

Cuff Notes

By JACK STILLMAN

Perhaps the best news concerning baseball to come out of Washington lately was the announcement Wednesday by the War Production Board that there is "no disposition to place baseball or other night-time sports under the brownout ban."

An undisclosed WPB spokesman pointed out that the use of recreational lighting was discussed when the brownout regulation was drawn up, but it was reasoned that if persons did not attend ball games and such events, they would consume a lot of lighting in their homes.

At any rate, we can be sure of one thing, a ban on the nation's night baseball games would certainly cause disruption in the playing schedule, especially since 122 night games have been scheduled in the American League alone. Forty-three of these are scheduled at St. Louis, 39 at Washington, 14 at Chicago, 15 at Philadelphia and Detroit is scheduled for seven twilight games.

Figures on the National League and minor leagues have not been made available, but it is presumed that they will compare with those of the American League, and that a lot of night baseball and a lot of electricity. Although WPB admits that changing conditions conceivably could alter their thinking along such lines, they contend that "there is no pressure and no disposition" to order a ban on night baseball.

The New Hanover Board of Education has purchased five trophies, one of which will be awarded to

SNEAD, HAMILTON LEAD FIRST LOOP IN MIAMI TOURNEY

Favored Pair Wins Over Only Foreign Entries In Tournament

By WILBUR JENNINGS
MIAMI, Fla., March 8.—(AP)—Sam Snead and Bob Hamilton made the game of golf look as easy as hopscotch or any other child's pastime today as they led the way through the first round of the \$7,500 international four ball tournament with a top-15ed 10 and 9 triumph.

Snead's eagle and five birdies and Hamilton's seven birdies took the "international" angle out of the event, for the victims were Stanley Horne and Jules Huot, the Canadians who formed the only non-United States team.

The victors carded 34-30-64, six under par, for the morning 18, then ended the scheduled 36-hole match by shooting a 31 on the front nine this afternoon. Snead personally birdied the last two holes played.

Four down at lunch time after compiling 36-33-69, the Canadians never had a chance.

The top-seeded combination of Byron Nelson and Harold McSpaden won as expected, but they brought forth an unexpected threat from their second round opponents, Ben Hogan and Ed Dudley.

Hogan, an Army Air Forces lieutenant who got into the tournament as a substitute after a seven-month layoff, showed flashes of his old-time brilliance, and he and Dudley scored 8 and 7, over Ky Laffoon and Jack Groat.

The ease of the victory seemed to hearten the players for their clash tomorrow with Nelson and McSpaden.

The Gold Dust Twins took things easy in downing Willie Klein and Pvt. Otey Crisman, 6 and 5.

A surprise contender came forth in the team of Chick Rutan and Claude Harmon, who prevailed by a 7 and 6 edge over Mike Turnesa and Willie Goggin.

Takes Obstacles



Lt. Gen. Omar Nelson Bradley, 52, commanding the 15th Army group on the western front, takes to the obstacle course at Camp Claiborne, La., where he previously commanded the 82nd division. He is a graduate of the athletically famous U. S. Military Academy class of 1915.

Baseball Workers To Be Excluded From Senate's Manpower Ceiling

WMC DISCLOSES NEW DECISION

Ruling Would Not Release Essential War Workers for Sport

By BUS HAM
WASHINGTON, March 8.—(AP)—The Government has no intention of driving baseball or any other industry out of business by taking all of its employees under manpower legislation now before the Senate.

A War Manpower Commission source made this disclosure today in explanation of what might happen to baseball if the Senate's manpower "ceiling" bill is passed.

"This does not mean that baseball would not have to yield up part of its workers if needed for essential war activities," this WMC source said.

This clarification was accepted as the best news for baseball that has come out of official circles since Selective Service began calling up professional athletes for re-examination late in December.

War Mobilization Director James F. Byrnes still will have the final say-so on baseball's status, it was pointed out, but baseball representatives, after a recent conference with Byrnes, felt that he would give the game every possible encouragement.

Major league baseball estimates that 400 players are required to man its 16 teams. WMC said that manpower ceilings are not set on an industry as a whole, but on local segments of the industry.

