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The Cardinal's If

That Enos Slaughter, the Allensville boy who's doing quite a bit of cavorting around in the outer gardens for St. Louis' Cardinals of the National League, is being counted on heavily in this year's campaign can be easily seen. The Sporting News in sizing up the chances of the Cards in the coming race has this to say:

"If Enos Slaughter, Medwick, and Mize all click at top form, the Cardinals would have a one-two-three punch unequalled in any league, and there is no good reason to consider that a remote possibility. Slaughter pounded all pitchers during the early weeks of 1938, went into a slump, stewed over it and stayed in its shackles until the season was waning. But he can hit and he seems to be off to a good start this year."

Later in the article in making a final analysis, the writer puts it this way:

"However, if Medwick, Mize and Slaughter have great years and if two of the young pitchers come through to help Warneke, Weiland and Curt Davis, and if—oh, what a word!—the infield combination were to turn out fairly well, the Cardinals easily could be the surprise team of 1939. It's not too likely that it will, but if you like your shots long, you may take a shine to the fast, well-conditioned team that Ray Blades will lead into the new baseball war."

As Enos Hits

From these dispatches, it would seem that a paraphrase such as, "As Slaughter goes, so go the Cardinals," might be predicted. The team, as a whole at present, is something of a question mark in the minds of the so-called experts. That they may finish

anywhere from sixth to first place has been predicted. Be that as it may, this column has faith in the ability of Slaughter to hit the ball and is willing to predict a great year for Person County's contribution to major league baseball.

A Sore Spot

One of the biggest problems facing big league managers today is what to do with sore-arm pitchers. Carl Hubbell, Johnny Allen, Schoolboy Rowe, Dizzy Dean, Lefty Grove, Wes Ferrell all in recent years have either had operations or long forced layouts because of arm troubles. It has become a serious problem and the dearth of good pitchers available in baseball today is alarming.

Alex Has The Cure

Calling modern pitchers "sissies." Grover Cleveland Alexander, in collaboration with Harry T. Brundidge of the St. Louis Star-Times in the April 8 issue of the Liberty magazine, presents a scathing indictment of training methods and of the handling of hurlers. Alex claims he had a sore arm for 20 years and names Christy Mathewson, Ed Walsh, Joe Wood and Walter Johnson (although Johnson said the other day he had a sore arm only once, the day he pitched a no-hitter), among the twirlers who were chronic sufferers.

as the prime reason for many so-called lame arms and tells of seeing a trainer doing the unpardonable act of pulling a pitcher over his shoulder by the athlete's throwing arm. Alexander also declares the elimination of the old custom of having a pitcher keep his muscles in condition by throwing to batting practice hitters on the first or second day after pitching a regular game does not allow the hurler to keep in condition.

Too much coddling, too many attempts to throw fire balls and unintelligent training methods are responsible for sore flippers, the former National League pitching ace maintains. He blames rubbing tables and dressing rooms

If he managed a team, Alexander emphasized that he would start his pitchers running around the outfield fences at 2 p. m. every day and keep them running until their tongues dried out, on the theory that a hurler is no better than his legs and that he cannot get into condition sitting on a bench, waiting for a sore arm to heal.

Should Be Good

Duke's baseball attraction tomorrow should attract a record number of fans. The appearance of a major league club, with so many former Duke players on the roster, against such a top-notch team as the 1939 Blue Devils would be worth the trip within itself. The appearance of Judge Kenesaw Mountain Landis, the high commissioner of baseball and a colorful figure in his own right, should add to the final touch to already elaborate ceremonies. This Easter Monday attraction is sure to attract a fine crowd. Don't miss it.

Baseball Manufacturers Show How It's Done



Even the manufacturing of baseballs calls for mass production. These pictures show the construction of balls used by the American and National leagues. Left: By machine the cushion center, rubber over cork, is wound with woolen yarn. Next comes a wool winding, then a fine cotton winding. Center: The horsehide cover is inspected, and (right) is sewed on by hand. The ball is examined for weight at each step, and undergoes close inspection during each stage.

