

SPORTS...

By Eddie Ash

AFTER THE Kansas City Blues committed murder on the diamond by swamping the Washington Senators, 22 to 5, in Florida the other day, managers of the other seven American Association teams saw blue spots before their eyes.

It's news when a Class AA outfit holds a big league team to a close score but the Little Yankees are not that way and it is self-evident they are determined to throw a scare at rival Association clubs in advance of the 1940 championship race.

Only Minneapolis was able to keep step with the Blues last year during the regular race and even the Millers succumbed—and decisively—to their superiority in the closing week of play.

Well, maybe the thumping Kansas City handed a major loop aggregation will serve as good medicine after all. . . . At least, the other A. A. clubs have been warned to "build up to the Blues" or take a kicking around again the coming season.

Meyer Has Faith in Carnett

DESPITE THE lack of experienced moundmen, it is said Kansas City's prospects are brighter than they were at a corresponding period last year when Manager Bill Meyer was faced with the necessity of piecing together an outfield and fashioning an infield around three youngsters who never before had competed in Double-A baseball.

Lost from last year's champions are Pitchers Tommy Reis, Marvin Breuer, Tiny Bonham, Johnny Babich and Al Piechota. . . . All were big winners and Reis and Breuer set the pace in won and lost record and earned run average.

Experienced pitchers are Joe Vance, who won 10 here last year; Jack Haley, who finished the season with Columbus; John Lindell, another lefty; and Ed Garnett, Milwaukee southpaw who came to Kansas City via the Chicago Cubs. . . . Meyer believes Carnett will win and he fills the need of a left-hander.

THE remainder of the Kansas City staff consists of rookies. . . . They are big men and most of them come up with great records.

Among them are William Gill, Joplin; Al Gearhauser, Wenatchee; Charles Mason, Joplin; Don Hendrickson, Birmingham; Thomas Tisdale, Joplin; Charles Wensel, Joplin; and Al Moran, Hartford.

All Set in the Infield

BACK FOR THE 'Blues' infield is that amazing double-play combination of Jerry Priddy, second, and Phil Rizzuto, short. . . . Bill Hitchcock, who made his debut in organized baseball last summer, is the third baseman.

Fred Collins, a long distance-plunder from Birmingham, replaced Johnny Sturm at first. Jack Saltzger remains for utility. . . . and Sturm may return before opening day.

EVEN THE Kansas City outfield situation is more satisfactory than it was last year despite the loss of Vince DiMaggio. . . . The Blues did not have a good outfield. . . . This year it may be a different story with Tony Bonagiovanni and Frenchy Bordagaray flanking Russell Perry, young center fielder.

Bongy and Bordagaray come from Cincinnati in the DiMaggio deal. . . . Perry, a left-hand hitter, has been out two years and led two minor leagues in home runs.

Johnny Riddle starts work as No. 1 receiver, but he is being pushed for the job by Tony DePhillips, a great young prospect from Birmingham.

Cronin Speaks Up for His Red Sox

JOE CRONIN doesn't want the New York Yankees broken up. . . . "I want to win the American League pennant by a knockout, not by a foul, and I believe my Boston Red Sox can do it," says Cronin, manager of the Red Sox, in an article in the Saturday Evening Post, written in collaboration with George Kirksey of the United Press.

"Any attempt to break up the Yankees because they are too good would, I believe, cheapen the American League pennant. There is a reason why I don't want that pennant cheapened. I don't want to finish ahead of the broken-up Yankees."

CRONIN says the Red Sox already have surpassed the Yankees in one respect—in the success of their farm clubs last season. "We can outpitch the Yankees and we've proved it the last two seasons. Last season we batted .291 to the Yankees' .288, and the year before .299 to .274."

Cronin predicts that Ted Williams will surpass Joe DiMaggio in all departments of batting in the coming season and says if anyone ever breaks Babe Ruth's home-run record it will be Williams.

Time Is a Great Healer—and Maybe It'll Help the Browns

(Editor's Note—Following is the fourth of a series sizing up the major league clubs.)

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., March 21 (U. P.)—Time still is a great healer, so once again the St. Louis Browns are looking ahead to bigger things after years of failure. And for a club which was licked 111 times last year for a new St. Louis loss, the Browns are mighty chipper.