In heavy production centers, including most Major League and baseball cities, the WMC might go to a club owner and ask him for 10 per cent of his employees.

These workers would not necessarily be ball players but could be persons who work in the stands, on the field or elsewhere so long as they could do war work.

The question of players who work in war plants during winter months and might desire to return to the playing field this spring also was brought up.

The WMC's off-season policy would apply in such instances.

Normally, such a player could return to baseball.

But if he possessed special skills of benefit to the war effort, he might be asked to remain on the job.

Even then, he would have the right of appeal on a basis of equity, since his pay in war work probably would not equal his baseball salary.

Phils Celebrate 30th Anniversary Of Title

Hammer brothers — Garvin and Granville — from Richmond, Va., plus Elisha (Bitsy) Mott and Fred Daniels, the Utica, N. Y., keystone combination, all expected to furnish plenty of speed in the infield.

PHILADELPHIA, March 8.—(AP)—In war torn 1945, full of its baseball uncertainties, the Philadelphia Phillies celebrate the 30th anniversary of their one and only National League championship.

And the 1945 edition of the long time league doormats contains the best Phil prospects in many years.

"You know me. I don't like to prophesy," says General Manager Herb Pennock. But he added that if Selective Service "doesn't" take a big dent out of the roster, we'll be considerably better than last year" when the Phils ended at the bottom of the league pile.

The Phils are an odd assortment of youth and age, speed and tried qualities. If veterans Jimmy Foss, Gus Mancuso, Bill Lee and company can be whipped into good shape, the Phils may develop into a real pennant threat.

And then there are the flashy

PINEHURST FIELD HAS BEST TRIALS

Dogs Turn In Best Performances In Week-Long Championship

PINEHURST, March 8.—(AP)—The birds were moving today and the dogs had their best day in the week-long national amateur quail championship, two Virginia-owned animals each finding four birds. Turning in these performances were Sweet Briar, owned and handled by Virgil Hawse, Stunton, Va., and Tomhawk Ben, owned and handled by Ernest Mead, Warrenton, Va.

War Rebel, owned by Contee Adams, Warrenton, and handled by Hawse, had two finds. While Air Sam, owned and handled by Louis Bobbitt, Winston-Salem, found one bird.

Dogs failing to flush a bird including Colonial Lady, owned by Dr. John Meachen, Boston, handled by Dr. Sherman Ames, Easton, Pa.; Stein City Jim Boy, owned by R. Z. Cates, Spartanburg, S. C., handled by E. S. Vane, Philadelphia; our Congressman, 1943 champion, owned and handled by Fred Clark, New York, and Jamestown Lady, owned and handled by Clayton Rugg, Jamestown, N. Y., which became ill and was picked up 20 minutes after starting out.

Dr. Sam's Titania, owned by Dr. S. O. Black, Spartanburg, Richochet Guy, owned by D. K. Sing, Charlotte, and Lebanon Mary, owned by G. Dawson Coleman, Rosemont, Pa., were ordered on the grounds tomorrow noon on the event they are needed for a second series.

Newly-elected amateur field trial clubs of America officers are Dr. J. N. Miles, Brooklyn, N. Y., President; B. C. Goss, Cleveland, John A. Rush, Jacksonville, Fla., and Rowan A. Greer, Dayton, Ohio vice presidents. Mrs. Mary M. Phillips, Cincinnati, was retained as secretary.

American League To Use 13-Man Umpiring Staff

Following are the spring training assignments for the league's umpires: Washington, James Boyer; St. Louis, Bill Grieve; Boston, Cal Hubbard; Philadelphia, Nick Jones; Detroit, Passarella; Chicago, Joe Rue; New York, William Summers; and Cleveland, Hal Weaver.

CHICAGO, March 8.—(AP)—The American League announced today that it will use a 13-man umpiring staff this year, one more than usual. The addition is Art Passarella, regular in 1941 and 1942, who was discharged from the Army last December.

