

Cuff Notes

By JACK STILLMAN

Some of you may have wondered just what the big league baseball players had on the ball that those GI's on the other side would be interested in. Particularly when the entertainers traveled with so small a percentage of a full playing team.

Well, they're baseball players, which is strictly American. And as long as about nine out of every ten of our boys who are physically fit enough to be in the armed forces have played baseball at services one time or another, naturally they would be interested in seeing one or two of those men who love the game enough to make it their livelihood. Many servicemen have never seen a big league baseball game. Baseball is strictly Yankee stuff, and the players probably offered them the greatest touch of Americanism they had in a long time.

Manager Mel Ott probably never before realized just what kind of a master of ceremonies he would make to a lot of home-sick soldiers until he took a crack at entertaining them "by word of mouth," figuratively speaking. And speaking of a dampened spirit, Mel Ott likes to tell the yarn about Dizzy Dean, who was boasting the game between the Giants and the Cardinals at St. Louis, which took place in the early days of the war, when any mention of the weather on the air was taboo. Dizzy was just as capable at verbal pitching as he was at ac-

ate with his mound capers. When the bottom dropped out and it began to rain, his predicament called for one of his fast verbal curves. How was he going to tell his vast unseen audience that the reason he was no longer talking about the game was because it was raining and all the players had ducked inside. He just warbled something like this into the microphone:

When Mel Ott was a private in the ranks of the Giants, one of his fellow outfielders was Ethan Allen who later became motion picture director of the National League and then a radio sports-caster. The outfielder had very little hair on his head in his playing days, and was using some hair lotion which had a slight resemblance of milk. This he applied on his dome religiously each day before he took to the field. He kept the bottle in his locker.

One day Ott and another player hung around the clubhouse until Allen had departed. They emptied the alleged hair grower and filled the bottle with milk.

The following day Allen reported for duty and got out his bottle of stuff for the daily application and after shaking it and removing the cap, he noticed a slight smell. Everybody else noticed it, too. The milk had spoiled. However, Allen applied a dose to his shiny spot and trotted out on the field and didn't realize the prank until later.

White Phantoms Prep To Engage All-Stars

STATE COLLEGE GETS NEW COACH

Lyle Rich Of Charleston, W. Va., Assigned Line Position

RALEIGH, March 14.—Lyle M. Rich, director of athletics and physical education in the Charleston, W. Va., high schools, has accepted a one-year contract as line coach at N. C. State College. It was announced today by Dr. H. A. Fisher, chairman of the athletic council.

Rich, who did undergraduate work at Yankton College in Yankton, South Dakota, and earned his master's degree in physical education from the University of Michigan, will succeed Alfred W. Thomas, who resigned the State line coach position recently to return to his home near Knoxville, Tenn. Rich will begin his duties July 1.

Coach Rich, who is 39, began his coaching career in South Dakota schools and later moved to Nevada. He coached at Kingsport, Tenn. from 1934-38 and was appointed director of athletics and physical education at Charleston, W. Va., in 1939. Grid teams tutored by Rich have won 96 games, lost 10, and tied 6 in the past 11 years. A veteran track coach, Rich had coached track teams which have won five state championships, placed second four times in state events, and captured third and fourth places once each.

NEW HAMPSHIRE RACING
CONCORD, N. H., March 14.—(AP)—A bill to legalize dog racing in New Hampshire was defeated 138 to 151 today in the State House of Representatives.

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IRISH GRIDIRON COACH ACCEPTS CLEVELAND POST

Notre Dame Loses Second Football Coach In Less Than A Month

SOUTH BEND, Ind., March 14.—(AP)—Adam Walsh, 43-year-old line coach at Notre Dame, today signed a five-year contract as head coach of the Cleveland Rams of the National Football league and will assume his new duties immediately.

Charles (Chile) Walsh, Adam's brother and general manager of the Cleveland Rams, signed the veteran line coach unexpectedly here and Notre Dame lost its second football coach in less than a month. Ed McKeever, former athletic director and head football coach at Notre Dame, resigned February 7 to accept the head coaching job at Cornell University.

No salary terms were announced, although Chile Walsh said his brother "is to receive a very high salary."

Walsh was slated to be line coach at Notre Dame this fall under Acting Athletic Director and Head Football Coach Hugh Devore. He joined the Notre Dame staff in June, 1944. Adam was captain of Notre Dame's famed "four horsemen" team in 1924 when he was an all-American center. He then became head coach and athletic director of Santa Clara from 1925-1928.

From 1929 to 1933, he served as line coach at Yale, and the next year he was line coach at Harvard. He took over as head coach of Bowdoin College in 1935 and his teams won or tied for the Maine Intercollegiate football championship seven out of eight years. He was given a leave of absence in 1944 to join the Notre Dame staff.

