

Today's Sports Parade

By OSCAR FRALEY
United Press Sports Writer

NEW YORK (U) — Big League baseball is collecting its usual teams of free newspaper space these days with carefully spaced announcements about the contract signings of its stars while a far more important game quietly goes its way without much recognition.

The game is little league baseball and it seems about time everybody jumped on the bandwagon and started pitching for the kids.

NEED IT

They need it. There is much head-shaking and moaning in these times about juvenile delinquency. All too little is done to combat it. The upshot is such frightening incidents as the recent basketball stabbings in Detroit.

The little league program is a great weapon against delinquency as it teaches the truths of American sportsmanship and fair competition. Already it has done a terrific job.

As example, last season there were 2,326 leagues in 46 states, Alaska, Hawaii, Canada, the Canal Zone, the Philippines and even in Korea. Making up these leagues were 11,837 teams — and a total of 178,000 youngsters between the ages of eight and 12.

GREAT FUTURE

These will be the great ball players of the future, the ones who will thrill the fans in Yankee Stadium or all the other big league ball parks. And already they are getting a taste of the thrills which await them as they play in the little league world series at season's end.

The little league idea was conceived in 1939 by Carl E. Stotz of Williamsport, Pa. Stotz had been one of those youngsters who sat disconsolately on the sidelines because he was too young and too small. One of the heartbroken as a boy, he did something about it as a man by founding little league baseball.

REGULAR BASEBALL

Actually it is regulation baseball with several exceptions, necessary so that the strength of young players will not be overtaxed. These exceptions include lighter equipment, fewer innings and smaller player fields.

The program is shepherded carefully from national headquarters at Williamsport. Batters and basemen must wear protective helmets. There are strict rules governing how often a junior Walter Johnson may pitch so he won't hurt his arm. And insurance is made available at reasonable premiums.

The cost for a 60-boy little league is estimated carefully at about \$1,000 for the first year and, aided by carry-over equipment, at about \$219 for both the second and third year. This totals about \$1,350 to keep boys off the streets for three years and to train and guide them in better Americanism. That figures out to less than \$3 a boy, a modest investment when all the returns are considered.

Herb Thomas Signs Up For Two Major Stock Car Races

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. (U) — Herbert Thomas, 1939 Grand National circuit champion from Ocala, has filed his entry for the season's first two major races of the season scheduled for West Palm Beach, Fla., Sunday, February 7, and Daytona Beach Sunday, February 21.

The Tar Heel star will drive a 1934 Hudson Hornet in both these events.

The Daytona Beach program and 1934 calls for five days of speed trials and time trials in addition to three major stock car races scheduled for the famous 4.1 mile beach and road course and the tournament of champions program for top modified and sportsmen's drivers at the local city stadium Tuesday night, February 16.

Speed trials for American and foreign cars are scheduled from Sunday, February 14 through the

17, including speed trials over the measured mile course for midget race cars Monday, February 13. Time trials will be held over the measured mile course February 18 for all cars entered in the three weekend races.

Approximately 100 drivers are expected to compete in the 100-mile sportsmen's stock car race over the beach and road course Friday, February 19, starting at 2:30 p. m.

Practically every type late model will take part in the 160-mile Grand National circuit race Sunday, February 21, starting at 3 o'clock with little Bill Blair of High Point defending the championship won last year with a 1933 Olds 88. Blair averaged 89.5 per hour for the 160 miles.

The Friday and Saturday races will be wide open battles with new records assured for both events. Everett "Cotton" Owens of Spartan-

burg won the 100-mile race last year which was open to modified and sportsmen's cars, averaging 91.54 miles per hour. Owens also paced the qualifiers with an average of 130.48 miles per hour over the straightaway measured mile course.

Heading the field for the Grand National event this year will be Herb Thomas and Lee Petty of Randleman, N. C., runner up in the 1934 campaign, driving a 1934 Dodge. Foyt Flock of Decatur, Ga., one of the local favorites, will be driving a Buick Century, and Jim Reed of Ossining, N. Y., the 1933 short track champion, will drive a 1934 Ford.

