

SPORT TIDE

Baseball in Ireland--Belfast Reporter Gets 'Hang' of It

BY FLEM HALL

From Lieut. Amon Carter Jr. in Northern Ireland comes a letter and a clipping from a Belfast paper about a baseball game played there by American soldiers July Fourth.

"Every time some Americans get together and start playing baseball they attract a big crowd, although none of the natives know what is going on," writes Carter, who, as one of their most ardent former fans, wishes the Cats well.

The clipping the lieutenant sent along supports the contention that Americans take baseball too much for granted; that they don't fully appreciate the speed and skill of the players.

In contrast to our professional teams (at which we are likely to yawn) the ones that Belfast watched probably were inexperienced. Yet the Irish newspaperman who reported the game was impressed by the quickness of the base runners, the accuracy of the pitcher and the marvel of an outfielder catching a hard-driven ball. He didn't understand the game, but he appreciated its details.

Excerpts From Story of Game

For the freshness in treatment, if nothing else, let us look at excerpts from the story which was carried under the heading of "Baseball Match." It started in this sidewise fashion:

"It seemed to be a grand game--if you could get the hang of it. That, or something like it, was the verdict of thousands who saw America's national game--baseball--played at Windsor Park on Saturday."

The presence of the Duke of Abercorn was more important to the reporter than either the score or the fact that a strange game had attracted 8,000 paid customers to an improvised diamond with inadequate seats poorly arranged for a proper view of the play.

After recounting the preliminaries, of which there were plenty--with band music, the reporter got around to the game which "resulted in a win for the Midwest Giants, 3 runs to 2, over the Kentucky Wildcats."

Explaining Game to Fans

"Then," the piece continued, "the tall, loose-limbed men, one padded and wire-protected, took the field and the 'ball game' was on. In the center of a 90-foot square stood the key man of the whole combine--the pitcher--whose task it was that the batter stand beside the plate, his bat, like an overgrown pot stuck pointing in readiness for the swing which carries the whole force of his body with it and can send the ball the length of a football field--as it did on Saturday--or even through the roof of the grandstand--as it also did on Saturday. The baseball batsman, unlike the cricket batsman, can not 'stone wall.' When the baseball batsman hits the ball he must run

Baseball Standings, Schedules

Table with columns for Standings (Texas League, American Association, National League, American League) and Thursday's Results (Texas League, American Association, National League, American League).

Advertisement for Falstaff beer featuring a bottle and the slogan 'Split a Quart A Day It's the Thrifty Way Today!'.

Fast Mound Duel Tonight as Greer, Dean Clash

Robinson to Stake Longest Modern Fight Win Streak Against Angott Tonight

BY SID FEDER.

NEW YORK, July 31 (AP).--The longest winning streak in modern fight history--Ray Robinson's run of 121 in a row--collides with Sammy Angott in Madison Square Garden tonight, and there's more than an outside chance that the collision won't do it a bit of good.

Although the skinny Harlem Hammer is 1 to 2 in the betting to stay on the track that has left him all-victorious ever since he first drew on a glove as an amateur--especially since he already holds a decision over Angott--Sammy is a specialist at upsetting guys in return matches. And tonight Angott has one distinct edge--a style of bashing backs that Ray definitely does not like.

Sammy likes to fight from a half crouch, crowd his way in close and then buff his opponent about the midsection at short range--the shorter the better. Robinson, on the other hand, is a long, lean stringbean who wants to stand off a way and pitch his high hard ones.

In all his fights, he has shown little relish for the crowding kind of rival--and Sammy is one of the crowding-est. This corner believes Robinson, who has never failed to reverse a decision in a return match with any fighter who has once beaten him, can do it again this time, and will gallop home with a decision, in spite of the "Sugar Man's" speed and two-handed shot-making.

Sammy's lightweight crown won't be on the line in this one--it is "stashed" away until he meets Allie Stolz again. Yet, Promoter Mike Jacobs figures the fight presents enough of a nose-mashing party so that some 15,000 of the faithful, representing a gate of over \$30,000, will be sitting in on the shindig by the time the little Washington (Pa.) walloper and the Harlem thug man go to work at 10 p. m. EWT.

Robinson's long winning run has been piled up in 89 amateur and 32 professional outings. He is generally regarded as the best of the little men to come down the pike in years. But Sammy's the kind of a guy who can take his proverbial or leave 'em alone. And tonight he's out to prove that Ray is just a pitcher who can go to the well once too often.

Sport Schedule

Table listing various sports events including baseball games at La Grange Field, St. Paul, and other venues.