The other five umpires who complete the staff are Thomas Conolly, umpire-in-chief; Charles Berry, William McGowan, George Piggas, Edwin Rommel, and Ernest Stewart, all of whom will "train" as they want.

BAKSI DEFEATS GUNNAR BARLUND

MIAMI, Fla., March 8.—(AP)—Heavyweight Joe Baksi of Kulpmont, Pa., prepping for a New York bout against Lou Nova, tonight scored a technical knockout over Gunnar Barlund less than two minutes before the end of a scheduled 10-round bout in the Orange Bowl stadium. The fight drew 2,334 winter fans.

Baksi, weighing 216 1/4 carried the fight to the veteran Finn all the way, cutting him about the face with stabbing lefts in virtually every round. Barlund weighed 201 3/4.

The fight was stopped after one minute and 30 seconds of the tenth round when Referee Eddie Coachman decided Barlund could not last. Barlund had taken two counts of six in that round. In the third Baksi downed Barlund twice for counts of four and two in quick succession.

Baksi goes against Nova in Madison Square Garden on March 30. Baksi scored continuously with his left but Barlund, constantly seeking to tie him up, kept inside his potentially damaging right hand.

Independent Girls Meet Beulaville Basketeers At Lake Forest Tonight

In a twin bill Friday night at the Lake Forest gymnasium, sponsored by the City Recreation Department, the Independent girls' basketball team will play Beulaville All-Stars, runners up in the recent Smithfield tournament.

The Welders, of the North Carolina Shipbuilding Co., will engage the boys of Beulaville in the second game of the contest, which is scheduled to begin at 7:30 p.m. The first game will start at 6:30 p.m.

Alex Carresquel Agrees To Play for Washington

COLLEGE PARK, Md., March 8.—(AP)—Pitcher Alex Carresquel notified the Washington Senators today that he had accepted terms and would join the team the first of next month.

Infielder Fred Vaughan also reported to President Clark Griffith that he is recovering from an operation on his heel and will sign his contract. Pitcher Johnny Niggeling participated in the spring drills for the first time today.

New York University Accepts NCAA Cage Bid

NEW YORK, March 8.—(AP)—New York University today accepted the bid to represent the second NCAA district in the eastern basketball playoffs in Madison Square Garden starting March 22.

The Violets defeated City College of New York last night, 75 to 48 for their thirteenth triumph in 48 games.

SAVOLDI PREPARES TO MEET WAMPLER

Fresh from a trip overseas, where he spent several months entertaining service men, "Jumping Joe" Savoldi, ex-football star of Notre Dame's squad under the tutelage of Knute Rockne, returns to Wilmington tonight after an absence of several years for an engagement with Earl Wampler, of Des Moines, Iowa, in the Thalian Hall arena.

Several years ago, Savoldi scored an upset victory over Jim Lodos, the Golden Greek, to win the world's championship.

Savoldi is campaigning for the championship again, and is well on his way upward, it is reported.

The semi-final event on Promoter Bert Causey's card will bring Jack O'Brien back to the Wilmington arena for a contest with Johnny Carter, of Knoxville, Tenn. The time limit has been set at 60 minutes.

Abe Yourist, from Toledo, Ohio, a newcomer to the local mat, will make his first appearance against Masked Marvel, 2nd. The Marvel has been a consistent winner in Thalian Hall, and the Jewish mat artist is out to take his concession.

Davey Cohn, of Holly Ridge, will referee the three matches on tonight's card.

The Sports Trail Service Team Versus Big Leaguers Talked

By WHITNEY MARTIN
NEW YORK, March 8.—(AP)—Branch Rickey, the voice of the Brooklyn Dodgers, favors the suggestion that the major league winner play the champion service team in a real world series. It is not a new suggestion, and the chances are it will meet the fate of other suggestions along the same line. That is, it will remain just a suggestion.

At one time or another it has been suggested that the Major League clubs do their spring training at service camps instead of the home towns of the rival clubs; that all star Major League club make overseas tours for exhibition purposes.

These and similar ideas apparently were killed by an early frost, although the touring all-star plan did get to the stage where the teams actually were chosen before the whole thing was called off.