Joe Weatherly, Norfolk, Va., 1933 modified champion, and Johnny Roberts of Brooklyn, Md., 1933 national sportsmen's champion, head the field of entries for the Saturday and Friday races.

They Write Songs About Everything

NEW YORK (U) — Henry Sonnik is fairly certain of two types of small ball in getting early in the new year — the Christmas hits and songs about the First-of-the-Rubbin' season.

"The amateur songwriters around the country lose no time in turning out ditties based on big news events," said the veteran radio and television composer and conductor. "Some of them send their works directly to publishers but most of them aren't familiar with that procedure and consequently send them on to myself and others in the musical field whose names they know because of our work in radio and TV."

"The Hutton-Rubbin' marriage looks like a natural for the amateurs, although it would seem that Billy Rose took care of that years ago when he wrote 'I Found A Million Dollar Baby In A Five and Ten Cent Store.'"

LA ROSA AFFAIR — Sonnik said that the last previous event to bring a flock of amateur songs was the Godfrey-La Rosa affair. Practically all of the songs were built on the "humility" theme, as might be expected.

"That affair resulted in more songs than any event since Captain Carlson and his effort to save his ship, the Flying Enterprise," Sonnik said. "Among the titles of

songs on that subject that I recalled were 'The Dams That Dared the Deep' and 'He Gave Davey Jones the Deep Six.'"

"A few years back there were some songs inspired by the ball point pen. 'My Pen Is Writing Under Tears' was one title. Another was 'Get On the Ball Point Pen and Write I Love You.'"

"The first Kinsey report was productive. A couple that I recall offhanded were 'Don't Let Mr. Kinsey Foot You' and 'Love Is Not A Matter of Statistics.' The second Kinsey volume didn't seem to inspire the amateurs, however. I've only heard of one title stemming from it — Mr. Kinsey, How Dare You!"

"Among the more sedate titles of songs inspired by the Christine Jorgensen case were 'I've Never Been To Denmark, So Relax' and 'I've Been Fooled.'"

"Florence Chadwick, the English Channel swimmer, came in for her share of attention at one time. There were 'Watch Flo Go' and 'There's Nothing Fishy About Florence.'"

"It seems a shame that people waste their time writing this sort of thing. Even if by a miracle one such song should be good, the event would be ancient history before anything could be done with it."

Spruill On Sports

By FRANK SPRUILL, JR.
Record Sports Writer

With the present basketball season two-thirds gone, barring tournaments and other post-season engagements, eight of the 10 Harnett County Basketball teams will play tonight. Boone Trail and Benhaven have open dates and the rest of the 10 teams will be out still attempting to gain ground on undefeated Lillington.

It looks like a hopeless cause in most cases for no team is likely to beat Lillington's boys any time soon. These sharpshooters boys from the county seat have won 12 straight ball games this season. For any team in the conference to overtake them in time to represent the conference in the State Class A Tournament now would take quite some doing.

Dunn, the team with the nearest mathematical chance of doing this, would have to win the rest of its games while Lillington was dropping three games to teams they have already defeated this season. And the rest of the teams would have even greater odds to overcome.

The only team left on the Lillington schedule that should even make it interesting for the Lillington boys is Coats. At present Coats has won six and lost six, but the Coats boys started slow this season and are just now approaching their peak. They should give somebody a rough time in the tournament in a few weeks.

Bule's Creek and Dunn should also be two of the teams to watch in the tournament. Dunn has lost but three games (two to Lillington and one to Bule's Creek) and Bule's Creek has only lost four.

GIRLS' SITUATION — The girls' race is still wide open and not likely to be decided any time soon. In fact, it may go right down to the wire on the last playing date, February 19.

Benhaven is in the drivers' seat as they have lost but one. (No score has been found on the Benhaven-Boone Trail game but all other scores are in.) Dunn has lost two and Coats has dropped three. Being in first place with two-thirds of the season gone means something, but the Benhaven girls will have to work harder than the Lillington boys if they are to repeat as champions this year.

Tonight they have an open date in order to prepare for the last six games.

