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The Indianapolis Times

SPORTS

Indians Move To Birmingham For Two Games

Tribe to Get Home Apr. 11;
Will Train at Kissimmee in '52

By EDDIE ASH

Times Sports Editor

EN ROUTE TO BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Mar. 31—Having left sunny Kissimmee, Fla., on the midnight choo-choo for Alabama, the Indianapolis Indians today were rolling along and wondering what's in store for them on the second leg of their spring training trip, which consists of fast barnstorming tour through five Southern Association cities.

First stop will be Birmingham, where they will resume exhibition games action tomorrow.

The dash through the Old South calls for nine games, two in Birmingham, two in Memphis, one in Little Rock, two in Chattanooga and two in Atlanta, before the Tribes land in Indianapolis on Wednesday, Apr. 11.

Just before the Indians said farewell to Kissimmee, it was announced they would return next spring for another session of training in the pleasant sports-loving city whose citizens made the Tribe players, officials and vacationists from the Hoosier state feel that this area of Florida has all the attributes for rounding a ball club into splendid physical condition.

The Indians launched practice in Kissimmee on Mar. 5 and the June-in-Indiana weather throughout the entire month was very much to their liking. Fact is, the Hoosier Redskins lost only one day off the field on account of rain.

Even yesterday, their last day in camp, although it rained some in the morning, it wasn't long before the hot sun broke through, the rain clouds moved on and the Indians got in one of their heaviest workouts of spring before Manager Don Gutteridge called a halt and ordered everybody to pack up and prepare to shove off.

LATE IN THE day, the Kissimmee Chamber of Commerce extended an invitation for the Indians to return in 1952 and it was gladly accepted by Tribe President Owen J. Bush and Manager Gutteridge.

Bush and Gutteridge were genuinely sincere when they told the city officials and fans that Kissimmee was the nearest thing to a major league camp that they had observed through their many years in baseball.

Kissimmee citizens made it a point to arrange ample wholesome off-the-field entertainment for the players, such as frequent fishing trips, fish fries, motor trips and lakeside feasts out in the wildwood.

Most of the Indians departed Kissimmee last night at 12:30 housed in two Pullmans. Others streaked off in their own cars, some leaving immediately after the day's practice.

The train party was in charge of Tribe Treasurer Bob Weimer. President Bush and Wally Middsworth, personal friend, remained behind. They are to drive to New Orleans for a player conference with Pittsburgh Pirates officials on Apr. 5.

The Tribe members aboard the train are due to arrive in Birmingham at about 6:40 p. m. today.

Royce Lint, veteran southpaw, is slated to pitch the opener in Birmingham tomorrow afternoon. He resides in the Birmingham area and wants to perform before his hometown friends.

Smoke Signals

Big Ed Stevens, first sacker, who reported only Thursday night, got in his first workout with the Indians yesterday. He appeared to be in sound physical condition and walked two drives out of the park in batting practice. The veteran told Manager Gutteridge "he'd give him all he had."

Stevens said he felt he still is a major leaguer and predicted he'll make the Pirates regret turning him loose if injuries and illness don't stop him again this year.

THREE OF FOUR players cut loose by the Indians yesterday accepted the demotion without complaining. Pitchers Bob Bonaparte and Fred Uhman and Outfielder Ed Jacobsen moved from Kissimmee to the Pirates' Little minor league camp at Deland, Fla., to continue training with Pittsburgh farmhands. They will be assigned for the season to clubs in a lower classification at a later date.

Pitcher Charles Hubbard also cut adrift and assigned to the Deland camp, decided to return to his Georgia home instead. He was on the unsigned list and wasn't compelled to accompany the other lads.

FACILITIES AT the Kissimmee ball park clubhouses were so good that Trainer Jim Piero sort of hankered to stay on in the "Tangerine League" for another week or so. Jim complained that since he had to remain in the clubhouse during player workout hours, he missed out on a Florida sun tan.

The Brahman Inn, Tribe headquarters in Kissimmee, was the scene of a farewell dinner party last night with club officials as guests of the Chamber of Commerce and other leading citizens.

Novis Primed for '50' Comeback

The powerful Novi Specials, now under sponsorship of the Pure Oil Co., are being primed for their comeback in this year's 500-Mile Race.