ALLEN HAS NEW HARDWOOD IDEAS

Kansas University Mentor Proposes To Abolish Free Throwing

KANSAS CITY, March 14.—(AP)—Hell for leather basketball intentional fouling and bumping are giving basketball a bad name and spectators and players had hearts, says Phog Allen, who has just what the doctor ordered to quell the riot.

Phog—Dr. F. C. Allen, basketball coach at Kansas University—said today the race-horse trend started with elimination of the center jump.

"I propose a rule that after all personal fouls the ball be given out of bounds to the free-throwing team at mid-court, whether the shot is made or missed," said Allen whose ideas about basketball run from 12-foot high goals to a nation-wide czar to rule the game.

This new rule would provide a lull in the now pell-mell game, explained the Jayhawk coach.

Not only would the "rigamarole" of lining up for free throws be eliminated but intentional fouling would go by the boards. There would be no point in it because the offending team couldn't gamble on retrieving the ball after a missed free throw, Allen said. Neither would there be the skyscraper player waiting under the basket to retrieve a missed foul shot and dunk it in for a two-point field goal.

Fiery Phog said coaches and athletic directors should use present basketball tournaments as a research ground to envision how the proposed rule would work.

Most of the research recently has been a diligent search for more 7-foot basketball players, according to Allen, who still thinks 12-foot baskets are the answer to the stratospheric advantage to tall men.

"I hope they find 7 1/2-footers," mused Phog today. "Then, if we get enough of them out there doing this ridiculous dunking, they'll see the merit of 12-foot baskets."

SEBRING, Fla., March 14.—(AP)—Two upsets featured first round matches of the 14th annual winter amateur senior golf tournament today when medalist Duane Tower, Niagara Falls, N. Y., and Charles R. Jennings, Miami Beach, four times winner of the event, were eliminated.



The Sports Trail Cincinnati Gets Staff Of Well Seasoned Men

BY WHITNEY MARTIN
NEW YORK, March 14.—Bill McKechnie likes his baseball players well seasoned, so it's only natural the Cincinnati Red pilot would be the one to come up with two pitchers who have had so many seasons they're practically the salt of the earth. Quite a bit of pepper for their years, too.

These young sprouts are Guy Bush and Horace Lisenbee. Why Lisenbee is coming back to the majors is open to question, but Bush possibly was influenced when he heard major league ball would be bush league this year. Or is that too punny?

Anyway, everything considered, these 42-year-old relics of the gilded 20's should do all right, even if they have to take a running start to get the ball from the mound to the plate. After all, men who have faced fellows like Ty Cobb, Eddie Collins, Harry Heilmann, Rogers Hornsby, George Sisler and Tris Speaker shouldn't have too much trouble with the fuzzy-cheeks who will be in the batter's box this year.

Lisenbee has been playing professional baseball since 1924, when he broke in with Brookhaven in the Cotton States League. Bush broke in with Greenville, also in the Cotton States league, in 1923. If there is any major league pitching left in the arms of Lisenbee and Bush, McKechnie will expect it. He's reputed to be just about tops when it comes to getting the most out of a mound staff, and can take old timers who have been knocking around in the minors and get winning performances out of them.

Ed Heusser is just one example. Ed is crowding 36, and until McKechnie picked him up in 1943 he had had more addresses than a telephone book. He started playing pro ball in 1929 and before he joined the Reds had played on 14 clubs ranging from coast to coast and Danville to Elmira. He played return engagements at some of the major league clubs on three occasions, only to pop right back.

Last year his won and lost record wasn't so much, but his 2.38 earned run average was the best in the national league, and his ancient arm was good for 198 innings.

McKechnie apparently is rounding up a mound staff that will feature know-how instead of the zip and wildness and the jitters of youth, figuring that the old gaffers with their Savvy will be able to bamboozle youthful hitters. He also probably realizes the old boys are less likely to be called into the service.

Anyway, it will be interesting to watch how Bush and Lisenbee make out in their race with father time. Lisenbee apparently is a work horse, as he pitched 249 innings for Syracuse last year.

Incidentally, the Reds also have signed Gene Hinrichs, a 38-year-old southpaw who hasn't played since 1941 because of Army service.

Ken Keltner Quits Job To Play With Indians

LAFAYETTE, Ind., March 14.—Ken Keltner again has left a war plant job to play ball with the Cleveland Indians.

Although declining comment on his action, the perennial third baseman for the American league all-star team repeated his move of last year, when he said: "baseball is my business. If the Army wants me, it will find me working at it."

HEAD GOLFERS CONTINUE MOVE TO CHARLOTTE

Leading Money-Makers Prepare For 72-Hole War Bond Open

CHARLOTTE, March 14.—The golfing caravan continued to move on this \$10,000 war bond oasis tonight in preparation for the four-day, 72-hole Charlotte open tournament which gets under way Friday.