Girls' District Softball Meet to Be Held Here

The girls softball district tournament will be held in Fort Worth Aug. 6-7, Harry Taylor, athletic director of the Recreation Department, announced Friday. Entry fee is \$5.

Cat Box Score

Table showing scores for various sports teams including San Antonio, Fort Worth, and others.

Two Texans in Western Tennis Semifinals

KALAMAZOO, Mich., July 31.--The Western Junior Open Tennis championship moved into the semi-final rounds Friday with Bob Falkenberg, Los Angeles, pitted against Ted Norpoth, Houston, in one bracket, and Art MacDonald, Los Angeles, against Fred Kovaleski, Hamtramck, Mich., in the other.

In the boys' division semifinals, Alan Watson, Elizabeth, N. J., engaged Ed Ray, Taft, Texas, and Bill Smith, Orlando, Fla., met Ed Adams, Columbus, Ga.

Falkenberg, national interscholastic champ, entered the semifinals in virtue of a 6-4, 6-3, win over Charles Sampson, Denver, Colorado State High School tidist. The upset of Thursday's play came when Kovaleski defeated Tom Falkenberg of Los Angeles, 6-2, 10-12, 6-4.

Service Department. Look out Joe Di Maggio: Herb Scheffler, who played last year for Greensboro, N. C., built up a 22-game hitting streak for the Chanute Field, Ill. Planesman before he was stopped by Ernie Rudolph of the St. Joseph (Mich.) Autos. Then he started another by hitting in the next three games. He has a .422 average . . . and the Keebler Field (Miss) Commandos went through the Mississippi State semipro tournament without a loss, licking the 35th Field Artillery Lions from Camp Shelby, 11-1, in the final Wednesday . . . The Great Lakes (Ill.) Navy Station is having a tough time keeping its athletes. Latest to go is Pitchin' Paul Christman, former Missouri football flinger, who has been transferred "elsewhere in the Ninth Naval District."

Suicide Schedule. The football program for Jim Crowley's navy pre-flight school footballers at Chapel Hill, N. C., lists successive games against Harvard, Georgia pre-flight school,

Split Double-Header. SAN DIEGO, Cal., July 31 (AP).--Seale divided a Coast League twin bill with San Diego Thursday night, winning the second game, 7 to 4, after the Padres won the seven-inning opener, 3 to 2.



THURMAN "MONK" TUCKER of the Fort Worth Cats, the greatest base runner in the Texas League or, perhaps, any other league. A single, a double and triple in Thursday's game boosted him into third place among the leading hitters with an average of .324, but it is the centerfielder's dazzling work on the bases that catches the eye of big league scouts.

Heafner Starts St. Paul Open as Favorite Today

BY CHARLES CHAMBERLAIN.

ST. PAUL, July 31 (AP).--Some of St. Paul's best par busters started romping around the Keller public links in playground Friday in the first round of the \$5,000 St. Paul Open.

The field of about 160 pros and amateurs was headed by Candy Kid Clayton Heafner of Linville, N. C., who has been dubbed the favorite to capture the meet's \$1,000 first prize at the end of 72 holes Sunday.

Heafner, winner of the Mahoning Valley Open at Girard, Ohio, and runner-up at the Tam O'Shanter Open within a month, gave sideling guessers confidence Thursday by shooting a 68 over the hilly par 72 layout.

Long-hitting Jimmy Thompson and Leland Gibson, the Kansas City darkhorse, also posted 68's in a preliminary of mixed foursome matches. Heafner and Phyllis Otto of Atlantic, Iowa, who shot a 77, won the pro-women's competition.

All former champions of this 12-year-old tournament teed off Friday with the exception of Olin Dutra, Seaman Sam Snead and Corp. Ed Oliver.

Roundup of Sport Chatter

BY HUGH FULLERTON JR., Wide World Sports Columnist.

NEW YORK, July 31.--If Sammy Angott gets tagged by Ray Robinson tonight, he'll probably look around for the knockdown timekeeper before he falls . . . According to Manager Charley Jones, the thing that kept Sammy from being counted out when he ran into Ray's right at Philadelphia a year ago was that he fell right in front of that official . . . The noise of the hammer pounding the canvas right at his ear brought Sammy back so successfully that he almost won the scrap . . . The crowds at Saratoga haven't been anything to write home about, but since the running hoses were at the same time as gas . . .

Tea for Two. When the Seattle Cricket Club found competition a bit light, Publicist Syd Hardt wrote the papers as follows: "Will you invite any teams wanting games to come out to Graves Field and play us . . . Oh, yes, and tell them to bring their own sugar for the tea."

