



SPORT



BOY PITCHER ON THE SPOT IN CLEVELAND PENNANT FIGHT

NEW YORK, Jan. 23—The immediate impression one gets of Master Robert Feller, the schoolboy, is that he is stolid, unimaginative and easy-going. For a boy who has just passed his 18th birthday he is surprisingly unruffled by the tremendous publicity he has received. He still goes to school. He still goes about his chores on the Iowa farm. He still plays ball with the other school kids.

In about six weeks Master Feller will gather his baseball gloves and spiked shoes and clothes. He will pack his grip and head south for the Indians' New Orleans training camp. Everything he does on the diamond, everything he says relating to baseball from that day until the regular season begins will be featured in newspapers around the country. Feller is going to be the highest paid rookie ever to move into the big leagues. He will also be the most advertised.

The big question in the minds of Cleveland's general manager, Cy Slapnicka, and Manager Steve O'Neill is: Will Feller, the strikeout pitcher, be as stolid, as unimaginative and as easy-going as is Feller, the schoolboy? They hope so. More than that, they will do all they can to see that he remains easy-going, and to make the mental burden he must shoulder as light as is possible under the circumstances.

Slapnicka already has taken one step in the right direction. He has assumed management of Feller's business affairs, which is taken to mean that the right-handed pitcher will not be a teacher in a baseball school at Hot Springs, Ark., as originally planned. This probably is a stipulation in Feller's new contract, which calls for approximately \$10,000.

May Be Overanxious

The Cleveland management must be careful that Feller is not over-anxious as soon as he reaches camp. The youth may throw his arm out in his determination to prove he is all he was cracked up to be last fall. He will be asked constantly to pose for pictures and answer questions. In short, the pressure and the spotlight will be focused on him, and it is a duty of Slapnicka and of O'Neill to

Baseball's Holdouts Becoming Big Flop

NEW YORK, Jan. 23—Baseball's holdout circus of 1937 promises to be a bigger flop than Branch Rickey's threatened auction sale of "Dizzy" Dean. Players are breaking all speed records in signing the papers. Pepper Martin even hitch-hiked on a truck to sign with the St. Looney Cardinals.

Right now, Buck Newsome, noted South Carolina mule-tamer is making more noise than Dean but Clark Griffith, the old fox of Washington, isn't worried. Like most clubowners, Griffith likes to hear the boys holler and then pulls a neat squeeze play.

New York Yankees contracts were placed in the mail yesterday. No trouble is expected unless "Lefty" Gomez, due for a great divide out, balks. Joe Di Maggio, surrounded by some shrewd relatives, also may protest but the dope is "Der Mag" is going to get a very pleasant surprise.

Last Feb. 29, more than 50 players 30 of them American Leaguers, still were unsigned. Unless all signs fall, there won't be more than 10 when that date rolls around again.

Wanted: A baseball expert who figures the Cleveland Indians weren't cheated by the slick St. Looney Browns in their recent player swap. Pilot Rogers Hornsby of the Browns always gets credit for pulling fast ones, but his clubs never get anywhere. If you think Cy Slapnicka, head man of the Indians, is a babe in the woods, listen to what Johnny Hughes, who used to play with Cy, says:

"We had a flock of wise fellows on our pennant winners in Milwaukee in '34, but none could keep up with Cy Slapnicka. In our poker games, we usually watched Cy win because he'd outsmart the smart guys."

see that the effects are not disastrous.

When, the Indians, who, incidentally, will play numerous exhibition games with the pennant-winning Giants, reach Cleveland and embark on a new campaign, the front office will be advised that Feller is to be only a spot pitcher against teams he beat convincingly last season, teams such as the Browns and the A's. It was against Connie Mack's team in Cleveland that Feller set a new American League strikeout record by fanning 17 batters while allowing two hits and two runs.

Slapnicka and O'Neill will advise also that Feller be pitched without advertising that the schoolboy will start on any particular date. There may be a strong temptation on the part of the front office to do just that. In fact, it may be looked upon as poor business not to do so. But the chances are that in the end it would be best for all concerned if Feller were eased into the softest spots without announcing them in advance.

Last season Feller made a swing around the East with the Indians. When the team reached New York O'Neill let it be known that one afternoon Feller would start for the Indians. The result was that a good turnout greeted his appearance on the mound and it probably unnerved him a bit. At any rate he came long against the Yankees. He pitched but one full inning—allowed five runs on three hits, three bases on balls and a balk, and then was removed for a pinch-hitter in the first half of the second inning.

Another Bad Day

At a later date the Indians reached Detroit, and again it was announced that Feller would start. Before another big crowd the schoolboy was pummeled for seven hits and six runs in six innings. However, he stopped the Tigers in Cleveland on the last day of the season with only three hits and one run in six innings before a heavy downpour ended the contest.