DUNN PLAYS TONIGHT — Tonight the Greenwaves will be playing at home again. They will meet Erwin in the Dunn Armory tonight in three games—the first starting at 6:30.

The last time the two schools met, Dunn took two of the three games played. The Erwin JV's won 35 to 16 in the opener, but the Dunn girls came out on the losing end of a 41-38 situation. The Dunn boys ran wild in running up a 66-41 score on the Redskins.

Since then, Erwin has won three games while the Dunn boys have won seven more, but the Redskins beat LaFayette worse than the Waves did last week (Dunn won by two, Erwin by ten).

The Dunn boys are averaging 52.17 points per game—making 626 in 12 games. They have given up 479 or 39.92 per game.

Daley Golf is leading Dunn scoring with 253 points which is an average of 21.9 a game. He also has looked good with his work under the backboard. Mac Turbinson is averaging 15.97 with 155 points and Bobby O'Gwin is averaging 10.56. All of the other averages are under three points.

The Waves hold wins over LaFayette (2), Bule's Creek, Benhaven, Boone Trail, Angier, Coats, Erwin and Anderson Creek.

The Erwin boys have defeated Anderson Creek, Angier and LaFayette.

Currently the Dunn boys are in second place in the county standings. Erwin is in eighth.

girls have usually been involved in close games too. They have won 10 games.

The Dunn girls have scored 606 points this season for a 50.5 average while yielding 445.

Kack White has been the big gun in most games and is now sporting a 19.47 average which is somewhat under her usual performance. Alice Prince is averaging 13.0 a game and Mary Lou Westbrook has a 10.57 average. Margaret O'Gwin, who has turned in some excellent playing in the past few games, is averaging 4.57. Margaret has scored 56 points this year and 48 of them have been in the last three games.

The three Greenwave starting guards—Kack Butt, Nancy Jernigan and Jean Sorrell, rank with the best in the county, but they'll have to be good tonight to stop Gerry Matthews. Her exact scoring average isn't known, but it is somewhere near 40 points per game.

Erwin is currently tied with LaFayette for fifth place; the Waves are in second.

Harnett County Conference games tonight:

Erwin at Dunn; Lillington at Angier; LaFayette vs Anderson Creek at Lillington; Bule's Creek at Coats; Boone Trail open; and Benhaven open.

Games Tuesday: Dunn at Coats; Boone Trail at Bule's Creek; Angier at Benhaven; Anderson Creek at Erwin and Lillington at LaFayette.

Harnett Training School Team Wins — Harnett County Training School basketball teams, both boys and girls, have had a full week with three games being played.

Monday night the school played Bladen County Training School with the game between the girls ending in a tie 23-23. The boys from the local school won over Bladen by a score of 38 to 34.

Tuesday night LaGrange school played the local teams with the Dunn girls winning over the school 30 to 13. The Dunn boys also won with a score of 49 to 44 being racked up. Thursday night both teams lost in a game with Elizabeth-town with the boys losing 65 to 38 and the girls 31 to 22.

The most outstanding offensive man for the local school was James Toon. For the girls Hazel Lee rated best. Best defensive players rated the most outstanding were Frances McLean and Lena Connell.

Next Thursday night the teams meet Lincoln High School of Louisville.

SPORTS SHORTS

FLEMING Mackell's scoring fame ended just in time to lift the Boston Bruins into a three-point lead over the New York Rangers today in the battle for the first playoff berth in the National Hockey League. Mackell, who had gone 18 straight games without scoring, had a hand in all three goals Thursday night as the Bruins beat the Chicago Black Hawks, 3-2, to gain ground on the Rangers, who tied Detroit, 3-3.

The Hershey Bears took over sole possession of third place in the American Hockey League to-day on the strength of a lopsided victory over the league-leading Buffalo Bisons. Buffalo jumped off to a 1-0 lead in the opening minutes of the game at Hershey, Pa. Bears' victory but then the Bears took over and went on a roll up an 8-2 decisions as Arnie Kulman, George Sullivan, and Oble O'Brien led the attack with two goals each.