More outfield strength, a better balanced and more experienced set of pitchers and a new shortstop have Manager Fred Haney talking in positive terms about finishing no worse than in front of the Washington Senators and Philadelphia Athletics.

"We've got more flexibility and better balance all around," says Haney, who knows he must show real improvement this trip out to camp for his job. "It's still an 'if' club, but the way the fellows are hustling this spring, I figure we ought to wind up sixth or better."

His Mound Hopes—Last spring we started off with only two pitchers who had actually won four or five ball games in the major leagues—Buck Newsum and Howard Mills. Although Newsum's gone, we have several men who've shown they can win in the majors.

—Eddie Auker, who pitched in his first time up several seasons ago. Last year he hit .335 on the Coast.

McQuinn Top Star—If Strange comes through—and he is the only man on the club at the moment—Haney feels can handle shortstop satisfactorily—then the Browns should have an infield that rates with the best. George McQuinn could play first base for almost any club in the league, and Earlond Clift, despite his 1939 slump, still rates with the top bracket men at third. Don Heffner, a neat fielder but weak at the plate, and Johnny Berardino, a fine prospect starting his sophomore season, will fight it out for second base.

The outfield shapes up on the credit side, with a half dozen lads battling for jobs. Three of them are ex-Yankees—Myril Hoag, Joe Gallagher and Walter Judnich—with Chet Laabs, former Tiger, Rip Radcliff from the White Sox and rookie Joe Grace also in the running.

Judnich, straight from the San Francisco district which produced the DiMaggios, is making the front office men forget the large price tag that got him from Newark. His

left-handed slugging is needed badly at Sportsman's Park, but he's also shown great finesse in center field.

Catcher Joe Glenn fell down badly last year and is still a hold-out. The only other catchers are young Bob Swift, a finished man behind the plate but short on hitting, and Sam Harshbarger, recalled after a fair season at Toronto. Both show promise but neither carries the experience necessary for a first string receiver in the big show.

If the catching is straightened out in time, indications are the Browns will show marked improvement. With night baseball to be introduced in St. Louis this year, players know there probably will be some real cash passed over the ticket windows—if the club is anywhere except at the bottom of the standings. The players themselves don't think they'll wind up there.

Haney figures he should be able to find a few in that group, as well as from others among the 19 hurlers now in camp who can cut off the late rallies by opposition club which cost the Browns many a ball game in 1939. Besides, there are a few rookies, such as southpaw Emil Billidi, 22-game winner for San Antonio last summer, who should help.

Alan Strange, Seattle's star shortstop who was caught in the draft by the Browns last fall, is being counted upon to tighten up the right infield zone and ease the pitcher's load. A classy fielder and a good hustler, Strange has only to show he can hit American League pitching better than he could for Manager Rogers Hornsby in his first time up several seasons ago.

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Duquesne, Western State Fives Arrive Today

Our Fair City Regains Its Basket Throne

Becker Is Expected in Dukes' Lineup

Our own fair city of Indianapolis (howdy, Mayor) hopped back up on its rightful basketball throne today as two traveling bands of college players steamed into town for the N. C. A. A. Eastern regional opening here tomorrow night.

The lads to whom the welcoming is due are the Dukes of Duquesne and the Hilltoppers of Western Kentucky State.

That makes three teams in town now—Springfield is comfortably settled, having arrived Tuesday evening—and as soon as I. U. arrives from Bloomington, Ind., there's nothing left but the ref's starting whistle at 8 o'clock tomorrow night. That's when the new arrivals—the Dukes and the Hilltoppers—take the floor.

Colorado Turned the Tables

Duquesne, you'll remember, is the outfit that fought its way into the finals of the national invitational tournament last week in New York, only to lose to Colorado University, 51 to 40. Winners over the Golden Buffaloes earlier in the season, the Dukes had to play without their veteran Morris Becker, who was knocked out earlier in the tournament with an ankle injury suffered in the game with Oklahoma.

Becker, second highest scorer on the squad, has been favoring the ankle but probably will be ready for action tomorrow night.

The Dukes lost but one game during their regular season—that to Indiana, 51 to 49—and they're directed by Chick — who never had another coaching job. He's been with the Pittsburgh school 16 years.

