

Mountaineers Drop Finale; Hazelwood Vi

After The Ball

By SANDY GRADY

"Listen, they said, if you're a young, striving sports writer and you got a new sports page, you better get a sensational idea for your first column. Not something to knock their eyes out, see? Something really hot, sensational, terrific. If it isn't great, they'll jump right over it and start working the crossword puzzle or maybe even reading the editorial."

This was a pretty harrowing thought. Somebody might really begin reading the editorials and get upset. They might start writing nasty letters to the editor and everybody would get stomach ulcers and things would really be in a mess.

So the young, striving sports writer looked out the plate-glass window at the old men talking on the courthouse steps and at the husky, shoulder of Eagle No. 1 Redue sitting up in the sunlight. "Sensational, colossal, terrific," he chanted softly to himself, thumping pensively through a back copy of Police Gazette. And just by chance his eye wandered away from the pretty girls and over to the baseball stadium in a study paper. It was an old paper and there in first place were the Philadelphia Athletics—big as life and twice as ugly as the living now.

This was a pretty fabulous thing, because the Athletics have been in the baseball cellar for so many years that green mold has settled on their shoes. This wasn't a sensational subject for a column, it was much closer to a miracle. He noted that the A's had won 17 straight games and thought about Connie Mack, easily the most patient man in the world.

It seems that Mr. McGillicuddy is in his eighties now and has been telling folks for years that he would retire from the game when he won another pennant. His team hasn't got the flag since 1931, and many people were thinking that Mr. McGillicuddy would set a new record for longevity maybe a couple of hundred years before he could retire. At the beginning of the season, Mr. Mac had smiled sweetly and said that New York and Boston would fight it out for the pennant. Besides being a patient man, you can see that he is a modest man. But now Mr. Mac sort of scratches his grey head and grins and admits he has a chance. "I have a lot of confidence in this team now, because they have a lot of confidence in themselves."

He has a reason to believe in his ball players. They won eight straight and after wallowing Detroit in a double-header, Mr. Mac jubilantly gave the team a holiday. But the A's were too baseball happy for that. They were mired in practicing the next day anyway. The next night they licked the St. Louis Browns in an 11-inning thriller and Mr. Mac must have wiped his brow after that one. The Philadelphia sports writers had been calling them the Apathetic A's for years. Now they had a new mouthful. The Atomic A's. Philadelphia's rubbed their eyes and wondered if Mr. Mac was feeding his boys radioactive breakers or something.

Of course it was the simple method of out-pitching and out-bunting the other club which was winning ball games for Connie Mack. The Athletics have always had solid pitching and an airtight defense. This year they have been showing an astonishing strength at the plate. Five men—Eddie Joost, Pete Suter, Hank Majecki, Mike Guerra and Elmer Valo—are pounding out a better than 300 batting average. Probably the best player on the club he boasted a 328 last year. He is Barney McCoskey, the old Detroit Tiger. Barney has not joined the A's in their wild enthusiasm for making home-bats and is hitting slightly under the 300 mark this year. When he gets over his a-tour-nant at his "team-mates" success, he will help a great deal.

The young, striving sports writer thought about all this and he looked in a more recent paper and saw that the A's had slipped into second place. But he knew that it would be a wild race, indeed, in the American League there's hot summer months and that Mr. McGillicuddy would always be sitting on the bench quietly fighting for his ball players to win the pennant. Though, of course, he wouldn't retire even then, because there wouldn't be any baseball without Mr. Mac and even one would take up horseshoes or pocket pool.

So he decided to write the Philadelphia Story and this is the way it came out.

Ammons Hits Home Run In Local Loss

The Waynesville Mountaineers wrote their final chapter in the 1948 baseball season Friday night—but they would rather everyone forgot the whole thing. The Mountaineers made about every error in the book as they dropped their last game to the Brevard Blue Devils, 7-5.

Even the herculean efforts of Jack Ammons could not get the Waynesville lads into the win column. Ammons got the ball game off to a fine start when he whacked a homer in the first inning with Shook on second base. It was a two-run lead for the Mountaineers and things looked good.

When the Waynesville club got on the other side of home plate it was a different matter. Brevard pushed across five runs in the first wild and woolly inning. Waynesville's uneven fielding helped some, but a home run by Grogan did most of the damage. Walker and Pettit were aboard and the homer tallied three runs.