Most National Basketball Association teams own one good center but the champion Minneapolis Lakers have two — George Mikan and rookie Clyde Lovellette. The two giant Lakers combined to score 40 points Thursday night to lead Minneapolis to a easy, 104-82, victory over the Baltimore Bullets. And in turn Mikan and Lovellette held Bullets' center Ray Felix to a mere 13 points, after the skinny center had collected 32 against the Lakers Wednesday night.

SAN FRANCISCO (U) — Having conquered just about everything else in the world of sports, Bob World's Greatest Athletic Athletics, today is turning his hand to the job of becoming a top-flight golfer. "I'm through as a track and field man," says the youngster who captured the world Olympic decathlon championship at the age of 17 in 1948. "I don't particularly care to play football or any other sport. From now on it's golf for me." And so begins the 24-year-old graduate of Stanford University in applying all the work, real and general thoroughness that he put into other sports.

NEW YORK (U) — J. Norman Lewis, the baseball players' attorney, charged today that they still are being given the run-around on their pension plan and that their proposals would be ignored during Saturday's joint meeting of the American and National Leagues.

Lewis was particularly irked because he felt the owners had sufficient time to frame their answers to the player's proposals. "I can not understand why our proposals will not be considered at that meeting because they have had plenty of time to think them over," the attorney said.

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George Washington To Test Strength

RALEIGH, N. C. (U) — George Washington University basketball pride of the old Southern Conference wades into the "tough" end of its schedule next week and Coach Bill Reinhart will discover how good his squad really is.

The poll-pollers' Council are heavy favorites to win the Southern Conference championship and a berth in the NCAA regional tournament. Their first post-season game for next week Duke is favored as the most likely NCAA representative from the Atlantic Coast Conference.

Reinhart figures his team led by the high-scoring Bobo brothers, Joe and John, classy Corky Dewitt and runner-up prospect Mike Karyer is the equal of anything the ACC can throw.

George Washington To Test Strength

Reinhart likes, will be the fourth ACC foe for GW—and the highest-ranked foe GW is likely to meet all season. Reinhart feels confident, however, that his squad can win Duke.

FACES SC — GW faces South Carolina and then the Frank Selvy-led Furman team in a swing into the Carolinas.

The Duke-GW game is only one of a rash of ACC-vs-Southern Conference clashes on next week's schedule. Others include North Carolina against Washington and Lee and Davidson-South Carolina.

Wade Forest swings into ACC action, meeting South Carolina and Clemson in a pair that could shoot the Deacons for the league top.

Top games tomorrow night pair the baskets of the recent Dixie Classic Duke and Wake as Atlanta and Wake Forest Christian College plays St. John's here in an inter-sectional game.

Jack Paar Finds His Niche In TV

NEW YORK (U) — Jack Paar, who has been one of the unhappiest misfits in broadcasting from time to time, feels he has at last found his proper niche in television.

His feeling seems to be confirmed by the fact the Columbia Broadcasting System made him a Christmas present of an hour show instead of the half hour he had been running since Nov. 15.

"The trouble with me has been that I have only things to sell and that's the gift of gab," Paar said. "If they let me get up and talk, I do all right."

"But it seems that in the past I was always getting involved in programs with formats not originally conceived for me, and those writers, poets or commentators were always getting in my way—or vice versa."

Paar's variety show on CBS-TV from 10 to 11 a. m. EST each Friday is exactly what he's always wanted. It's true that he has singers — and good ones — such as Richard Hayes and Edith Adams, ingenue lead in Broadway's "Wonderful Town" on the program. He also has an impish Latin named Pupi Campo, who is something of a comic in his own right as well as being the show's orly test-tube. But none of these get in Paar's way.

MOSTLY AD-LIB — "We just run the show on a catch-as-catch-can basis," Paar explained. "The music numbers have to be rehearsed, of course, but the rest of the program is pretty much on an ad-lib basis."

A good example of Paar's methods occur during the program.

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Don't buy auto insurance blind! Compare Allstate's feature by feature with any other auto insurance—and you'll know why Allstate is your biggest insurance value!

Sam H. Ausley, Jr., Allstate Agent For Harnett County
607 W. Kay St. DUNN, N. C. Phone 2209

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