

Tigers Are Heading For Wrong Kind Of Record

By Harry B. Stapler
CHICAGO, April 21 (AP)—You'll get a straight-shooting answer from manager Red Rolfe if you ask what's wrong with Detroit. Tigers—only major league team that hasn't won a game this season.

Red is a little sensitive about the plight of his club. After all, Detroit is the only team in the majors that's never finished in the cellar. He doesn't want to spoil that mark.

Rolfe certainly doesn't think his club will wind up in the cellar—"absolutely not."

He's got another, more immediate worry. His Tigers are headed toward the kind of a record you try to avoid.

The Tigers lost their first seven games, three to St. Louis Browns and four to Cleveland Indians, and are now only six defeats short of tying the record for most consecutive opening-season losses.

The Tigers of 1920 and Washington Senators of 1904 jointly hold the record of 13.

Red pin-points his trouble thus: "We need some long-ball hitting from our infield."

And then Red amends it: "We need some long-ball hitting—period."

The Tigers have rapped only 10 extra base hits to their foes' 20. Percentage-wise the club is hitting almost as well as opponents. But you can't win on singles, Red keeps stressing.

The Tigers' long-term problem is its lack of infield power—and it's not likely to be solved unless a trade is made or Red experiments drastically.

"Our immediate problem is to get outfielder Vic Wertz and third baseman George Kell hitting the way they should," said Red, who may switch Wertz to first base to help the infield headache.

Wertz, whose 27 homers led the club last season, has only two hits—a homer and a double—in 25 trips. Kell, annually a contender for the batting title, is hitting only .182.

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Aces, Beavers Resume Series Tonight At Que.

QUEBEC, April 21 (CP)—"Tomorrow night's game will tell the tale," said Coach Punch Imlach tonight after putting his Quebec Aces through a light practice session.

"I don't like to make predictions, but if we win tomorrow, I think it will be four straight for us. We aim to win all the games we can." Fourth game will be played here Thursday.

Imlach left the ringside at a boxing match here to chat about the "crucial" game in the Alexander Cup final with Saint John N. E. Beavers, Maritime Major Hockey League champions.

Aces hold a four-point lead after trouncing Beavers in the first two games of the point series. They won 4-1 Thursday and 5-3 Saturday. Two more wins will give them the trophy.

"Everything considered, I think Beavers remain a big threat. They're a fast-skating bunch. Two things may go against them: "Tiredness after a long train ride. Beavers will arrive here tomorrow."

"They'll be playing on a bigger rink."

The trip may have some effect on the Beavers. "I hope so," said Imlach. But then, he added, Beavers played 108 games this season, including their 90-game season. That season is 30 games more than the Quebec Senior League's regular schedule, won this year by Aces.

"They've done a lot of traveling. And anyway, we won our first game Thursday, although we got off the train only two hours before game time."

Another big factor will be the rink size. Imlach said the Saint John rink is smaller than Quebec's. "Ours is 200 feet by 85, about 15 feet longer and five wider than theirs."

"If they can stay with us on this larger rink, we'll have to work hard."

Some of Imlach's charges with him at the fights, while the others were taking it easy at home. "We're in top shape," said the coach.

Sees Coast League Next To N. H. L.

EDMONTON, April 21 (CP)—Manager Jim Paul of Edmonton Flyers reports there is a "definite feeling that before long" the Pacific Coast Hockey League will be the professional circuit next in importance to the National Hockey League.

Paul made the statement on his return from talks with officials of Detroit Red Wings, parent club of the P.C.H.L. Flyers.

He reported the status of several clubs of the American Hockey League, now second to the N.H.L. is clouded because of dwindling attendance. Paul said the more successful A.H.L. cities may wind up being annexed by the N. H. L. with the others meeting the same fate as the now defunct United States League.

Flyers are looking for a coach to replace former Detroit defenseman Doug McGaughey, who guided Edmonton to a fourth-place finish in the eight-team P. C. H. L. this season. It is believed they seek Sid Abel, veteran captain of the Red Wings.

Three Kentucky Derby Entries On Injured List

NEW YORK, April 21 (AP)—Three of the east's Kentucky Derby candidates, including Tom Fool, the two-year-old champion of 1951, were declared out of the May 2 three-year-old classic today because of illness or injuries.

Tom Fool, winner of \$155,910 for owner Jack Whitney last year, developed a cough after finishing second to Master Fiddle in the Wood Memorial at Jamaica last Saturday. Trainer John Gaver decided the colt was "too valuable" to risk in the derby.