Thirty-five teams are expected to compete in tomorrow's pro-amateur tunicap test.

Arrivals today included Mike and Joe Turnesa PGA champion, Bob Hamilton and Denny Shute. All but Shute played a practice round over the Myers Park course which was pronounced in "great shape" by the PGA tourney director, Fred Corcoran. He predicted last year's winning 275 would be about right. Sgt. Dutch Harrison is not expected to be on hand to defend his laurels. Corcoran looks for a field of 100.

Others slated to check in late tonight include Sam Sneed, Craig Wood, Ed Dudley, PGA president, Toney Penna, Adam Byrd, Byron Nelson, Claude Harmon and Jimmy Thomson. Corcoran said he did not believe Thomson, recently discharged from the Coast Guard, would compete because of an ailing arm.

Sneed, who came out of the Navy to give Nelson a battle for top money-winning honors, showed yesterday that he is right on his game when he fired a record 63 at Aiken, S. C. teamed up with Byrd to defeat Nelson and Wood in a Red Cross benefit match.

SWEDISH RUNNER SKIPS ROMANCE

Haegg Refuses To Discuss Proposed Marriage With Reporters

CHICAGO, March 14.—(AP)—Gunder Haegg, the Swedish long distance runner, dismissed romance in a decidedly unromantic manner today when he arrived to compete Saturday in the Chicago relays.

Immediately after his plane landed reporters asked him about his plans for marrying Miss Dorothy Nortier, 21, of Oakland, Calif., who was in Chicago supposedly to discuss the projected marriage of was not at the airport.

Haegg said through an interpreter that he didn't want to discuss the matter at all because it was "my private affair," and when the reporters asked if he intended to see Miss Nortier in Chicago he said "No, I don't think so."

Haegg and his athletic traveling companion, Kaakan Lidman, the hurdler, had quarters reserved at the same hotel where Miss Nortier arrived Monday night.

She has been secluded from most interviewers but the Chicago Daily News quoted her as saying they have been engaged since September 3, 1943, the day before he left for Europe after his first American visit.

Her mother, Mrs. Esther Nortier, said in Oakland that the couple planned to discuss the marriage in Chicago, as well as possibilities of her returning to Sweden with Haegg, and that it was expected they would be married in Oakland.

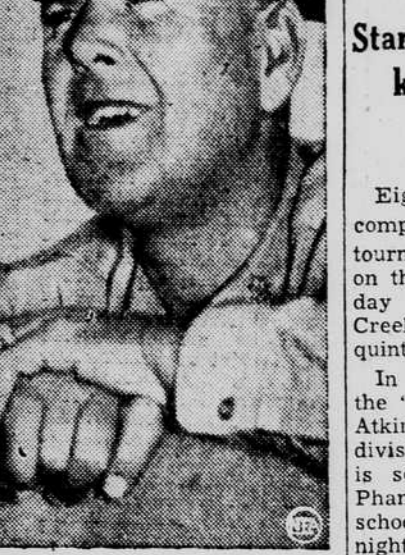
Today Haegg declined to tell reporters whether he intended to be married at all. He said he expected to spend the rest of today sleeping and resting and would forego a planned workout.

He was met by a large delegation representing the Swedish community, including Swedish societies and the office of Gosta Oldenburg, Swedish consul general.

LEFT BEHIND

BOSTON, March 14.—(AP)—High-scoring Bill Cowley and Goalie Harvey Bennett remained behind tonight when the Boston Bruins entrained for Chicago for their all-important National Hockey League tilt with the Blackhawks tomorrow.

Still Pitching



Lt. Cmdr. George Earnshaw scans skies for more Jap planes to shoot down. Great right-hander of champion Philadelphia Athletics of 1929-30-31 heads team of more than 900 officers and men in flat-top's gunnery department, won commendation from Adm. Chester Nimitz when his crew downed three enemy planes near Truk.

NHHS SWIMMERS HOLD SESSIONS

27 Tankmen Turn Out For Six Weekly Drills In YMCA Pool

Twenty-seven swimmers from New Hanover High school are busy working out in the YMCA pool six times weekly in preparation for the tryouts for the team, Adam Smith, swimming instructor, reported yesterday.

The high school swimmers use the YMCA pool Tuesday, Friday and Saturday at 3:30 p.m. and 7 p.m., and Tuesday at 3 p.m. Smith will accept tryouts from grammar schools, he said.

The swimming instructor disclosed that plans would be completed soon for grammar school swimming league. Smith pointed out that next week's tryouts from the grammar schools would not be confined to city schools, but that the league would be of county-wide scope.

