

SPORTS...

By Eddie Ash

FOOTBALL prognosticators who dare to tell their readers who's going to win what game have had fairly even sailing for a couple of weeks, but from now on in they are likely to be invited by the public to go out and get a reputation.

Some of the major college elevens took off the wraps last weekend and while a few losses occurred, on the whole the guessing by the experts wasn't too tough.

The week-end upcoming, however, calls for a meaty menu and many problems that only a professional sees would care to tackle.

If Washington State can hold mighty Southern California to a tie, which happened Saturday, the fall crop of surprises probably will reach a new pitch as the weeks roll by.

This writer round out selections on 51 games last week-end and had 42 winners, eight losers and one tie, and that was the Rose Bowl champ's setback.

The first week's record in this column was 13 winners, one loser and two tie scores. Record over all: 55 winners, nine losers and three tie games.

This builds up a batting average of .859 for the two weeks and we would like to settle on that percentage for the season.

But you can't take it with you. The grid war is just in its infancy and the robust strife is yet to strike on a large scale.

Panthers Crushed After First-Stringers Retire

DEMONSTRATING de-emphasis, the Pitt Panthers, once powerful, were crushed by Ohio State. Pitt was short of stalwart reserves and after the first-stringers lost their wind the Ohio State Bucks rolled to a decisive triumph.

Big "money" game of the day was University of Washington at Minnesota. . . . and it was a torrid affair. . . . Yes, we had the Gophers.

A big "money" tilt in the South was Boston College at Tulane.

No, we picked the wrong horse. . . . From the manner in which the Boston boys pitched strikes while tossing passes it's strange that Joe Cronin overlooked them for his Red Sox mound staff.

OHIO STATE trounced Pitt without having to extend itself "all out" or unveil its bag of tricks mapped out by Coach Francis Schmidt.

And the Bucks will be stronger this Saturday when they meet the Purdue Boilmakers at Columbus. . . . Jimmy Strausbaugh, an ace, who didn't see any action against the Panthers, will be ready for play against Purdue.

Well, Purdue didn't go "all out" against Butler, and like all Boilmaker teams, fears no foe, regardless of size or reputation.

Baker Developed Several Tiger Stars

NEVER GREAT himself as a player, Del Baker concentrates on getting the maximum out of the material on hand to take his place among the topnotch baseball managers, says Harry Grayson, NEA Service sports editor, who has known the Bengal boss for years.

The late Frank Navin, was right, declares Harry, when in the spring of 1936, right after the Tigers had bagged a world championship, he pointed to Baker, jumping and shouting in the third base coach's box, and remarked to Will Harridge, American League president: "There's a fellow who will be a great manager some day."

To Del Baker belonged much of the credit for Detroit's flag-gathering clubs of 1934 and '35. As pilot of the Tigers' Beaumont farm for three years, he developed Lyndon Rowe, Elden Auker, Hank Greenberg, Pete Fox and Jo-Jo White.

It was because of his knowledge of and the influence he had on these athletes that Baker was brought back to the parent club as a coach in 1933. . . . Auker is now with the Browns and White is in the Pacific Coast League.

BAKER has the homely philosophy of the hop-grower he has been since a boy. . . . He still spends the off-seasons on the farm near Sherwood, Ore., where he was born. . . . The property passed out of the family's hands for a time, but Baker bought it back.

Never a great player himself, Baker concentrates on getting the maximum out of the material at hand. . . . Reducing every problem to its simplest form, it didn't take Del Baker, the balance wheel, long to take his place among the topnotch managers.

The Tiger chief plays strict percentage baseball, and when he attempts something out of the ordinary, and it goes wrong, he doesn't hesitate to take full responsibility.

THE MANAGER of the 1940 American League champs is the easiest fellow in the world to get along with, but can crack down when the occasion demands. . . . He is the hardest worker on the club. . . . never sits down from the time he appears at the park until he leaves. . . . insists on hustle. . . . says a club giving everything it has all the while will beat one that is 20 per cent stronger mechanically.

Baseball at a Glance

AMERICAN LEAGUE					
(Final)					
W.	L.	Pct.	GB.	Auker and Swift: Rigney and Tresh.	
Detroit	99	64	.584		
Cleveland	88	75	.511	2	
New York	82	72	.532	8	
Chicago	82	72	.532	8	
St. Louis	82	72	.532	8	
Boston	64	91	.416	23	
Washington	54	100	.351	36	
Philadelphia	54	100	.351	36	

NATIONAL LEAGUE					
(Final)					
W.	L.	Pct.	GB.	Baughman and Wagner: Ried and Peacock.	
Cincinnati	88	53	.564	12	
Brooklyn	88	53	.564	12	
St. Louis	84	69	.549	16	
Pittsburgh	78	76	.506	21	
Chicago	78	76	.506	21	
Boston	72	80	.474	27	
New York	72	80	.474	27	
Baltimore	65	87	.424	31	
Philadelphia	56	103	.327	30	

GAMES TODAY

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION PLAYOFF

Kansas City at Louisville (night). (Louisville leads, 3 games to 2.)

RESULTS YESTERDAY

AMERICAN LEAGUE

(Fourteen Innings)

Detroit 600 100 000 000-0-10 2

Cleveland 600 100 000 000-0-10 2

Tori, Newhouse, Hutchinson and Tubbets; Sullivan; Milner and Pytlak.

(Eleven Innings)

New York 100 101 000 01-0-16 2

Washington 100 001 100 000-0-10 2

Bonham and Dickey; Rosar; Leonard and Ferrell.

(Fourteen Innings)

Kansas City 000 000 000-0-16 2

Louisville 000 000 000-0-16 2

Hendrickson and Riddle; Wagner and Lewis.

(Final Round)

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