

SPORTS

Page 6 The Guardian Tuesday, May 10, 1955

Montreal Royals Sweep Series With Columbus Jets

COLUMBUS, O. (CP)—The league-leading Montreal Royals completed a sweep of their four-game series with Columbus Monday, dealing the Jets a sixth straight loss, behind Craig Traig's four-hit pitching.

Catcher Al Lakeman's sixth-inning home run robbed the 24-year-old right-handed Craig of a shut-out and broke a string of 17 consecutive scoreless innings for the fading Columbus club.

Starting southpaw Carl Duser, a three-time winner, was pinned with the loss and driven from the mound in the sixth by Charlie Neal's double and Rocky Nelson's triple.

Catcher John Bucha belted his first homer of the year in the fifth inning. Montreal got only six hits, but needed no more as Craig proved a master throughout in winning his third decision without a defeat.

Sport Echoes From Prince County

The Summerside Athletic Association after a discouraging start this spring, is getting a real break in the acquiring for president and vice-president of the organization.

Men of the caliber of Horace MacFarlane and Frank Cameron. It took a little persuading to get these men to accept the positions, but realizing that there was a danger of the association folding for want of leadership they reluctantly consented to help out.

We are fortunate too in retaining our out-going president, Bob Clark, in the office of secretary-treasurer, and Jim Hogan, the leading spirit in this youth movement for some years will also be a member of the executive, it is reported. With a quartet of this caliber at the head of affairs, good service is assured, and all that is left is to enlist the cooperation of our citizens.

We believe the plan this year will be to sponsor only baseball teams up to the midget division, which will mean, of course, that the juniors and intermediates will have to shift for themselves. The association cannot be blamed if they drop the older teams, because gate receipts have been low, and the cost of keeping the juniors and intermediates playing games has been high. We sympathize with the older fellows, however, and trust that this decision, if it is made, will not keep them from getting into the baseball picture this summer. Personally, we'd regret it very much if no "spectator" baseball were played in Summerside this season. It is, of course, very important that the little fellows be kept busy at this healthful sport. For their ages they do put up a good brand of ball, but they can scarcely be expected to dish out a brand of baseball that will have real entertainment value for spectators outside the parents and very close friends of the participants.

Surely there are some boys in these older teams with enough get-up to run their own show. There is no reason why they can't form a separate association, a small and closely-knit organization, that will at least explore the possibility of raising funds for, say, intermediate baseball. They could not encroach on the regular ways and means of collecting mezzama which the S.A.A. have used for years now, but they might find other means of raising sufficient wherewithal to get started. This presents a challenge to the boys, and we hope they meet it courageously. If the juniors and intermediates joined, a pretty good team could be fielded in this town. Gunner Cox is still around. Don Mackenzie is back in town, or was quite recently, and there is a banker here who played with the Springfield Penobscot. Our two pitchers, Doc Letourgey and Paul Schurman, who developed so well last season, expect to be in town this summer. In addition to those mentioned there are a lot of ball players in the town who will be available, and there should certainly be enough for one good team. So get busy, boys. We'd be glad to do anything to help.

Ivan Doherty's first card in Charlottetown last Friday night was another successful one. The main bout between McCluskey and Watkins was close, so close that it started a lot of arguments after the match, which is a healthy condition for the boxing game. As we saw it, the boys put up a bang-up scrap, and we'd be glad to watch them do it all over again.

There wasn't a "flop" in the four fights on the card. Gaston Roy put up his usual good showing, and for a while "Red" Graham carried the fight to him which made for a good exciting hassle for the fans. Graham was out-gunned, however, and couldn't route against such a fistic bombardment as Roy threw at him. The big fellows, Laferty and Squarebriggs, probably put up the tamest contest of the four, but it was crowd-pleasing throughout without too many dull moments. Quinn and Steele, as usual, started proceedings with a bang. It shouldn't be long before those boys get moved up in the program.

MIAMI, Fla. (AP)—Doris Williams was granted a divorce Monday from the former Boston Red Sox slugger, Ted Williams, but Judge George E. Holt put off his decision on the financial settlement.

