

# North Side Ft. Wayne Defends Track Crown Here Tomorrow



## SPORTS...

By Eddie Ash

THAT a baseball really does curve and may deviate from a straight line as much as 6½ inches at the home plate appears from measurements made in Charleston, Ill., by Frank L. Verwiebe of Eastern Illinois State Teachers college, and reported in the American Journal of Physics.

These results run counter to the claims, made in "Life" magazine last September and supported by convincing pictures, that all "curves" are really straight and that the curves that many protested having seen are merely optical illusions.

The results also contradict the assertion in "Life" that if there is any curvature at all, it occurs in the first half of the pitch, the last half being perfectly straight. . . . The measurements at Charleston showed that most of the curving occurred during the last half, thus giving solid foundation for the "break" which so many insist they have seen.

The measurements were made in the same way that the path and velocity of a bullet are determined. . . . Four rectangular screens were set up between the pitcher and the home plate. . . . The five screens were crossed by vertical and horizontal threads, accurately spaced and aligned by a surveyor's transit. . . . The position of the ball as it passed through each screen could be determined by the broken threads to within less than an inch.

One throw was intentionally straight, and the measurements showed that it really was straight. . . . All pitches called "curves" proved to be actually curved, the deviation from straight line travel varying from 2½ to 6½ inches as measured at the home plate. . . . The outdrives deviated most, and are apparently the easiest curves to throw.

### It's Difficult to Make Ball Rise

THE SPEED of the ball was found to vary from 80 to 130 feet per second, requiring from one-half to two-fifths of a second to travel from the pitcher to the batter's box. . . . For a six-inch deviation, most of it occurring in the last fifth of a second, the ball must be traveling crosswise at two feet per second, which can easily give the batter the impression of "break."

To cause a ball, launched horizontally at 130 feet per second, to rise requires that it be given enough spin to lift itself 7½ inches, this being the distance it would fall during the flight by gravity. . . . This is very difficult, says Mr. Verwiebe, although conceivably a Walter Johnson or a Bob Feller might give the ball a slight "hop."

He concludes that many peculiar effects reported about baseball curves are still unexplained.

### Phils Give Uncle John Knotty Problem

NEW MANAGERS stumble over strange pitfalls, even so husky a babe as Uncle John Lober, 60-year-old infant manager of the Philadelphia Phils. . . . Mid-May found the Phils fourth in club batting, fifth in club fielding, way out in front in making double plays, but absolutely last in the National league race because apparently it's against the rules for them to make hits with men on bases.

They won seven of their first 25 games and were exactly last in driving in runs. . . . At that point they had 60 runs-batted-in, less than half as many as the league-leading Dodgers. . . . In six of their first seven wins it took a homer to furnish the winning margin.

The apex demonstration of Skipper Lober's main trouble was the Phils' 6-3 victory in Pittsburgh. . . . The Phils belted four homers, every one of them with the bases empty. . . . But the Phils turned on the Cincinnati Reds yesterday and won a 3-2 game.

CINCINNATI's Crosley field was the toughest in the National league for Mel Ott, National league all-time home run king, in his early years. . . . The Giants' 1942 manager hit his first big league four-mast in 1927 but he never negotiated one in Cincinnati until 1935. . . . Since then, however, he hasn't missed a year.

Last season he socked four around the Crosley premises, more than any other visiting player except Vince DiMaggio, who also hit four there, and more than any Cincinnati player except Frank McCormick, who crashed 11.

### College Rookie Signed by Tribe

Frank Stauet, star shortstop of the St. Joseph's college nine, has been signed by the Indianapolis Indians. Secretary Al Schlesner

announced today. The rookie's home is at Whiting, Ind.

St. Joe won the Indiana conference baseball title this spring and Stauet was an important cog in the championship team. He probably will be farmed out to the little minors for league seasoning.

### Hayworth Released

ST. LOUIS, May 22 (U.P.)—Ray Hayworth, veteran catcher who was a free agent signed with the St. Louis Browns last spring, was given his unconditional release today.

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## 24 Enter Local Hale America Golf Tourney

### Pro-Am Field Strokes For 6 Low Scores

Clifford E. Wagoner, Indianapolis district golf secretary, today announced the names of 12 professionals and 12 amateurs who will tee off Monday morning at Speedway in the Hale American National Open Golf tournament.

The United States Golf association yesterday announced 1529 golfers had entered to play in 69 centers throughout the country. Survivors at each center will meet at sectionals June 5-9 and the finalists will play the Ridgemoor Country club course in Chicago, June 18-21, for the national crown.

The local 36-hole trial of medal play will send the six lowest qualifiers to Cincinnati June 6 and 7 for sectional competition.

### Three Alternates

Any ties after the 36 holes Monday will be played off immediately. Following the six qualifiers the next three low shooters will serve as alternates.

Foursomes will begin teeing off at 9:30 a.m. Monday. The first two in each group will be professionals. The next two will be amateurs.

Pairing for the 1:30 p.m. round will be the same as the morning round.

9:30—Johnny Vaughn, Speedway; Wayne Hensley, Anderson; Ray Roberson, Speedway, and Willard H. Shelby, Lebanon.

9:40—Victor Soitz, Richmond; Tommy Vaughn, Pleasant Run; Raleigh Bennett, Hillcrest, and Russell Duke, Hillcrest.

9:50—Massie B. Miller, Hillcrest; Lou Feeney, Indianapolis; Cyril Cadieu, Bloomington, and John McGuire, Hillcrest.

10—Marion H. Smith, Crawfordsville; Wayne Timberman, Meridian Hills; Charles E. Harter, Speedway, and Paul E. Sparks, Speedway.

10:10—Roy C. Smith, Highland; George Soutar, Broadmoor; Frank L. Weiland, Highland, and Harold C. Cork, Speedway.

10:20—Harold Wiley, Terre Haute; Fred H. Gronauer, Willowbrook; Ray E. Jones, Speedway, and Garner White, Noblesville.

### Brewers Lead

### By 1½ Games

By UNITED PRESS

The Milwaukee Brewers still led the American association today but the Kansas City Blues were pressuring them, a mere one-half game behind.

The Brewers took a lambasting yesterday from the Columbus Red Birds, 9 to 0, after a wild 4th inning in which the Birds scored eight runs. Both teams got 9 hits but the Brewers slugging was scattered.

Kansas City dropped a seven-inning game, the first of a double header, to the Toledo Mud Hens, 2 to 1, but came back in the second game for a 5 to 3 victory. The Blues were on the short end of a 3 to 1 score until the eighth when they cut loose with two runs. They added two more in the ninth.

Minneapolis, who has been pressing the Saints for third place, won over Louisville 6 to 4.

### Interesting Until—!

Last night's series finale with the St. Paul Saints was annexed by the visitors, 6 to 3, in 10 innings. It was a sizzling affair for nine rounds and was a 2-all deadlock in regulation distance.

It is another "ladies' night" at the Tribe park and the contest is booked to start at 8:30. Lefty Logan hasn't pitched since Sunday when he dropped a tough 3-2 decision to the Minneapolis Millers and he's due to face the Brewers tonight. And if not Logan, George Gill probably will draw the Tribe mound assignment.

All of which leads to the suggestion that somebody get to somebody in authority in Washington, D. C., and have a ceiling placed on baseball consecutive defeats. And the Redskins hope the ceiling is set at six because they have to open a four-game series with the league-leading Milwaukee Brewers under the lights here tonight.

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