Dukes Have Win Complex

A young lad of 23 summers when appointed in 1924, stepped right out and established a winning complex for the Duquesne team that is respected the nation over.

Coach Tony Hinkle of Butler, tournament director, reported today that ticket sales are going strong and it was reported that nearly 800 tickets had been sold yesterday at Bloomington. Indiana's delegation will be led here by the Famous Marching Hundred band.

Tickets, 65c and \$1.10, may be purchased here at L. S. Adams & Co. and at the bureau's office on the Butler University campus.

Easterners Seeking 'Basket Eye'

Springfield took a lengthy shooting drill in the fieldhouse today to regain the "basket eye" Coach Ed Hickox said his boys had lost in a week's inactivity.

The Easterners until Tuesday night hadn't had a practice since last week.

"We hope to recover our basket eye by Friday night and if we do, it's going to be a ball game," the tall, drawing coach said.

That was his reply to earlier reports that he was pessimistic over his boys' chances in their game with Indiana University at 8:15 o'clock tomorrow night in the N. C. A. A. regional.

"My boys asked me about those 'pessimistic' reports, and I told them I wasn't pessimistic at all."

Yesterday the Easterners took time out to visit the Speedway track and led the steps up to the top of the Monument. They had intended to go to the Sportsman's Show last night but changed their plans.

"When we got done with practice most of the boys decided to see a movie and get in early," Coach Hickox grinned.

Teams Draw Today in Kansas City

KANSAS CITY, Mo., March 21 (U. P.)—The four district winners in the National Collegiate Athletic Association basketball play-offs were here today, ready for the final rounds of practice before they begin the play-offs tomorrow night for the Western title.

The draw will be held today. The winners will clash Saturday night for the right to meet the Eastern winner in Kansas City March 30.

The teams are Kansas, Colorado and Southern California Universities and Rice Institute. All have fine records—they've won 77 and lost 12 for the season—and none has been installed at a standout favorite.

Amateurs

BASEBALL—The Indianapolis Eagles, formerly playing as the Cardinals, were scheduled to workout at the Fenway Gym at 5:30 this evening. Last year's players and those wanting a tryout were requested to report. For games with the Eagles write R. Day, F. O. E., 43 Vermont St.

SOFTBALL—The Riverside Methodists will practice at 4:30 Saturday afternoon on the Riverside diamond. Attention: Hardy, Clark, Mattingly and Crouch.

BASKETBALL—Hibben-Holloway won the Em-Roe Downtown Merchants' title last night at the Hoosier A. C., beating Mt. Jackson, 46 to 32. Royal Crown Colas took consolation honors by defeating Pure Oil, 41 to 33.

Results of semi-final games: Hibben-Holloway, 48; Marolt's, 29; Mt. Jackson, 46; Tuxedo, 35.

The sportsmanship award went to Emory Schlake of the tourney winners.

Named at Harvard

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., March 21 (U. P.)—Francis M. Simonson of Oak Park, Ill., has been elected captain of next season's Harvard basketball team, it was announced today.

Such a phenomenon is not to be overlooked—and indeed Messrs.

Step Right Up and Meet the Betoppered Dukes of Duquesne



Lou Kasperik

Ed Mikovich

Rudy Debnar

Paul Widovits

Morris Becker

Bill Lacey

Moe Berg Leads Henry Into The Land of 1-2 Punch

By HENRY McLEMORE

United Press Staff Correspondent

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla., March 21—It wasn't until today that I realized there was a definite kinship between baseball and boxing. As recently as yesterday I would have stoutly (and I mean "stoutly" to the tune of 185 pounds and twin chins) denied there was any connection between, say, right field and a right cross.

But all of a sudden I found myself looting under a palm tree with Moe Berg of the Boston Red Sox, one of the better minds, baseball or otherwise, in this country. And before we quit looting he had established a definite relationship between the two.

He bound them together with the expression "one-two punch."

The Old One-Two

There never was a boxing champion who didn't have a one-two punch, Berg pointed out, and then continued to explain that the chief contention for the major league pennants this year would be made by teams with the same thing.