Ammons walked in from his left field spot to take over the mound duties when Boyce Brock found the Brevard bats a little too big for him. Jack finished the game in fine three-hit style, but his mates could never find the power to overcome the Brevard lead.

Batting laurels for the day went to Ammons and Catcher Wiggins of Waynesville, both of whom collected two for three. Pettit led the Blue Devil plate parade with three for five.

Most distasteful thing in the scorebook though, was the 12 errors credited to the Mountaineer club—something that didn't make Coach C. E. Weatherby too happy.

Nevertheless, the Waynesville coach could overlook his lads downfall Friday to take stock of the past season. "It was a good year and I'm proud of the boys, all of them," said Coach Weatherby.

The Mountaineers won five games this year, lost only three.

The game with Brevard was the last time in a high school uniform for a quartet of Mountaineer players—Dick Powers, Charles Burgin, Ervin Shook and Jack Ammons.

THE LAST ROUNDUP

Waynesville	AB	R	H	E
Owens, 1b	4	0	0	2
Shook, ss	3	1	1	3
Ammons, 1b	3	2	2	0
Powers, 1b	3	0	0	2
Wiggins, c	3	2	2	0
Pettit, 3b	3	0	1	2
Burton, 2b	3	0	0	3
Robinson, cf	2	0	0	0
Caldwell, lf	1	0	0	0
Brock, p	0	0	0	0
Owens, cf	1	0	1	0
Totals	26	5	7	12

Brevard	AB	R	H	E
Waldrop, lf	5	0	2	0
Pettit, 2b	5	3	2	0
Clark, ss	4	1	0	0
Grogans, cf	4	1	1	1
Holder, rf	2	1	0	0
Barton, c	4	1	1	0
Morris, p	4	0	1	0
Byrd, 3b	4	0	2	0
Compton, 1b	3	0	0	0
Totals	37	7	9	1

Score by innings: Brevard 200 102 0-5; Waynesville 520 020 x-7



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Softballers Finally Get Season Rolling

Dayton Golfers Stroke 9-3 Win Over Champion

The Dayton Rubber golf team got into the win column Sunday afternoon when they defeated the Champion team from Canton by 9 to 4.

Team Manager R. L. Hendricks showed his mates how to do it in the first match when he shot a 74—the individual low for the afternoon. This combined with Charles Putnam's 77 to win the first match over Robinson (77) and Nichols (83) by a 2-1 margin.

The local outfit made a clean sweep of the second match, Aaron Prevost racked up a 75 and John than Woody at 78 to whitewash the Canton duet by 3-0. Morfort of Champion had an 82, Dewese had a 76.

Eric Clausen with an 83 and Joe Davis with an 82 eked out a 2 1/2 to 1 1/2 victory in the third meeting. Gardner had a 75 for Canton and Schull fell behind with a 95.

The fourth and final round match went even-Stephen M. H. Bowles had an 85 for the Waynesville team, and his partner, White-ner Prevost shot an 81. But the Canton club made a strong finish—Sams went around in 79 and Justice made it in 85. The match went 1 1/2 to 1 1/2. Manager Hendricks said that his boys will take a rest this Sunday, but will be on the greens again Sunday week when they face the Billmore Bleachery team of Sayles.

George Washington's gift to his bride was a tiny watch which she wore on a ribbon bow pinned to her bodice.

Everything was set for the opening of the 1948 softball season Monday night—Parkman's Hardware and the High School team were scheduled to meet at 7 o'clock under the lights of Waynesville high school stadium in a preliminary game.

Feature of the evening was the slated game between Spic and Span and the Tannery. This will be a game in the major league division between two teams that consistently put out winning clubs.

George Bischoff was elected president of the Waynesville-Hazelwood Softball League to replace Ed Spears when the latter moved to Asheville. Other officials of the league are Bill Porter, secretary; treasurer; Elmer Dudley and George Bischoff, executive committee; Elmer Dudley, All-Star manager.

Games will be played on Monday, Tuesday and Friday evenings. The All-Star team will play its games on Wednesdays if things work out in organizing schedules for the team, Thursday evening will be available for rained-out games.