The divorce was granted after a 30-minute hearing in the judge's chambers. Williams, who did not contest the action, attended the hearing but didn't take the stand. Mrs. Williams, an attractive, dark-haired woman, said she and her husband of 10 years "just couldn't get along. Ted just did not seem to want to be married."

She said she had "struggled to get along" on \$125 a week separate maintenance since Jan. 19, 1954. It was not enough, she said, to support her and the Williams' seven-year-old daughter. She made no estimate of how much would be required.

After the hearing, Williams told reporters he had no definite plans for the future.

PROVIDENCE, R.I. (AP)—Jose Contreras, 28, Taunton, Mass., middleweight, died Monday in hospital of a head injury suffered in a fight here a week earlier.

Contreras collapsed in his dressing room after his scheduled 10-round bout with Bob Bolton of Providence was stopped in the eighth round by the referee, Sharkey Buonanno.

Shortly after he was taken to hospital, a team of specialists performed a two-hour emergency operation and found that he had suffered a subdural hemorrhage on the right side of the head. A blood clot was removed, easing the pressure on the brain, and for a time it appeared Contreras might rally.

On Tuesday, he regained consciousness briefly and talked with his wife, Mary, and their two children, three-year-old Anita and Billy. 2. But later that night, he lapsed back into a coma and his condition became increasingly critical.

For five full rounds yesterday afternoon Harry "Kid" Poulton and Gaston Roy traded punches at "Little Stillman's Gym" of the Charlottetown Navy Barracks. It was the toughest workout to date for the hard training Poulton who has been training for the past two months. Harry "The Kid" has been sparing no efforts to get into top condition for his fight here on May 23 against Gary Simon. He feels that he belongs at the top of the Maritime boxing class and he intends to prove his point before the summer has passed.

In addition to boxing Poulton worked out the last and heavy punching bags. He took condition, exercises and wound up with another light sparring session. He is down to 159 pounds and hopes to stay around that weight for the Simon fight. Right now he is punching harder and moving faster than at any time in the past two years. By fight time he should be razor sharp.

For another Charlottetown fighter the news yesterday wasn't quite so good. Don "Duck" Trainor will be sidelined at least a month as a result of a bout with the "Flu. For any boxer and for Trainor especially this is a tough blow. Trainor worked out faithfully throughout the winter months and was set for a big summer when he was struck down by illness. It is to be hoped that

Don Mueller Sets Blistering Batting Pace As He Threatens League Batting Mark

NEW YORK, (AP)—Don Mueller is only three games shy of New York Giants' record for consecutive game hitting and at the rate he's going he could well threaten the National League mark.

Mueller, who leads the majors in hits with 40, has hit safely in his last 21 games, missing only the Giants' opener on April 12. Freddie Lindstrom set the Giants mark of 24 in 1930 and Tommy Holmes is the league's record holder with 37 in 1945.

Mueller's pace has been phenomenal. He has collected 14 safeties in his last 27 times at bat and raised his average to .421 while challenging St. Louis' Bill Virdon, who heads with .424. Virdon shows only 59 official at bats compared to Mueller's 95.

Rip Repulski of the Cardinals gained three points to .367 in games last week to remain in third place. Brooklyn's Roy Campanella is fourth with .353 followed by Gene Freese of Pittsburgh with .345.

In the American League, Al Kaline and Harvey Kuenen of Detroit moved up to challenge Bill Skowron and Vic Power, both sidelined with leg injuries.

Skowron is the pace-setter with a .451 batting mark. The Yankee first sacker had 23 hits in 51 trips before he sustained a pulled leg muscle two weeks ago. Power, Kansas City's first baseman, is second at .415.

Meanwhile, Kaline collected 12 hits in 31 at bats last week (.387 pace) and holds down third place with a .407 average. Kuenen, with 14 for 33 last week, climbed .17 in hits to .390, good for fourth place.

Carl Furillo and Duke Snider of Brooklyn Dodgers are deeded for the National League's home run lead with eight apiece. Snider's grand slam against Philadelphia Sunday also gave him the circuit's runs batted in lead with 29.