One Minute Sports Page. Eddie Borden, former local fight writer now in England with the Canadian army, writes that Freddie Mills and Len Harvey drew \$60,000 for their recent scrap for the British light-heavyweight title and that promoters figure they could get \$100,000 if Gus Lesnevich could come over to fight Mills, currently the British fans' fair-haired boy . . . The Detroit Tigers have shifted their Sept. 9 ball game to clear the road for the Lions-Army All Stars football tussle . . . Night sports in Tampa are out after the newly-ordered almost goes into effect Saturday, and a lot of athletes who haven't seen daylight in years will be buying sunburn lotions . . . Trainer Sunny Jim Fitzsimmons, who has 50 horses in his stable at Saratoga, had to hire a nag the other day to pull the buggy he's using to conserve gas.

Today's Guest Star. John Cronley, Oklahoma City Oklahoma: "Such nonsense originating in Chicago's Tam O'Shanter, pro golfers striking in a war here, fit tournament in refusal to aid fans by wearing numbers. Oh, well, the members of Tommy Armour and Joe Kirkwood have been up a long time as far as competitive golf goes."

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Paul and Ed Don't Fool Around, Close Battle Likely; Buffs Here for Three Games

BY FLEM HALL.

One of the fastest games of the season is due to be unre-reel at La Grave Field tonight. Paul Dean is expected to pitch against Ed Greer.

It will be the first game of the Fort Worth-Houston series that'll extend through Sunday. Besides being fast, the game is likely to be close. Dean (12-5) ranks with George Kleine (13-6) as the best in the Buff pitching department. Greer (12-6) is one of Fort Worth's Big Three curvers.

Paul has had four days of rest--one more than usually allowed hurlers in this company but the parent St. Louis Cards believe the veteran needs that extra day between starts. Greer has had only three days of rest. He could use another, but the failure of the staff on Tuesday night (when Claud Horton, Marc Beddingfield, Otis Clark and Joe Winfield all worked) deprived Ed of that luxury.

Always Works Fast. Dean is always a fast working pitcher. He seldom wastes a pitch. Working with perfect control, he slides the ball at the edges of the plate; forces the batters either to swing or "soldier" out. Invariable the batters choose to swing at inviting looking pitches. Most of the time they are fooled. The ball has more stuff on it than it appears to have, and it's not in just the right spot for the fat part of the bat. Pop flies and "big bills" roll off the bats with great regularity when Dean is pitching.

In one game recently Paul made only 74 pitches in nine innings. That's remarkable; only about two to each batter. He pitches without taking a wind-up, and that speeds the game too. Greer is not so consistently fast, but he is seldom a slow worker and occasionally he can get 'em out as quickly as anyone. He pitched the fastest game in the Texas League this year; the 69-minute shutout that he hung on San Antonio in June.

There was no shutting the Missions out their last trip here. Their bats were smoke-pole hot all of the series that closed Thursday night.

In the three games the Missions made 47 hits and 25 runs. Even in the one game they lost (Wednesday) they made six runs and 13 hits. In no other series this season have the Fort Worth pitchers been treated with so little respect.

Poor Defensive Play. Poor defensive play--errors of omission more than out-and-out fielding blunders--helped the Padres pile up their big totals.

Take Thursday's game, for example. Earl Caldwell was made to look ineffective by the final score of 8-2, but, as a matter of fact, he pitched a pretty good game; a lot better one than the score indicates. Four errors hurt him badly but just as damaging was the failure of the left side of the infield to handle a couple of balls that should have been handled, but which actually went through for base hits. Then there was the complete failure of the big part of the batting order to deliver in the early innings when Monk Tucker and Bill Lillard and Flea Clifton were knocking Grover Miller out of his shoes. Repeatedly Ford Garrison, Merve Connors and Alex Hooks had Miller teed up for a knockout only to fall a victim to his determined rallies.

In the later rounds Miller grew stronger as the Cats grew weaker. They finally fell apart in the ninth inning when four runs were scored.

Harkins Now Ensign, Rejects Pro Grid Post

AUSTIN, July 31 (AP).--Henry Harkins, onyl 1941 University of Texas football first-stringer still in civilian clothes, has his new Fall ensemble. Rejecting the pro uniform of the Cleveland Rams and returning their contract unsigned, he chose the garb of a naval ensign. His commission arrived Thursday.

Large advertisement for Wolf and Klar Sporting Goods featuring a 'Lay-a-way' sale, various firearms (rifles, shotguns, supplies), croquet sets, and bicycles. Includes contact information and store location.

Small advertisement for a 'Split Double-Header' game between San Diego and another team, mentioning a 'Suicide Schedule' and 'Service Department'.