At the same time, Starmount Stable's Primate and Max Kahlbauer's Jampol also were declared out of the derby because of injuries suffered in the running of the Wood. Alabama-owned Allardier, from the Harborvale stable, also was withdrawn from the derby today because of an injury suffered in a prep race at Keeneland.

Primate, which ran a wobbly 11th in the Wood, rapped an ankle severely leaving the starting gate. Jampol cut his mouth in the starting gate before finishing sixth in the Wood and will be prepped for the Preakness, May 17, instead of the derby. Allardier suffered an injury to a hind foot after getting in close quarters with Gushing O in the Dixiana purse at Keeneland.

These withdrawals left five eastern hopefuls ready to make the trip to Churchill Downs and one already on the grounds.

Will Seek Berth On Olympic Team

GLACE BAY, N. S., April 21 (CP)—Roy Appleton, Maritime middle-distance runner, will seek a berth on Canada's Olympic team—if the Maritimes can straighten out relations with the Amateur Athletic Union of Canada.

The Maritime branch of the A. A. U. folded last year and no one ever got around to forming the suggested track and field organization.

Appleton may be able to make it just the same, however, as a Glace Bay organization has offered to pay the \$100 required to register with the A. A. U.

Appleton, a strong performer, has been beaten only once in the Maritimes, a defeat he avenged twice.

LITTLE SPORT



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THE GUARDIAN, CHARLOTTETOWN

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Place In Dodgers System For Hustling Baseball Players Says O'Connor

Amiable Bill O'Connor, former player, umpire and now scout for the Brooklyn Dodgers threw the first strike of the 1952 baseball season in Prince Edward Island yesterday with a series of talks and films in Charlottetown.

A veteran of 28 years in the horsehide and ash game, O'Connor spoke in schools, at club meetings and to a large group of kids and adults at the Armouries last night.

As the Dodgers scout for the New England and Maritime area O'Connor is making his annual spring visit to the centres in which the Dodgers have an interest in baseball players and from where they hope to obtain players for their farm system and even perhaps the parent club in the years ahead.

Working with the cooperation of the Department of Physical Fitness who pressed the Dodgers front office into sending him here four years ago and who have been successful in bringing him back each year since. Bill arrived here yesterday morning and found the bases loaded as far as his schedule for appearances was concerned.

He led off with a talk to the West Kent School kids in the morning, followed up with a noon address to the Rotarians, an afternoon session at Queen Square and an evening talk to the Gyros. A round tripper of films, talks and discussions at the Armouries ended the day's activities.

Bill is especially interested in Little League ball through which kids from the ages of nine to twelve may be given an opportunity to develop their talents. In all his talks he stressed this point and the idea was warmly received both by the kids and the clubs who are planning to work with the Physical Fitness Dept. and the Aables in an undertaking this summer.

In all his appearances he showed a film of the Little League World Series between teams from Connecticut and Texas. This film also depicted scenes of training and instructions for young players as carried out at Springfield University.

Not only did he stress the idea of developing the kids into ball players but he also pointed out the other advantages which resulted. For example he pointed out the decrease in juvenile delinquency—another proof of the old saying: "It's better to have a kid stealing bases than a purse."

But O'Connor is not only interested in the little kids but the big ones as well. "Anyone under 21 years of age who is playing ball should make an attempt to attend the Dodgers School in the Maritimes this summer," he told the group in the games room at the Armouries last night.

In his talk the Dodgers scout pointed out that it was only five years ago that his club showed an interest in Maritime ball players and that they had the first big league club to head this way looking for talent.

Prospects were so good that the Dodgers sponsored a team at Edmundston, N.B. under the guidance of a capable manager by the name of Cairns. Any ball player in the Maritimes who shows promise and merits a try-out will be sent to this club where Cairns can look him over and help him, stated O'Connor.

Hustle Needed
The main thing that a player must show is hustle, he continued. Exhibit lots of hustle and a lot of things will be overlooked, the scout advised his audience.

He also stressed three other qualifications which the players should exhibit, namely sacrifice, study and a retention of knowledge. Expounding on those three principles he stated that the young player must be willing to make effort to improve himself, he should study all the facts about baseball he can and he must put what he learns into practice.

One of the most successful Maritime players in baseball is young Billy Harris who played here with Moncton two years ago. Last year the 19-year-old Harris played with a team in Georgia in Class D League. As a pitcher he had a 17-8 record and a .295 batting average.

This year Billy has made two jumps into Class B ball and is playing with Miami. He has started once and won. O'Connor stated very pleased with Harris not only with his ability but also his willingness to learn and the great effort he put into it.

S'ide Ladies Bowling League In Semi-Finals

The first game in the semi-finals in the Summerside Ladies Commercial Bowling League was held last evening in the Summerside Bowling Alleys.