President Bischoff expected a large crowd for the opening festi-

Newton Sweeps Double Header From Morganton

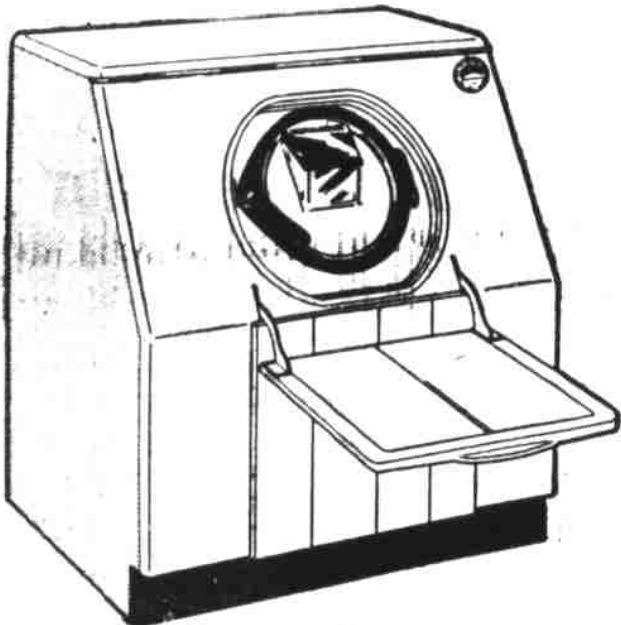
In Western North Carolina league play over the weekend Newton-Conover swept a doubleheader from Morganton by the scores of 9-4 and 5-4. Conover won the route for Newton in the first game scattering seven hits. In the second victory, Bonchick was the plate star when he launched and two home runs.

Lincolnton and Hendersonville engaged in a track meet with Lincolnton tallied 13 runs to Hendersonville's 10. The winners racked up 15 hits.

Lenoir beked Shelby with a 14-bit bombardment, 7-4. Game lined out a home run for the visitors.

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Fishing Regulations In Park Given By Official

Clyde Humbles St. Johns, 7-4

The Clyde high school softball team has downed St. John's for the second time this season—this time to the tune of 7-4. Jenkins was on the mound for the Clyde lads, twirling a neat four-hitter.

Many Former Junior Players Now Leaguers

BOSTON—(AP)—The American Legion's Junior Baseball program, now 21 years old, got a big boost in the opening game this season between Philadelphia and Boston. Fifteen of the 18 players who started the contest were graduates of Legion play.

The entire Red Sox infield had Boston ball experience, and three of them—Stan Spence, Vern Stephens and Bobby Doerr—hit successive homers during the tilt.

One and One Are Two For "Slugger Mike"

CHICAGO—(AP)—Catcher Mike Tresh of the Chicago White Sox belted a home run early this season against Detroit's Hal Newhouser. It was the second four-master Mike had hit in his major league career which dates back to 1938. Commented Tresh after his second shot cleared the wall:

"Think of all the homers I've missed by not swinging for the fences." His team mates have dubbed him "Slugger Mike."

In the interest of all fishermen in Haywood County, the 1948 fishing regulations for the Great Smoky National Park have been announced by Chief Ranger Jake Needham.

The fishing season will extend this year from May 16 to August 31, between sunrise and sunset only. Ranger Needham said that all park waters are open to fishing in the Carolina portion of the park except Lands Creek, Mings Creek, Chestnut Branch, and the part of Raven Fork and its tributaries which lie upstream from the Cherokee Indian Reservation.

Fishing this year is permitted with any artificial flies or lures having one hook. Natural bait is also permitted unless it is minnows or other bait fish, alive or dead.

The National Park has no restrictions on the size of trout or bass taken in its waters, Ranger Needham added that any small fish which are returned to the water should be carefully removed from the hook with moist hands to prevent injury.

Fishermen are limited to ten trout or eight bass in a one day catch. No more than ten fish should be in a man's creel at any time. There is no maximum limit on other species.

The park makes no charge for fishing. Persons fishing in the park for the first time must obtain a resident or non-resident permit from either the State or County.

Snapbeans cut into small pieces and mixed with diced celery make a different and delicious vegetable dish. They may be served plain or in an herb-flavored cream sauce.

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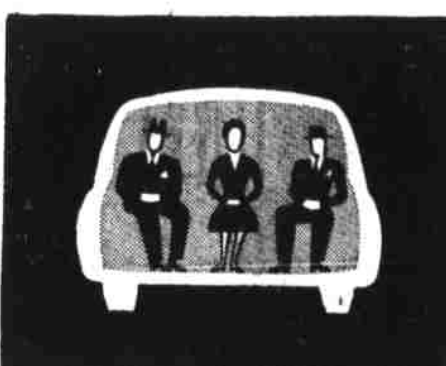
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