The moral, then, might be that the best plan in Feller's case would be to let him pitch most of his games in friendly surroundings, without the background of large and hostile crowds, without ballyhooing his appearances to the skies and without using him in games that are of the utmost importance to the Indians' cause. At least, that policy should be followed in the first few months of the season. If Feller does well under this programme then it might not be harmful to loosen up the strings a bit and plan a more rigid and exacting schedule for him over the rest of the campaign.

SIXTY-SIX ICE SKATERS ENTERED RACE

OCONOMOWOC, Wis., Jan. 22—Sixty-six ice skaters, including United States 1936 Olympic team members, were entered today for the Great Lakes Open Speed Skating Championships on Fowler Lake here Saturday and the following day.

The men's title chase took on an international color with the entry of the speedy Canadians, Frank Stack and Ab Hardy of Sarnia, Ont.

Stack won the Paul Bunyan meet at Bemidji, Minn., last Sunday edging out Marvin Swanson, Minneapolis, the United States champion and defending title-holder of the Great Lakes meet.

The women's field is expected to develop into a spirited rivalry between American and Canadian ice queens.

Maddy Horn of Beaver Dam, Wis., defending champion, and Dorothy Franey of St. Paul, United States titleholder, are looked on as the best bets against the invasion of Florence Hurd, Sudbury, Ont., and Lillian Hallworth and Gladys Ferguson, Toronto.

BARLUND, THE FINN, IS READY FOR BIG TIME

NEW YORK, Jan. 22—One and all, the fight experts were agreed today that Gunnar Barlund is ready for the big time. The Finn, who has not lost a fight since coming to this country several months ago, completed his apprenticeship in the "promising youngster" class of heavyweight hopefuls by soundly whipping Tom Beaupre, the Texas knockout specialist, over the 10-round route Thursday night.

By adding Beaupre to his previous victims—Sandy McDonald, Abe Feldman and Tom Connolly—the Gunnar proved he is ready to step out in fast company—company that includes such threats as Al Ettore, Leroy Haynes, Jack Trammell and John Henry Lewis. Despite the K.O. reputation Beaupre brought along from Texas, Barlund had a surprisingly easy time of it. Except for a long stabbing left hand, the Texan had little on the ball. The only hard blow he landed, a jarring right which shook Barlund momentarily in the seventh, brought from the Finn in return a right hand smash that all but floored the big southwesterner.

Barlund, scaled 196 to his opponent's 193, was the aggressor throughout the fight, which drew a crowd of 4,500 to the Hipp.

CRITICIZED FOR ATTACKING SPORTS SETUP

TORONTO, Jan. 23—Veteran Patrick J. Mulqueen, chairman of the Canadian Olympic Committee and of the Ontario Athletic Commission, today criticized Hugh Plaxton, one-time Olympic hockey star and now Liberal Member of Parliament for Toronto Trinity, for attacking the amateur sports setup on the floor of the House of Commons.

"What is the matter with the critics of our Olympic teams especially the hockey teams?" Mr. Mulqueen wondered. "Can't they stand to lose. And if our hockey is a racket, Hugh Plaxton was long associated with it."

Mr. Mulqueen said he had not heard one definite statement of how the 1936 hockey team, beaten in the Olympic Winter Games by England, had been mismanaged.

"I wish to state," he said, "that critics of the Canadian Olympic Committee know less about sports than anybody remotely interested in sports and athletics in Canada."

Connie Mack Becomes President Of Ball Club

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 23—Connie Mack, just turned 74, assumed today the presidency of the Philadelphia Athletics—adding executive duties to those of manager and treasurer, and taking complete control of the operation of the club.

Treasurer and manager he has been since the A's were established as Philadelphia's representatives in the American League back in 1901. Yesterday he was elected the club's fourth president, succeeding John D. Shibe, who retired because of illness.

"The only position I particularly want of the three I hold is manager," he said.

"I will continue to get the players take them to the training camp and run the team during the championship season as I have done since the club was founded in 1901. I have also been treasurer since the franchise was formed."

"The presidency gives me a few added duties, but nothing that will keep me from giving my full attention to the players."

"We can't do everything at once, but we hope to improve things measurably. I will make every effort to rebuild the team."

The slender Mack, now the only manager in the majors who is also a club president, is a director of the American League as well. Although he celebrated his seventy-fourth birthday last month, Connie enters on his new responsibilities with customary vigor and enthusiasm.