LONDON (AP)—French challenger Dator moved up as a strong contender Monday for the classic Epsom Derby as Britain's top bookies cut the colt's betting odds from 20-1 to 100-6. Acropolis remained the favorite.

Acropolis, owned by 93-year-old Alice Lady Derby, went out slightly from 5-1 to 11-2 at a London betting call-over.

Queen Elizabeth's colts Alexander and Jardiniere were again quoted at 33-1 despite reports of good training gallops during the weekend.

Any student of human nature might expect the league to take this course. Usually anything founded on the basis of pleasure will degenerate to the point where everyone wants some one else to do the work while they derive only the pleasure. It's just another case of taking something for granted. If the officials approach the problem with an attitude of selfishness then the league will be a failure. On the other hand if the league is organized for the purpose of providing good competitive ball as great a number as possible (as it was in the past) then the league will be a success. That much will be decided upon at Wednesday night's meeting.

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It is possible that the City Softball League, which died a natural death last week (from lack of interest), may be revived again. The sudden passing of the league seemed to have stirred the dormant softball officials with the result that another meeting will be held on Wednesday evening for the purpose of re-forming the circuit. If enough interest and enthusiasm are shown at Wednesday's meeting the league will be re-organized and games will be re-organized and games will probably commence by June 1.

Chicago Cubs Cut Roster To Required 25

CHICAGO (AP)—Chicago Cubs of the National League Monday got rid of four pitchers and two catchers, cutting their roster to the required limit of 25.

Included was veteran pitcher Bubba Church, 30, who was released outright to Los Angeles in the Pacific Coast League.

Catcher Elvin Tappe was optioned to Beaumont in the Texas League. Pitcher Darios Hillman was optioned to Los Angeles. Pitcher Vicente Amor went to Havana of the International League.

Pitcher Bob Thorpe was optioned to Des Moines of the Western League. Catcher Jim Fanning was optioned to Los Angeles.

Boxer Nino Valdes Undergoes Operation

NEW YORK (AP)—Nino Valdes, one of the contenders for Rocky Marciano's heavyweight boxing championship, underwent a tonsilectomy Monday. Valdes lost a decision to Archie Moore in Las Vegas 10 days ago.

Valdes' manager, said the infected tonsils held back Valdes in his fight with Moore.

Chicago Cubs Release Player

CHICAGO (AP)—Chicago Cubs announced Monday the outright release of Bubba Church, 30-year-old pitcher, to their Los Angeles farm club in the Pacific Coast League.

Church, formerly with Toronto Maple Leafs and Philadelphia Phillies, had pitched only 3 1/2 innings this season for the Cubs. He had an 0-0 record.

New Tennis Skirt Designed

LONDON (AP)—Col. Teddy Tinning—the man who designed Gussie Moran's famous tennis panicles—Monday served up a pretty petticoat for the ladies.

"Tennis skirts," predicted the colonel, "are going to drive shorts off the courts this season. And—to be perfectly dressed in a skirt—you've simply got to have a tennis slip."

Tinning was an official for 22 years at Britain's Wimbledon tennis grounds, and what Paris styled as to international fashion, Wimbledon is to the couture of the courts.

The new tennis slip, Tinning claims, is the shortest slip in European history.

It begins at mid-thigh and finishes at mid-calf with a provocative picot edging. The waist slip is worn under a skirt so tiny that it looks like a miniature parchment lampshade.

What goes under the slips? Why, tennis panicles, of course.

The new slip is designed to accent femininity. It's made of spotted muslin and, as the player flashes back and forth from net to back line, they swish—player and dress.

Bill Chadwick retired from a 16 year career as a whistle-blower in the N.H.L. the other day. Giving his impressions of hockey players he stated that Jean Beliveau was the greatest of them all and would be widely accepted as the greatest if he would become more selfish with the puck and try for more goals. But for a player in a tough spot Chadwick would not select Beliveau. If he wanted a goal in the dying moments of a crucial game the player he would choose would be the incomparable Maurice Richard.

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Harry Poulton, Gary Simon To Fight Here Mon., May 23

Ivan Doherty, P.E.I.'s energetic boxing promoter, following up last week's pleasing fight card, has finalized plans for what promises to be one of the best bouts staged here for a long time.