Four teams were in competition, and the highest pin fall in two games will determine which two teams will compete in the finals for the trophy.

In last night's games the Beavers were in competition with the Lucky 5, while the Newcomers opposed the Jolly 5.

The results of the games between Newcomers and Jolly 5 were not immediately available last evening.

The results of the other games were:

Beavers
Mrs. Ruby Washburn 177 224 150
Miss Beverly White 158 119 189
Mrs. Helen Tupper 199 189 194
Mrs. Edith Dodds 222 176 139
Mrs. Lena Rogers 186 234 207
Total for Beavers—2773.

Lucky 5
Miss Mary MacMurdo 222 175 169
Mrs. Bernice Perry 195 156 184
Miss Kay Johnston 159 260 201
Mrs. Willa Somers 139 164 186
Mrs. E. Compton 187 190 168
Total for Lucky 5—2735.

As a result of last night's games, the Beavers now enjoy a lead of 38 pins over the Lucky 5 when they resume the final game in the semi-finals—5.

Prize For Island Kids

"Chick" Whelan who last year coached in Summerside as a member of the Dodgers organization told O'Connor last fall that "Those kids on the Island have more natural ability than the kids in any given section of Boston."

We are here to try and develop that ability, stated Bill.

Previous to showing the Little League film, two films on baseball were shown. One was the 1951 World Series between the Yankees and the Giants. This film depicted scenes of the Giants-Dodgers three game play-off which ended with Bobby Thompson's pennant winning home run.

The film showed the events leading up to the home run. The Dodgers three-run eighth inning which put them ahead 4-1; Branca walking to the mound to replace Newcome in the ninth with Thompson at the plate; Branca's first pitch, a called strike and then the home run blast. As an anti-climax it pictures Eddy Stanky and Leo Durocher engaging in their joyous round and tumble act along the third base line.

The highlights of all six World Series games were pictured including such events as Gil MacDougall's bases loaded homer, a round tripper by Joe DiMaggio, Monte Irvin's ten hits and the pitching of such stars as Maglie, Raschi, Lonat, Reynolds, Koso and Hearn.

The other film reviewed the growth of baseball from the time of its inception. Shown in action were Matheson, Hubbell, Speaker, Ruth, Gehrig, Fox, Ott, DiMaggio, Williams, Musial, Feller and a host of others.

At the conclusion of the meeting Bill expressed his thanks to Brigadier Bill Reid, Art Perry, George Francis, Charlie Ryan and the other three who were aiding him in his three day stand in the province.

Today Bill will conduct another series of talks. He will be at Spring Park, Parkdale and Prince Street School and Saint Dunstan's University. This evening he will address those who wish to hear him and see the films at the Holy Redeemer Community Centre at 7.30.

British Soccer

LONDON, April 21 (Reuters)—Manchester United today had the English Soccer League championship almost in the bag after whipping London's Chelsea Club 3-0.

United's only contender, the "glamour club" Arsenal, made the championship a virtual certainty for the Midland club by going down 3-1 to underdog West Bromwich Albion.

In a game that was never in doubt, Arsenal saw the eclipse of its chances for the season's prize double—the league crown and the Soccer Association knockout cup.

Manchester United, with 85 points, now is two ahead of Arsenal. To gain the league championship, Arsenal not only will have to beat the Manchester squad in their last league match next Saturday, but pile up enough goals to draw ahead on goal average—an almost impossible task.

In the cup competition final Arsenal meets Newcastle United May 2.

Results of soccer matches played today in the United Kingdom:

English League

Division I
Manchester United 3 Chelsea 0
West Bromwich Albion 3 Arsenal 1

Division II
Brentford 1 West Ham United 1 (tie)
Cardiff 3 Blackburn 1

Division III (Southern)
Port Vale 1 Walsall 0

Division III (Northern)
York 2 Barrow 1

Scottish League
Hibernian 3 Motherwell 1

Division "A"
Dumbarton 1 Albion 4

Friendly Matches
Torquay United 2 Leicester 6
St. Johnstone 7 East Fife 0.

"Chick" Whelan In Korea

"Chick" Whelan of Boston, who coached the Summerside baseball teams last season, is on front line flying duty in Korea. It was learned here yesterday from Brooklyn Dodgers scout Bill O'Connor.

Whelan, who was captain in the Marine Corps reserve list was called back into action last September and left here just before the ball season concluded. He helped bring several island ball titles to Summerside.

Dodgers' Scout To Visit S'ide

Bill O'Connor, well known Brooklyn Dodgers scout, will be in Summerside on Wednesday.