That a world series between the major winner and the service champion would create considerable interest goes without saying and, judging from the lineups of the rival teams in the Army-Navy series in Honolulu last year, the service champion might rate better than an even chance.

There is one disturbing element in such a suggestion, however. This is the fact that if the service team came up with a lineup of outstanding ex-major league players, it would be right down the alley for critics who charge that pro athletes in the service are being pampered; that they will be able to tell their grandchildren they put in their service hitch playing third base for the Honolulu champions.

The idea of these critics is that, whereas Joe Elov or Pete Zilch is snatched from his ribbon counter or service station, given his basic training and is up there dodging Nazi or Jap bad-will offerings in a year or less, the pro

Nine Begin Training At Chicago Cub Camp

FRENCH LICK, Ind., March 8.—(AP)—Nine players opened the Chicago Cubs' 1945 spring training season today in a dismal presentation which plainly showed the handicaps under which baseball is going to labor this year.

Those who reported on schedule were Pitchers Ed Hanyzewski, George Hennessey, Mack Stewart and Al Nusser, catchers Thompson (Mickey) Livingston and Joe Stephenson and outfielders Johnny Ostrowski, Cecil Gariotti and Frank Secory. The batterymen worked indoors in the hotel auditorium because of the raw, chilly weather while the others did some running and throwing on one of the few dry spots left in the flooded countryside.

Sparrring in contract negotiations and cautious stalling because of work-or-else legislation were factors preventing a larger turnout. Sixteen players were expected to report today.

No Excuse Left

FORT WORTH, Tex., March 8.—(AP)—There'll be no forgetting wedding anniversaries for Henry H. Alexander, Sr., and Henry, Jr., Twenty-eight years ago Henry, Sr., married a nurse on January 22. And two years ago, Henry, Jr., a Navy torpedoman, married a nurse on January 22.

Rhine Breach Held Likely To End War Earlier

(Continued from Page One)

mains to be seen. Even if brought out of Italy, they probably could reach threatened points only one division at a time. They might well be destroyed piecemeal without having appreciable effect on the situation, as in Normandy.

This piecemeal employment of reserves has been characteristic of the German army direction for many weeks and seems that the German high command has hit the bottom of the soldier barrel.

Thus American troops are on the east bank of the Rhine in a position to deliver a death blow while other Allied forces in tens of thousands are along the river threatening von Rundstedt everywhere. He has far fewer forces than he had to hold the same Allied troops west of the Rhine two weeks ago, when he failed.

If he had time, say two weeks or a month, to reorganize and spread along the river bank his available troops, bolstered by incoming divisions from Italy, he might put up a much more formidable battle.

But Gen. Eisenhower has not given him this time.

Von Rundstedt needs every man, and any bridgehead no matter how small will gobble up his available troops in constant fighting, leaving him neither men nor time to organize the rest of the river defenses.

This will make other American crossings, when they come, many times easier than they would have been if the German high command had been given a quiet three or four weeks with no losses to organize the situation.

Most military men, in forecasting a long summer war, believed that once across the Rhine it would take weeks of bitter battling really to break through inner German defenses.

Americans already are into Germany's inner defenses and the next few days may well bring a definite turning point of the war.

The Germans have no more territory to trade. Their last great natural barrier is forced. It is a question of stand and fight or lose all.

Fatalism is the doctrine that all things happen according to a pre-arranged fate, necessity or inexorable decree.

Bert Causey Presents WRESTLING

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TO
8:15-NIGHT-8:15

Athletic Outfield Retires From Game Because of Illness

BUFFALO, N. Y., March 8.—(AP) Edward Mayo Smith, Buffalo outfielder who led the International Baseball League in hitting last year and was drafted by the Philadelphia Athletics, decided today to retire from baseball for the 1945 season because of an attack of rheumatic fever.

"I am making this decision on the advice of my doctor," said Smith. "As soon as I am able to travel, I plan to go to my parents' home in Lake Worth, Fla., to recuperate."

He recorded a batting average of .341 to top International hitters in 1944.

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