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St. Stephen Defeated Local Team 3-2

CAPITALS LOSE TO ST. STEPHEN 3-2 AT BORDER LAST NIGHT

ST. STEPHEN, Jan. 23—Rollie Robertson's surprising St. Croix kept pace with Moncton Maroons in the Southern New Brunswick Hockey League here tonight and dropped Fredericton Capitals 3-2 in overtime while Maroons handed Saint John Seagulls a 4-3 setback.

The victory left St. Croix three full

games behind the leading Maroons and well in the van of the third place Seagulls. Two and one-half games separates the 'Gulls and the Border sextet.

Tonight the St. Croix took a 1-0 lead in the first period but after a scoreless second the Caps tied the count in the third when they tallied two goals to St. Croix one. The border crew would not be denied in the extra session and walked off with the victory that gave them 15 points to date and left the Caps in the cellar position.

It was the first loss Bill Gill, Caps' new coach, tasted since he took over the Fredericton outfit.

The defeat left the Capitals two points behind the skidding Saint John Seagulls, who have 10.

WHAT ONTARIO GIVES PRISONERS AT MEALS

GUELPH, Jan. 23—The old cry of the lumber camps, "Come and get it," seems to have been made up of fighting words for prisoners of the Ontario Reformatory. Many of them claimed there was not enough food and what there was wasn't too palatable.

But officials at the reformatory were eager tonight to place all their card-menu cards they were—on the table in answer to the food complaint. Dr. J. D. Heaslip, reformatory superintendent, brought out a pile of menus for meals in recent weeks.

Here is what Dr. Heaslip's pile of menus disclosed was served, Jan. 8: Breakfast—rolled oats, sugar and milk, bacon, buttered toast, bread and coffee; luncheon—salmon "au gratin," steamed potatoes, lima beans, raspberry pudding, bread and tea; supper—cold ham, pickled beets, stovio potatoes, sponge cake, pears, bread and tea.

For breakfast Jan. 9 there was oatmeal, sugar and milk, eggs, buttered toast, bread and coffee; luncheon—rice soup, roast beef and gravy, boiled potatoes, succotash, apple pudding, bread and tea. Supper was assorted cold meats, pickled beets, hash browned potatoes, spice cake, plums, bread and tea.

Breakfast, Jan. 11, consisted of wheatlets, sugar and milk, boiled eggs (not steamed), bread, toast and coffee. The luncheon menu offered cream of tomato soup, boiled cottage roll, buttered turnips, steamed potatoes, vanilla pudding, bread and tea. Main course for supper was sausage and fried potatoes. Trimmings were rhubarb and raisins, sponge cake, bread and tea.

Both Dr. Heaslip and Hollingshead told of a recent visit to the reformatory by Dr. J. K. Blair, Liberal member of the House of Commons for Wellington North, who ate from a tray intended for a prisoner, and said his only criticism was that he could not eat so much as was provided.

Asked if he had any intention of altering the prison fare as a concession to the riotous inmates, Dr. Heaslip said, "No, because I think that food is just okay."

One of the grievances mentioned by prisoners was a ban on receipt of parcels from outside sources, especially at Christmas.

The Official Notice

Here is the notification inserted in all outgoing letters last November to tell of the new ruling:

"The Ontario Reformatory, Guelph, will supply in future everything necessary for the comfort and welfare of its inmates. No parcels containing anything whatsoever will be allowed to any inmate at Christmas or at any other time. Do not send a parcel and put us to the trouble of returning it to you."

"If you wish to do something for an inmate, put it into tangible form at the time of his discharge and his return to society."

Unofficially, it was said there were a number of reasons for this ruling. One of the more important ones was that prisoners with no relatives or connections were made up happy when more fortunate prisoners received parcels. This sometimes led to theft and friction. Another objection was that sometimes alcoholic toilet fluids were sent as presents and the prisoners drank them.

WATERTOWN, Mass., Jan. 22—A thug felt Miss Marion Ward, assistant treasurer of the Textile Thread Co. at the rear of the plant yesterday and snatched from her hand an envelope containing \$1,000 payroll money, then escaped in a waiting car.

RAJAH "KNEW STUFF" WHEN HE MADE DEALS

INDIANAPOLIS, Jan. 22—St. Louis Browns came away out on top in the recent player swap with Cleveland Indians, Harold (Pie) Traynor, manager of the Pittsburgh Pirates, thinks. The Browns traded Julius Solters, Ivy Andrews, and Lynn Lary for the Indians' Oral Hildebrand, Joe Vosmik and Billy Knickerbocker.

"Those boys at St. Louis knew what they were doing," Traynor said. Vosmik? "He wasn't so hot last year, but you can look for a big season in 1937; the records show he has a great year every other season," the Pirates' chieftain explained.

Hildebrand? "Everyone thinks Hildebrand is a potential 20-game winner; maybe the change in atmosphere will do him good." Knickerbocker? "A swell ball player." Traynor said Knickerbocker's mediocre season last year probably could be traced to an appendicitis operation.