The main bout will bring together Charlottetown's bolo-punching Harry "Kid" Poulton right and Germany's Gary Simon who now fights out of New Glasgow, Nova Scotia.

Poulton, training steadily for the past two months, feels he will stop the ever aggressive, always punching Simon. This will be the "red" or "rubber" match between the pair as each gladiator holds a decision over the other.

Simon will be best remembered by Island fight fans for his slugfest with Coby McCluskey last summer in which "The German" lost a split decision in one of the best fights ever seen in an Island ring.

Punching harder than ever before, Simon in his last outing, Kaywood Boston's Billy Mays in 28 seconds of the first round.

If the remainder of the card, preliminary plans for the coming fall and track and field seasons. It will be of interest to all Little Leaguers and other Minor League ball players that the Abegweit Club are again going to organize a Junior League in the city. Details were left until after the annual meeting Thursday.

It was also unanimously decided to do all possible to encourage track and field participation and encourage bike racing as well, so all members of the Abegweit Club and those desirous of helping in the work of the club in promoting sport for youngsters are asked to be at the Armouries, Thursday evening, May 12, at 9:15 p.m.

Abbie Executive Holds Meeting

An enthusiastic meeting of the Abegweit A. A. A. Executive was held last evening, preparatory to the annual meeting of this grand old athletic club which will be held Thursday evening of this week at 9:15 p.m. at the Armouries.

President Bill Ledwell was in the chair at last evening's meeting which was called to decide a date for the annual meeting, appoint a nominating committee for same and to talk over preliminary plans for the coming fall and track and field seasons.

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Sports Forum

BOXING

May 6, 1913, boxing fans in Bangor, Maine, were treated to an exciting night of fisticuffs at the Gaty Arena. The participants in the main event were "One Man" McCluskey of P. E. I. and Jim Stewart of Old Town, Maine. McCluskey made good his boast that he would dispose of his opponent in less than 6 rounds. It was a gruelling fight for the first two rounds with very little to choose between either man. Round 3 had just begun when McCluskey let loose with a terrific pile-driving right hand to Stewart's jaw. It took his handlers a full five minutes to revive him.

Shortly before World War II Jim Evans of Kensington did considerable boxing in Island rings. He was a southpaw with a terrific knockout punch. Local fans will never forget the night in 1937 at the local Forum when Jim connected with his famous Mary Ann in a first round. Leslie spent the remainder of the evening counting stars.

Little Jimmie MacInnis of Tignish was probably the cleverest of fighting machinery that this Island ever turned out. back in the 1930's he fought in the featherweight division and at one time he held the Maritime championship in that class. MacInnis wasn't any good boxer, he possessed a lot of punching power as well. Among the famous mittmen that Jimmy battled in his day were Frank Burns of Amherst, Kid Hart of Moncton, Russell Kid Lantz of Halifax and Lack Donovan of Charlottetown.

The first round ring on record made its appearance at Blackfriars, England, in 1912. It's American debut was at the marine shipyards in California in May 26, 1944.

George Dixon of Halifax, N.S., participated in more championship fights than any fighter that ever lived. The great Negro fighter saw action in 34 world title bouts, 5 were in the bantamweight division and 29 in the featherweight ranks.

Boxing promoter Ivan Doherty is to be congratulated for his fine effort in bringing to Island fight fans the first card of the current season. There wasn't a dull moment in the main event local fans saw a cool, well conditioned McCluskey against a terrific punching Ray Watkins. It was a gruelling fight from start to finish.

Popular Gaston Roy proved once again to Maritime mittmen that he wasn't pay stand and try to trade punch for punch with him. Red Graham learned the hard way. The surprise of the evening as far as this observer is concerned was the way young Steele beat Bobby Quinn in the opening round. Steele, nevertheless it is hoped that a return match will not be far away. This Steele has all the earmarks of being a promising leather pusher. Did "Stan" was a capable a mittman who appeared in local rings back around 25 years ago.

WILFRED O. MCCLUSKEY
Charlottetown

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