Joe Di Maggio's Cannon-Ball Act Sets Pace For Yankee's 1939 Hitting Circus

WITH THE YANKEES — The great Southwest has been getting a gander at Joseph Paul DiMaggio, Jr., of the world champion Yankees and Fisherman's Wharf, San Francisco, for the first time. In 1936, he hurned his foot in a hipper-dipper. In 1937, he injured his arm in Tallahassee. In 1938, he held out all during the training season. So you see, Texas and Oklahoma never have seen Joe in action. DiMaggio has brought back memories of the Babe Ruth heyday. The crowds want to see him hit. Joe never looked better in his life than he has in this, his first complete training season with the New York club. He is in great shape, clear of eye, fast and with an improving arm. McCarthy says that no honor on attack is beyond the reach of Big Wop this year—homers, batting, runs driven in, total bases, anything and everything.

Last October, DiMag weighed 202. He left St. Petersburg scaling 185. You never saw a man work so hard. First on the field. Last to quit. This sure looks like his year. It is entirely up to Joe. If he keeps in his present shape, they won't be able to stop him. Charlie Keller quite definitely is the new left fielder, and McCarthy predicts he will hit better than .330. Charlie spent the last week in St. Pete nursing a groin injury, which he had aggravated by too early return to play. McCarthy warned the man not to go into action again until he was sure the groin was right. This accounts for the absence of the Newark graduate from Yankee box scores.

Joe Gallagher has made a place for himself, but what to do with the big righthanded hitting outfielder is a problem. McCarthy must be thinking of Gallagher in terms of first base, because the other day he asked the Buffalo boy if he ever had played there, and would he like to try.

The first base situation remains a somewhat vexing one. All sorts of stories about that have been printed.

One morning paper in New York ran a yarn from St. Pete that McCarthy had issued an ultimatum to Lou, that unless he work improved, Joe would not start Gehrig in the American League race.

McCarthy was miffed by this yarn. Gehrig definitely will open this season at first base. McCarthy owes it to Lou and the things Gehrig has done.

"What I will do if Lou fails to improve will be decided when we get to that," said Marse Joe.

Gehrig said he never had done much in St. Pete, and was sure that on the road he would show big improvement. The whole camp has been rooting hard for the big first sacker. He has been worrying. He has pulled away from balls pitched right over the plate, his timing has been bad, he hasn't been able to bring his bat around fast enough. His running has been woeful, his fielding not so good.

Gehrig certainly has been deteriorating. But he will start the season and he is likely to stick at the bag all the way through. Said McCarthy the other day: "If I did want to displace Lou, where would I get his successor?"

Henrich Hunting for His Hits

Tom Henrich still is working out around first, but in Florida his batting was nothing to write pieces about. He did perk up in Tallahassee, but so did everybody else against a Class D club with a couple of scared kid pitchers who gave up 23 hits for 40 bases, with 22 runs.

McCarthy has a good-looking club. Red Rolfe, late debuter, is coming along at last. Crosetti has looked better. Gordon is going to be better than ever.

Dickey is great, and Rosar is proving a worthy assistant. The one problem is to sort out the young pitchers.

Atley Donald and Marvin Breuer look as if they have landed. McCarthy also is carrying Jack Haley and Joe Beggs, but has returned Marius Russo to Newark.

McCarthy likes Donald, who hitch-hiked into camp some years ago from Louisiana, and who worked in a St. Pete grocery to make ends meet while he was trying out. Breuer has been in the chain for five years and must get his chance. He is a pupil of Wally Schang, who caught Breuer at Rolla, Mo., and Joplin. Breuer is a civil engineer from Missouri School of Mines.

When the Yanks left St. Pete they were joined by Umpire Lou Kolls, who had been with the Red Sox. Kolls warned the Yanks Boston had a fine club.

The Yankees quit St. Pete without announcing they would return. However, return they surely will. They want to come back to a new ball park, however. The present plant is rattle-trap and Al Lang is working hard to get local men together to build a steel and concrete park in time to welcome the Yanks and the Cards in 1940.

The Cards outdrew the Yanks in a dozen games in St. Pete, six of which involved both clubs. St. Louis had close to 31,500, the

Yankees, Bruins Favored To Repeat In Pennant Chases

The New York Yankees are 1-to-2 to win the American league pennant and the Chicago Cubs are 2-to-1 in the National league, according to figures released yesterday by James J. Carroll, St. Louis commissioner. These odds mean that the player risks \$1 to win \$2 on the Cubs and wagers \$2 to win \$1 on the Yankees.