Solters, Andrews and Lary? "Good ball players, but the Indians came out second best."

International Meet Of Snowshoeing Clubs

Re-enacting scenes of bygone days when snowshoeing was the premier sport and even yet not at all superseded by the ski in smaller centres, representatives of 75 snowshoe clubs from various parts of Quebec and New England States will attend the International Snowshoers' Convention at Ottawa on Jan. 30 and 31, according to E. C. Elliott, general passenger agent of the Canadian National Railways. For this event, it is expected that about 1,500 delegates, appearing in the distinctive snowshoer's garb of bright colors and sash, accompanied by bugle corps and bands, will greatly enliven the occasion and present colorful scenes as they entrain at points en route for the assembly at Ottawa.

The Maine and New Hampshire delegation of over 500 will leave Portland, Me., at 6:45 p.m., on Jan. 29, by special train conveying representatives of 25 men's and women's snowshoe clubs from the towns of Biddeford, Lewiston, Brunswick, Chisholm, Rumford and Berlin, this special train arriving at Ottawa at 7 a.m., on Jan. 30.

PERRY DEFEATS VINES IN 8TH TENNIS MATCH

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 23—Fred Perry, of England, playing a cooler, steadier game in the pinches, outlasted Ellsworth Vines, of California, in their professional tennis match tonight to win 6-3, 9-7, 1-6, 6-3. A crowd estimated at 8,000 saw the match.

The victory gave Perry, former world amateur champion, a lead of five matches to three in the struggle for professional tennis supremacy. The two meet again in Baltimore on Saturday night.

Vines waged a hard battle before going down to defeat, tying the first set at 3-3, holding set point twice in the second, and forcing deuce to be called a total of six times in the last two games of the fourth and deciding set.

HOCKEY PLAYERS ARE BAVARIANS

MUNICH, Jan. 23—An all-star team composed of members of Bavarian hockey clubs proved no match for Kimberley Dynamiters of British Columbia, last night and was defeated 8-0 here.

Five thousand spectators attended Paul Kozak, Ralph Redding and George Goble scored for the Canadians in the opening period. After a scoreless second session, Harry Robertson and Bill Burnett each netted two goals and Redding, scored once in the third.

ROTHESAY SIX LOSE TO CAPITAL 9-4

The Fredericton High school defeated the Rotheray Collegiate here last evening 9-4. The win places Fredericton on even terms with Rotheray. The visitors were weak in the nets, and lacked the scoring punch while the local team's combination was clicking, which produced goals.

MIAMI, Fla.—A secret service agent who worked in the fire department by day and operated a gambling game by night climaxed a year of undercover sleuthing by bringing a suspected counterfeiter, booked as Rocco De Franco, 48, into court on a charge of possessing bogus \$20 notes.

Color Against Louis Becoming Champion

NEW YORK, Jan. 23—A group of rather pasty-faced boxers, managers and sleepy-eyed press agents were cutting the smoke-filled publicity room of the Hippodrome with fight talk when old Harry Wills arched his huge frame in the doorway.

As the talk about boycotts, decline of boxing and Joe Louis lagged into despondent repetition, the "Black Panther" was asked if he thought Louis had a chance to become heavyweight champion.

"Suttanly he has," said the man who got the run-around when he was hanging at the title door, "if he changes his complexion, you can not stop him."

"You mean you think Louis never will get a chance at the title, that he'll be frozen out like you were?"

"If he changes his complexion, he will win," persisted Harry. "And he can't do that. No, Joe Louis never'll be champion of the world."

Old Harry shook his head. A knowing grin spread over his usually woe-begone face.

"Maybe, it's all for the best. I dunno. Anyway, I bears no ill feeling 'cause I didn't get a chance at Dempsey when he was champ. It wasn't Dempsey's fault. He wanted to fight me. Both of us was going back at the time and both of us needed a cut on that gate. Man, that gate would have been worth \$2,000,000 if it was worth a dime. But it jes' wasn't in the books."

"Some folks said he was scared to fight me. That was injustice. Someone said: 'No fight,' and it was no fight. And I can't say I blame the folks what stopped it. I allus said it's up to everyone to watch out for his own folks."

The once noisy room was silent as a tomb as the "Black Panther" of the past talked. Someone asked him his opinion of the Max Schmeling-Jimmy Braddock fight.

"Braddock will win," predicted Harry. "He's got the style to whip Max and that egg in 'at the heart to make something of himself."

Compete For Davis Cup Play

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa, Jan. 23—The South African Lawn Tennis Union decided yesterday to enter the Davis Cup competition this year. South Africa did not take part in the international competition last year.

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