

# STAR-TELEGRAM

## Weekly Sports Letter

PREPARED BY ALL STAFF MEMBERS

Fort Worth, Texas

July 6, 1943.

Dear Tex:

Another week has passed and the old sports brook, far from running dry, has tumbled considerable water under the bridge since our last letter to you. Day by day the volume sometimes seems pretty low compared to what it was when you were here, but when you look back over a week a lot of things have happened.

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The Bombers are champs. The flickering hopes of South-west Conference football are still burning. Phil Handler is the new Chicago Cardinal head coach. Pete Cawthon, new coach of the Brooklyn pro team, has visited in Texas. Bill (Red) Roden of Glen Rose and Texas U., has gone to the finals of the National Intercollegiate golf tournament and on into the Marines. Patty Berg has staged a smashing comeback. Gunder Haegg has won again. Tennessee and Auburn have joined the colleges that won't play football for the duration.

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We could take up all the allotted space telling about the local baseball play. It has been a dingaree. But, because of the press of other things in which you'll be interested, we'll have to limit the account to the bare facts.

Last week when we wrote you it was the eve of the last regular game of the first half and the Fliers of the Army Air Field were about to make their bid against the Bombers for a tie for the title.

Well, sir, the Fliers picked up a couple of new players and won that game 12-3. It was close, though, until the last three innings.

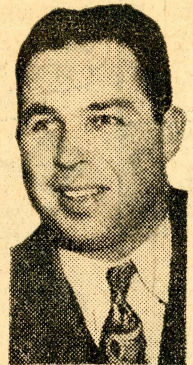
That result called for a playoff.

A one-game "sudden death" test was agreed upon.

It was played the afternoon of Sunday the FOURTH.

The sun was hot. The crowd was nearly 5,000. The teams were steamed up. It was almost like those Fort Worth-Dallas games of other years.

The decision went down to the ninth inning. The Fliers scored once to go ahead 7-6, but the Bombers came right back and scored two in the last half to win 8-7. With the bases loaded and one out Manager Tony Robello (who replaced Asa Short as the field manager after the 3-12 defeat) put on the old squeeze play to break up the game. Barney Barnhill laid down a beaut of a bunt and fleet Dick McCouley, running for Texas



HANDLER.

## NAVY AND MARINE RESERVES REPORT

The college boys and last-year high school seniors who were Navy and Marine reserves checked in at the various schools Thursday, and things have begun to straighten out in regard to what's to be what in football at those schools. Things look a little brighter, although it is still too early to say for sure what the situation will be when the leaves begin to fall.

Best information available is that the Navy and Marines will let the boys play if they want to and can find time. They'll have from 4 to 6 for their own time each afternoon, and 48 hours on weekends by special permission.

From here it still looks as if all will depend on the ideas of the C. O. at each school. If he's in favor of football, a way will be found. If he's not football inclined, the coach is going to have a heck of a time.

One point has been made clear—the boys and the teams will be playing NOT for the services but for the school. That means the school athletic departments will have charge.

Captain-elect Billy Hale, Texas Tech center, has been uncovered at TCU. So has three SMU varsity men (Wayne Shaw, Ray Razor and Jim Fitzpatrick) and a scattering of boys from smaller schools.

Because the military has more serious things to attend to, no complete check of the rolls has been made at any of the schools.

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### GLENN COATS GETS CHANCE AT MAJORS

Glenn Coats, 16-year-old first baseman for Arlington Heights High, is a lucky youngster. He has been picked by Jimmy Payton, Chicago Cub scout, for a two months' course in the Cubs' school at Chicago. He will train there for two months, often under supervision of Cub players, free of charge. At the end he still will have his amateur standing, but if he shows enough promise, the Cubs will offer him a contract with one of their farm teams.

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The golf pros enjoyed something like a prewar weekend with July 3-4-5 coming on Saturday, Sunday and Monday. Play was off only about one-fourth from average weekends of other years, the golf teachers said. The boys are having their troubles, however, finding enough workers to keep the courses in top shape. Remember John, the good-natured Negro who used to take it easy serving the soft drinks and pies at Worth Hills? Well, there aren't many soft drinks any more, and Wells Howard has had John on the business end of a mowing machine for several months. John is convinced Sherman was right.

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Hank Oana had a great day with the Detroit Tigers Saturday. He went into a game against the Yankees in the third inning, apparently hopelessly behind, hit a home run with two on in the eighth to help make up the difference and then became winning pitcher, 10-9, when his mates scored four times in the ninth.

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Roden, the Glen Rose redhead, had his final civilian golf fling at Chicago. He knocked over a string of LSU and Princeton favorites to reach the finals. There he bowed to Wallace Ulrich, an unknown from Austin, Minn., who just stopped off to play for fun before going to keep an engagement with Uncle Sam.

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### PATTY BERG IN SUCCESSFUL COMEBACK

Miss Berg, making her first start since shattering a kneecap more than a year ago, made her comeback in the Women's Western Open. She won the 36-hole final match from Dotty Kirby 1-up. Patty was so lame on the last holes that she had to use her putter for a cane . . . so game she birdied three of the last holes, one with a 30-foot putt on No. 17.

Then she, too, joined the Marines.

Elizabeth Hicks, who bowed to Betty in the semifinals, joined the SPARS.

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Bugs Morris, the A. C. C. coach and athletic director, has entered the Navy . . . Branch Rickey, who assented to the firing of Chuck Dressen as Brooklyn coach early in the year, last week announced the rehiring of Chuck for his old job. No explanation for the about-face was given. The old baseball saw is that the teams on top after the double-headers of July 4 will win the pennant. The Cards were four games ahead of the second-place Dodgers in the National League after taking Brooklyn in a double-header. In the American League, however, the seventh-place team was just 3½ games behind the leading Yanks. Washington was in second place, one game behind New York. The eighth-place Athletics are the only ones who couldn't jump to the top in the space of a few days.

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