"Let's look at the American League," Berg said. "Barring accident the main contention will be between the Yankees and the Red Sox. Each of the clubs can throw a deadly one-two punch. On the Yankees the one-two is provided by Joe DiMaggio and Bill Dickey. DiMaggio sets up the opposition and Dickey knocks it out."

Remembering Charley Keller, I suggested that perhaps the Yankees had gone a step further and developed a one-two-three punch.

"Please," Berg said, in a voice rich with melancholy, "let's limit this to just two hitters. Now take the Red Sox. Our one-two punch is thrown by Jimmy Foss and Ted Williams. Perhaps I'm biased but to me those two fellows form the best one-two in baseball. I wouldn't swap them for anything in the league."

The one-two punch holds true in the National League. The champion Cincinnati Reds and their sternest challengers, the Cardinals, have the toughest bing-bang combinations in the Ford Frick belt. The Reds can throw Frank McCormick and Ival Goodman at opposing pitchers. And the Cards have Johnny Mize and Ducky Medwick, that is, if Medwick signs.

Ducky Out on Limb—And he is sure to. Speaking of Ducky Wucky, it will be he who will have to come to terms. Unpopular with the players (who think he cost them the pennant last year by losing) and unpopular with Manager Blades (who resents the things Medwick has said about him) and unpopular with Owner Sam Breadon (who thinks he is being shoved around a bit and held up) Joe probably will have to capitulate or sit out the 1940 baseball dance.

But to get back to the one-two punch. All of the combinations mentioned present a right-handed hitter and a left-handed hitter.

Moore Out for Cue Title Tomorrow—If Harry Moore can beat Guy Moore at billiards tomorrow night, then the situation concerning Indiana's best cue artist goes into a three-way complication.

Walter Ramsey took second place in the field last night when he beat Cooler, 50 to 33, in 76 innings and now Walter's record shows five victories against two defeats. Moore is leading the field with five wins and one loss and if he can beat Cooler tomorrow then he'll get the title now held by Joe Pils. Otherwise, it'll be up to Ramsey, Cooler and Moore to decide, probably next week.

Rangers Going to Boston Tonight—By UNITED PRESS Two National Hockey League teams will be idle as play in the Stanley Cup eliminations continues on two fronts tonight. The New York Americans who have to win to remain in the playoffs, meet the Detroit Red Wings tomorrow night at Madison Square Garden.

In tonight's contests, the New York Rangers, winners of a 4-0 decision in the first game, meet the Boston Bruins at the latter's rink in a best four-out-of-seven series. The Toronto Maple Leafs, winners of a 3-2 overtime contest in their Series C, best two-out-of-three inaugural, play the Chicago Black Hawks at Chicago in the other game.

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Mr. Lowell Thomas Is a Lousy Softballer, So He and Shane Wrote a Good Book

By FREMONT POWER Amateur sports have so long been a part of the public mind with Sloan's Liniment, few are the men past 40 who'd think of doing anything more strenuous than helping the kid fly a kite.

That attitude may be all right for some. But there are others who are still trying to be a Babe Ruth, even though old enough to be Joe DiMaggio's father. That's the kind of men Lowell Thomas and Ted Shane are. They're told how they do it in "Softball '60 What?" (Frederick A. Stokes Co.)

Messrs. Thomas and Shane are lousy athletes and they know it. They even admit it. The point is, however, about 10 years ago in the Northwest a peculiar game sprung up called "softball" (the ball is no longer soft). It spread so much now that today there are 15 million (approximately) players and fans in the United States and our neighbors to the north, Canada.

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Thomas and Shane have not overlooked this curious offspring of the respectable pastime, baseball.

Mr. Thomas has gone to the extent of organizing a team called the "Nine Old Men" and with teammate Mr. Shane has written this new book about the team and the game in general.

To inexperienced players there are advice like these: "Be sure you have the ball before you throw it. . . . keeping a proper balance is as important as it is in banking."

These may seem idle exhortations to you, but they'll certainly come in handy on the diamond. For instance, say you're the pitcher. Up comes a portly man, particularly extensive in the middle regions. The thing to do in this case is throw one low and inside, directly beneath the punch. The batter can't even see the ball let alone get at it and that's just one out closer to the time when you get up to plate and make a fool of yourself.