Yanks around 30,000. This may be traced to the fact that the champions played Newark and Kansas City, which failed to draw.

McCarthy is especially gratified over the showings of Oral Hildebrand and Wes Ferrell. Red Ruffing, Lefty Gomez, Monte Pearson, Johnny Murphy, Bump Hadley and Steve Sundra all have done well. In Florida, Ruffing led the staff with only one earned run off his delivery.

Duke-Athletics Meeting Monday To Be Big Event

ALLENSVILLE SOFTBALL TEAM TAKES VICTORY

The Allensville girls won their second softball game Wednesday when they routed the Hurdle Mills girls 37 - 13. The other victory was from Hurdle Mills. Allensville made a merry-go-round of the third inning when they bounced six hits to start off and then, aided by numerous errors, went on to bat around three times and scored 27 runs. Louise Solomon, A. Brann, and Crumpton hit homers.

Line-up: Allensville — Crumpton, 3b; Tuck, p; C. Evans, ss; F. Evans, cf; Lois Soloman, rf; A. Brann, 1b; M. Brann, 2b; West, ss; Moorefield, lf; Louise Solomon, c. Hurdle Mills — Hall, c; Rimmer, p; Moore, p; Foushee, 1b; Rice, 2b; Evans, 3b; Breeze, ss; Berry, sf; Jones, cf; McCulloch, rf; Hamlett, lf.

Allensville will play Bushy Fork Friday afternoon at Allensville and the strong Prospect Hill team next Tuesday at Prospect Hill.

Carroll figures the National league race an airtight proposition, with the Cubs, Giants, Cincinnati and Pittsburgh closely bunched. Carroll rates the Giants and Reds as the probable contending teams in the National with the Cardinals quoted at 8 to 1.

Carroll looks for Detroit, Boston and Cleveland to give the Yankees some competition in the American league. The St. Louis commissioner is offering 100 to 1 against the Browns and 200 to 1 against the Athletics. Carroll's prices follow:

AMERICAN	Odds	NATIONAL	Odds
New York	1-2	Chicago	2-1
Detroit	4-1	New York	5-2
Boston	9-2	Cincinnati	7-2
Cleveland	5-1	Pittsburgh	9-2
Washington	15-1	Cardinals	8-1
Chicago	15-1	Boston	25-1
Browns	100-1	Brooklyn	25-1
Phila	200-1	Phila.	500-1

Judge K. M. Landis To Attend And Take Part In Pre-Game Ceremony

Durham, N. C.—With Judge K. M. Landis and other baseball notables on hand, the game between Duke and the Philadelphia Athletics in Duke park Monday looms as one of the most colorful events in the history of college baseball.

By coincidence, both Duke and baseball are this year celebrating the centennials of their origins and a brief ceremony will be staged just before the game.

Coach Jack Coombs of Duke will preside at that time and there will be greetings from Judge Landis, the high commissioner of baseball, from President W. P. Few of Duke, Connie Mack, president and manager of the Athletics and Judge W. G. Bramham, president of the national association of professional baseball leagues.

With this and many other angles to make it a baseball "natural", Duke officials are making preparations for the largest ever to see a major league-college team exhibition in the South.

Manager Connie Mack has announced that Chubby Dean, who has been going great in spring training, will start on the mound for the A's and that he will be followed by Dave Smith, another former Blue Devil who has also been hurling well this spring.

At second base will be Wayne Ambler, one of the greatest second sackers and hitters in Duke baseball history, and doing the catching will be Harold Wagner, another former Blue Devil. All these boys were teammates at Duke.

To make it a full week-end for followers of Duke ball players now in the majors, the Cincinnati Reds with two former Blue Devils—Bill Werber and Pete Naktens—in their lineup, will meet Boston Red Sox in an exhibition in Durham athletic park Sunday afternoon.

Remainder of the A's lineup against Duke: Miles of; Siebert, lb; Chapman, rf; Johnson, lf; Nagel, 3b; Lillard, ss.

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