Cardinal's Ace Hurler To Take GI Examinations

JEFFERSON BARRACKS, Mo., March 14.—(AP)—Mort Cooper, ace righthander of the St. Louis Cardinal pitching staff, entered the post hospital here today for a series of examinations to ascertain his physical fitness for military service.

Capt. Kenneth Ray, public relations officer, said probably three days will be required to complete the examinations.

Cooper, has been classified 4-F. The adjutant's office in Washington ordered reexaminations after the pitcher was rejected a second time for military service recently.

18 CAGE TEAMS SET TO ENTER YMCA TOURNEY

Stars Slated To Meet Atkinson's No. 1 Team Monday Night

Eighteen basketball teams will compete in the first YMCA area tournament which gets under way on the Wilmington 'Y' court Monday at 7 p.m., when the Long Creek team meets the Dry Pond quintet in the 135-pound class.

In the second game Monday, the 'Y' Stars are slated to engage Atkinson's entry in the 150-pound division, and the Crash Boat five is scheduled to meet the White Phantoms of New Hanover High school in the final contest that night.

The tournament has been divided into four sections. The second series has been arranged for Wednesday night, the third will be played Friday night and the finals will be played Saturday.

Wednesday night the Jays of NHHHS will tangle with the 'Y' Eagles in the 135-pound class, the 'Y' Seniors will meet Atkinson's No. 2 team in the 150-pound division, and the 'Y' Unknowns are slated to engage the 'Y' dormitory five in the unlimited class.

Leaders will meet the Leland basketeers in the 90-lb. class, the 'Y' Comets engage the 'Y' Hawks in the 105-pound class, and the play-offs will be forthcoming in the 150-pound group.

Staturday night the finals will be played in the 135-pound class at 7 p.m. Following this game the Four-Foot Wonders will meet the Tilston Red Terriers, and at 9 p.m. the finals in the unlimited division will be played.

Report Says Vanderbilt May Sell Pimlico Stocks

ANNAPOLIS, Md., March 14.—(AP)—The possibility that Alfred Gwynne Vanderbilt, one of the heaviest stockholders in the concern operating Pimlico racetrack, might drop his Maryland racing interest because of "political persecution" of the sport, was reported today.

Harry Parr, III, president of the Maryland Jockey Club which operates Pimlico, said Vanderbilt, now a lieutenant in the Navy, had been on the verge of leaving Maryland racing and that recent developments in the Maryland general assembly might prove to be the "last straw."

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Training Camp Briefs

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., March 14.—(AP)—With more men on hand than at the corresponding stage of the 1944 spring training season, the New York Yankees were sent through a long outdoor workout today. The squad numbered 17 with the arrival of pitcher Joe Page.

Pitchers Atley Donald, a veteran, and Kenneth Holcombe, a rookie from Newark, were especially sharp in a hurling workout. Manager Joe McCarthy tried Joe Buzas, rookie infielder at short stop, and announced that he later will be given a trial at first base.

BUFFALO, N. Y., March 14.—(AP)—General Manager Bucky Harris of the Buffalo Bisons of the International League announced today that 21 players had signed and were ready to report at the club's Henshey, Pa., training base. Six players have not been heard from, including Eddie Kobesky, league home run king in 1944 whose 4-F status has been referred to Washington.

FREDERICK, Md., March 14.—(AP)—Connie Mack, veteran manager of the Philadelphia Athletics arrived for the spring training season today with a prediction that his team would finish in the first division this year and had "a fighting chance" for the pennant.

WATCH OUT!

Winter ills are prevalent. If you are susceptible you may be sure you are more susceptible to certain of them, and you should do something about it right away. And while you are about it, why not do a THOROUGH job by taking a Calotab tonight? Nothing acts just like good old Calotabs to relieve temporary constipation and help sweep out virus-laden mucus and other putrefactive waste matter. Use only as directed. (adv)

AT THE THEATRES
BAILEY Come Early "Since You Went Away" With Claudette Colbert Jos. Cotten, Jennifer Jones Shirley Temple, Lionel Barrymore, Robt. Walker Showers, 11:10-1:30-3:00-8:10 Night Prices after 5 p.m.
CAROLINA Starts Today Gay As A Memory! No Taps; No Stops! "THE MERRY MONAHANS" Starring Donald O'Connor, Peggy Ryan, J. Oake, Ann Blyth 17 All-Time Song Hits!
ROYAL Today Only The Show Thrill of Your Lifetime! Wait Disney's "SNOW WHITE AND THE SEVEN DWARFS" In Technicolor
BIJOU Today Only Sassy, Lovable Jane—Singing, Dancing Her Way Into Your Heart Jane Withers In "MY BEST GAL" With Jimmy Lydon Frank Craven