Such technique has made the Nine Old Men a famous ball club, famous even without the celebrities who are

Where to Go—

TODAY
Sportsmen's Show—Manufacturers' Building, Fair Grounds, 1 to 11.
Amateur Hockey—Sportsmen vs. County Officials and Kuhn's vs. Indiana Fur, Coliseum, 7.

TOMORROW
Basketball—N. C. A. A. tournament, Butler Field House, 8 and 9:30.

SATURDAY
Basketball—N. C. A. A. tournament, Butler Field House, 8:15.

SUNDAY
Hockey—Indianapolis vs. Providence in league playoff, Coliseum, 8:30.

TUESDAY
Wrestling—Heavyweight Champion Ray Steele vs. Everett Marshall for the title, Armory, 8:30.

Golf Title Goes To Mrs. Page

SOUTHERN PINES, N. C., March 21 (U. P.)—Mrs. Estelle Lawson Page owned the 12th annual Mid-South Women's golf tournament championship title today.

Mrs. Page whipped around the 6700-yard championship course yesterday in 74 to finish 28 strokes ahead of her nearest competitor.

Her 74, with her 76 of Monday and 75 Tuesday, gave her a 225 total for the 54-hole medal play tournament.

Tied for second place Helen Waring, Filadelfia, 1934 champion, with 165-251, and Deborah Verry, Worcester, Mass., 1936 Mid-South champion, with 165-251.

Third place went to Mrs. George Corcoran, Thomaston, N. C., with 168-264. Jeannette Cline, 16-year-old Bloomington, Ill., str, clinched fourth place with a 259.

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Caps Plan to Give Karakas More of the Same Tonight

By J. E. O'BRIEN

Times Staff Writer

PROVIDENCE, R. I., March 21—Our puck-whacking Capitals, who already have taken seven pounds off Mike Karakas' lean frame, plan to give the stingy Providence goal-minder some more of the same when the two hockey clubs meet this evening in their second playoff game.

No one will deny that it was "Iron Mike's" twin-minding which cost the Hoosiers the 10-minute contest Tuesday night. Karakas, who weighed in at 154 pounds and came off the ice an even 147, stopped no less than 57 Indianapolis shots. It's hard to tell just how many potential Capital goals ended up in his heavy rigging.

"But he can't do that forever," declared Manager Herbie Lewis as he ordered his Western Division champions to use their same aggressive tactics against the Reds again tonight.

Late Changes Possible—Herbie also indicated he would shift his defense duos, starting Buck Jones and Sandy Ross instead of Bob Whitlaw and Eddie Rust. Likely forward starters will be Archie Wilder, Les Douglas and Bill Thomson. Manager Lewis pointed out, however, that he may make late changes if the Reds send out a different combination.

He wants to match the youthful line of Wilder, Douglas and Thomson against the Red trio of Art Giroux, Wilfrid Starr and Crossley Sherwood.

Lewis promised the boys a workout yesterday if they lost the opener, but changed his mind and furled them for the day after their "rink-athon" the night before.

Kilrea Ready Again—The Tuesday battle left several of the Caps nursing bruises and sore muscles. The veteran Hec Kilrea, who refused to let a painful charley horse keep him off the ice, said he would be ready to go again this evening. Buck Jones and Thomson were two other puck and stick victims but they too told Herbie they would be on hand. Bill McKenzie, a defenseman, and Windy Steele, forward, are expected to rejoin the Providence club this evening, while Winger Diz Desllets was likely to be kept out because of a bruised knee. Red officials finally got word from the Chicago Black Hawks that McKenzie would join the Providence Club this afternoon. Steele is fresh from the hospital, where he has been since last Saturday's game with Springfield.

No Overtime, Please—Airline schedules being what they are, the Caps hope tonight's decision can be reached in the regulation 60 playing minutes. Arrangements have been made for the squad to take off for Indianapolis immediately after the game in their chartered plane. And any overtime would cause considerable confusion. The Caps are due back home shortly before dawn tomorrow. The Reds will remain here until Saturday and expect to arrive in Indianapolis by air late that day. The two clubs will resume their series at the Indianapolis Coliseum Sunday evening.

Lead Bicyclists—COLUMBUS, O., March 21