the period with 8 points, with Jones of the Navy on his heels at 6.

The score was 20-13 at the half-time in the 'Cats' favor.

With this lead, Coach Alberto emiego took out the first-string team at the start of the third quarter and sent in the reserve quintet. This proved a wise move, as the score stood 24-20 at the finish of this period. Colie was the leading scorer, with four points.

Not content with being on the short end of the score, however, the visitors gained on the Wildcats in the last stanza and passed them. This lead was never relinquished, even though the 'Cats' made a determined effort to dislodge them from the top.

The final whistle blew with the Base team ahead 30-24 and the game.

Although losing the game, the Wildcats gained valuable playing information that should come in handy when they go against Wildcat in the first conference tilt of the season tomorrow night.

Jones, of the Navy Base, was the high scorer of the night, edging out McKay, second high scorer in the Eastern conference last season, by one point. He had 12 tallies, while McKay garnished 11. Pridden came next for the high school team, with 6, followed by Colie with 4.

The Lineups: NAVAL SECT. BASE FG FT PR Pts. Jones 12 12 2 1 24 McKay 11 11 0 0 22 Erickson 4 4 0 0 8 Singleton 4 4 0 0 8 Elser 2 2 1 1 5 Jones 12 12 2 1 24 Dipoli 4 4 0 0 8

TOTAL 26 4 2 2 64 HIGH SCHOOL FG FT PR Pts. McKay 10 10 0 0 20 Kelly 6 6 0 0 12 Pridden 4 4 2 2 10 Williams 0 0 0 0 0 Cashwell 0 0 0 0 0 Mayhan 0 0 0 0 0 Colie 4 4 0 0 8 Herring 0 0 0 0 0

TOTAL 20 20 0 0 40

AGREEMENT APPROVED TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras, Jan. 6.—(AP)—Congress today approved an agreement with the United States, Mexico, Panama and the four other Central American republics governing the facilitation of traffic on the Inter-American highway. Construction of the road has been speeded up recently with United States assistance.

ALL-WOOL HIGH-ART SUITS MODERATELY PRICED ANDERSON'S Front and Princess

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TODAY AT THE THEATRES BAILEY Attend Matinee! They're Dynamic Again! Clark Gable Lana Turner "SOMEWHERE I'LL FIND YOU" Shows: 1:05-3:06-5:07 7:08-9:15

CAROLINA Last Day! Look Who's Here Again! Fuzzy McGee and Molly Edgar Bergen and Charlie McCarthy, Ginny Sims The Great Gildersleeve "HERE WE GO AGAIN"

ROYAL Today Only! Comedy and Romance! James Ellison Virginia Gilmore—in "THAT OTHER WOMAN" Shows: 8:10-8:50

BIJOU 15c till 6 p.m. (Plus Tax) Today Only! Full of Fun and Fire! "BUY ME THAT TOWN" with Lloyd Nolan Constance Moore Albert Dekker

MANOR LAST DAY HUMPHREY BOGART—CONRAD VEIDT in "ALL THROUGH THE NIGHT" with Kaaren Verne—Peter Lorre Also Selected Short Subjects

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Diamond Squads Begin Search For '43 Close-By' Training Sites

STILL A YANK - - - By Jack Sords

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"If I could be sure of the weather I would have the Yanks train right in Yankee Stadium," declared Barrow, "and I wouldn't care how hot or cold it was—just so it was dry. I don't recall a single year we couldn't have trained at home with the season starting as late as it will this year."

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