With the entries officially filed with the speedway, Otto Wolfer, Pure Oil's racing representative, said here late yesterday that every effort was being made to make this "the year" for the Novis.

THE FIRST Novi Special was brought to the Indianapolis track in 1946, Ralph Hepburn smashed all official qualifying records by driving one lap at 134.49 miles an hour and the required four laps (10 miles) at 133.94 miles an hour. Both marks stood until last year, when Walt Faulkner boosted them to 136.013 and 134.343, respectively.

In 1949, Duke Nalon broke all race records from one to 50 miles with one of the Novi cars before crashing on the north turn when a rear axle broke. Those marks, to a total of 68 or 70.

CHET MILLER will be at the wheel of one of the Novis and the driver of the other hasn't been named. Although no official announcement has been made, The Times learned there is still a possibility that Duke Nalon could be at the wheel of the other car.

The cars will arrive early, he said, probably on May 3. Qualifications start May 12. Last year the cars failed to get into the race because they didn't get into the qualification lineup until the last day and there wasn't time for them to run the time trial.

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Lloyds Pay \$250,000 To Your Host Owner

LOS ANGELES, Mar. 31 (UP)—Your Host will not be destroyed until the best veterinarian Lloyds of London can provide try to heal the gallant thoroughbred's broken leg.

The huge insurance organization showed yesterday it had faith the four-year-old thoroughbred might live by offering to "buy" him for full value of policies on him—\$250,000.

The western favorite's career was stopped short at \$384,795 on Jan. 13 when he fell at Santa Anita racetrack.

Frosh for Varsity Senior Open Golf Meet

CHICAGO, Mar. 31 (UP)—The Professional Golfers' Association said today it would sponsor the first national senior Open golf championship at Dunedin, Fla., Jan. 16-19.

Purdue Relays Get Under Way Today

Hot Montreal Now Favored Over Detroit

Canadiens Seek 3d Straight Win Tonight

By United Press

MONTREAL, Mar. 31—The odds on this hockey-mad city hope to be in bed at a respectable hour tonight as the red-hot Montreal Canadiens seek their third straight victory over the Detroit Red Wings in the semifinal Stanley Cup playoff series.

For the first two games of the series, Canadiens fans huddled by their radios until 1 a. m. while their favorites struggled with the Red Wings, first in four overtime periods and then in three. Montreal won the first game, 3 to 2, and the second, 1 to 0.

Tonight, with the Canadiens playing the first of two games on their home forum ice, Montreal fans hope victory will come easier.

The Canadiens, who went into the series as 5 to 3 underdogs, now are favored to eliminate the pennant-winning Red Wings in the best-of-seven series.

"I'm sure we'll take the series now," Montreal Coach Dick Irvin said before splitting the club off to a ski resort for rest. "The Wings have worked their first line of Sid Abel, Gordie Howe and Ted Lindsay into a frazzle, for one thing."

Irvin, who has suited up 10 first-year men for this vital series, also was encouraged with the news that rookie forward Bernie (Boom Boom) Geoffrion would not be sidelined by a fractured nose he sustained Thursday in the motor city.

Leafs Pit Hopes In Veteran Goalie

TORONTO, Mar. 31 (UP)—Banking heavily on Turk Broda, the veteran goalie who was given a new vote of confidence by manager Connie Smythe, the Toronto Maple Leafs hope to even their semifinal Stanley Cup hockey series tonight against the Boston Bruins.

Pressed into full-time service after Vezina trophy winner Al Rollins suffered a knee injury in the Leaf's 2 to 0 setback at the hands of the Bruins, Wednesday night, in the opening game, the 37-year-old Broda was offered a contract for next season by Smythe.

Broda, the Leaf's goalie for 13 seasons and the oldest player in the National League, has been considering retirement, but may change his mind after Smythe's offer. Rollins is lost to the seventh day in the motor city.

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ST. PETERSBURG, Fla., Mar. 31—There's still plenty of power in the bat of Jimmy Bloodworth, the Philadelphia Phillies' 33-year-old utility infielder.

Bloodworth belted two home runs as the Phils beat the Washington Senators, 8 to 5, in 10 innings yesterday at Clearwater.

His first blast came off Lefty Bob Kuzava with two on in the sixth, and his second was against Sandy Consagra with two on in the 10th, winning the game.