He will visit the High School at 3 P.M. and talk to the boys there. A banquet will be given in his honor at Robsons Restaurant at 6 P.M. and there will be a general meeting at the Legion Home at 8 o'clock, where various matters pertaining to baseball will be discussed.

It is hoped there will be a good attendance at this meeting, not only from Summerside but also from outlying districts of Prince County that are interested in the promotion of this summer sport.—S

Saddler Inducted Into U. S. Army

NEW YORK, April 21 (AP)—F. Atherweight boxing champion Sandy Saddler was inducted into the U. S. Army today.

The lanky, 25-year-old New York Negro will serve for two years. If precedent is followed, Saddler will be permitted to retain his title until he leaves the army.

Abe Greene, National Boxing Association commissioner, said in Paterson, N. J., that Saddler's title will be held for him in all N. B. A. states while he is in the army.

New French Boxer Wins 10-Rounder

PARIS, April 21 (AP)—Charles Humex, 24-year-old rising French middleweight, tonight hammered out a 10-round decision over Laurent Dauthuille in a bloody battle before 15,000 fans at the Palais des Sports.

Humex weighed 166. Dauthuille 168 1-2.

The victory gave the battling Frenchman a big boost towards a possible encounter this summer with Sugar Ray Robinson, world middleweight champion.

Ray Famechon Retains Title

NOTTINGHAM, England, April 21 (AP)—Ray Famechon, French holder of the European featherweight championship, successfully defended his title tonight by stopping Britain's Ronnie Clayton in the fifth round of a 15-round bout. Clayton retired in the fifth because of a badly cut left eye. Famechon weighed 126 to Clayton's 126.

It was Famechon's fourth victory over Clayton.

Undergoes Operation

CINCINNATI, April 21 (AP)—Wally Post, Cincinnati Red's outfielder, was operated on today for appendicitis.

New York Yankees In 5-1 Win Over Athletics

Probable Pitchers For Today's Games

NEW YORK, April 21 (AP)—Probable pitchers for tomorrow's Major League games, (won and lost records in parentheses).

National League
Boston at Brooklyn (2, twi-night)—Wilson (0-0) and Surock (0-1) or Conley (0-1) vs Van Cuyk (1-0) and Roe (1-0)
New York at Philadelphia (night)—Jansen (1-0) or Hearn (0-0) vs Meyer (0-1)
Chicago at Pittsburgh (night)—Rush (0-0) vs Friend (1-0)
St. Louis at Cincinnati (night)—Mizel (0-0) vs Raffensberger (1-0)

American League
Philadelphia at New York—Martin (0-1) vs Sain (0-0)
Washington at Boston—Haynes (0-0) vs Henry (1-0)
Cleveland at St. Louis (night)—Garcia (1-0) vs Byrne (1-0)
Detroit at Chicago—Gray (0-1) vs Tobbs (0-1)

By The Associated Press
Vic Raschi wasn't at his best Monday but brilliant support along with air-tight relief pitching by Bob Kuzava enabled the New York Yankee right-hander to gain a 5-1 victory over his favorite "cousins," Philadelphia Athletics.

The American League triumph was Raschi's second of the season, both over the Athletics, and his 22nd lifetime victory in 24 divisions over the A's. Philadelphia hasn't defeated Raschi since Aug. 13, 1950.

In the only other day game Washington's Julio Moreno struggled to a 3-2 triumph over Boston Red Sox. Moreno was touched for 11 hits but was tight in the pinches when he was lifted after the A's loaded the bases with two out. Kuzava came on and slammed the door the rest of the way.

Little Bobby Shantz allowed only five hits in six innings including a homer by Mickey Mantle but two errors sabotaged his work. The A's stranded 10 runners and hit into four double plays.

Raschi lingered until the eighth when he was lifted after the A's loaded the bases with two out. Kuzava came on and slammed the door the rest of the way.

Ferris Fain, Philadelphia first baseman and defending American League batting champion, snapped out of his slump. Fain, hitless in his first 22 trips collected two singles and drove in the only A's run.

The Senators broke a 2-2 tie with a run in the eighth when pinch hitter Sam Mele drove a long fly to centre with the bases loaded to enable Mickey Vernon to score from third after the catch.

Boston manager Lou Boudreau was tossed out of the game in the fifth for disputing a decision by umpire Art Paparella. Paparella ruled, on an appeal, that Walt Drogo had been hit by rookie Fayne Throneberry's batted ball. Throneberry had smashed an apparent run-scoring single into right field.

In night games, Philadelphia Phils entertained New York Giants and Chicago Cubs tangled with the Pirates in Pittsburgh.

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