Gil Coan and Irv Noren hit home runs for Washington, while Stan Lopata hit one for the Phils to tie the score at 5-all in the seventh.

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., Mar. 31—If the Chicago White Sox could play all their games against the St. Louis Browns, who knows where they might finish in the American League pennant race.

With Rookie Bob Mahoney blanking St. Louis with three hits in the first six innings and Ken Holcombe yielding three hits in the last three frames, the White Sox beat the Browns, 3 to 1, yesterday for the seventh straight time. The victory was the Sox 13th in 18 spring exhibition games.

TUCSON, Ariz., Mar. 31—Early Wynn of the Cleveland Indians is in top form—not only in pitching but also at the plate. Wynn gave up only two runs

in a seven-inning stint and drove in three runs with a bases-loaded double yesterday as the Indians defeated the Pittsburgh Pirates, 6 to 3.

TAMPA, Fla., Mar. 31 (UP)—The rookie battery of Pitcher Bill Evans and Catcher Bob Scherbarth gave Manager Steve O'Neill of the Boston Red Sox something to cheer about today.

Scherbarth hit a three-run two-bagger that drove in the winning runs and Evans pitched shutout ball in the last three innings as the Red Sox defeated the New York Giants, 7 to 4, yesterday.

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla., Mar. 31—Rookie catcher Ray Noble was lost to the New York Giants to day for about two weeks because of a sprained ankle.

Noble was injured when he was thrown out at home while trying to score on Jack Lohrke's double as the Giants lost to the Boston Red Sox yesterday, 7 to 4.

Joe Hatten started for the Dodgers, but retired in the second inning after being spiked by Spahn.

LAKELAND, Fla., Mar. 31 (UP)—Johnny Lipon and Jerry Priddy led a 15-mit attack yesterday as the Detroit Tigers snapped a three-game exhibition losing

streak with a 10-to-4 victory over the St. Louis Cardinals.

Lipon drove in five runs with two doubles and a single, while Priddy also hit two doubles. Erv Dusak, the Cardinals' starting pitcher, hit a home run. Paul (Dizzy) Trout of the Tigers yielded only one single in the last three innings.

Training Camp Briefs

Yankee Castoff, Frank Hiller, Trims Champs as Cubs Win, 5-2

By United Press

TUCSON, Ariz., Mar. 31—It was only an exhibition victory, but it was one of the sweetest in the career of Frank Hiller, the Chicago Cubs pitcher who was cast off by the New York Yankees.

The 30-year-old right-hander, aiming to prove the Yankees made a mistake in selling him, scattered Detroit, 80 to 46. In the only other game Milwaukee eliminated Washington, D. C., from the championship round, 73 to 49.

PLAY BALL—That's exactly what these Indianapolis Amateur Baseball Association officers are preparing for as they discuss programs for the coming season. They are (left to right) Frances Shephard, secretary-treasurer; Earl Montgomery, second vice president; Slo Yovanovich, first vice president, and Frank Sigafoos, president. Sigafoos was re-elected president this year, the others are newly elected.

Deaf Tourney Field Pared To 4 Teams

Four Deaf Club basketball teams from Arkansas to New Jersey moved into the semifinals of their national basketball tournament at Tech High School today.

Missing from the round of four was the Indianapolis host team that got jarred last night, 72 to 53, by Newark, N. J., after trailing by only nine points, 39-30, at halftime.

Today's semifinals paired Little Rock and Des Moines at 10:30 a. m. and Milwaukee against Newark at 1 p. m.

In earlier consolation round games today Washington, D. C., edged Tucson, Ariz., 43 to 41, and Detroit was paired with Indianapolis.

Hagemeier Scores 14

Ted Hagemeier, Indiana Deaf School player this past season, topped the Hoosiers last night with 14 points while Newark's Steve Renick and Mike DeMauro divided 36 points.

The tourney's defending champion quintet from Little Rock rushed through Tucson, 72 to 49,

for an easy triumph last night.

Clyde Nutt scored 26 points for Newark at 1 p. m.

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games today Washington, D. C.,

edged Tucson, Ariz., 43 to 41,

and Detroit was paired with Indianapolis.

The race against time and the pull against gravity was to begin

for 368 track stars from 33 schools with the 3 p. m. time trials.

They will culminate the 15 - event program with a two - and one - half hour running of the finals at 7:30 p. m.

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