Big League Roundup

Digest By Sam Lacy

Wednesday

NEW YORK — A 10th inning homer into the left field seats by **Al Smith** gave the Indians victory over the New York Yankees in the opening game of their crucial series.

Smith's blow was the climax of an uphill battle, by virtue of which the Tribe wiped out a 7-0 deficit and went on to win. It was Al's only hit in five times at bat.

New York scored seven times in the first inning, but was held hitless thereafter by a parade of Cleveland pitchers—Don Mossi, Ray Narleski, Bob Hooper, Mike Garcia and Hal Newhouser.

Also homering for the Indians **Larry Doby** and Bobby Avila. **Doby** had 3 for 5 for the evening and batted in three runs. **Dave Pope**, inserted as a 3rd inning pinch hitter, struck out.

CINCINNATI — Although the Redlegs were blanked, 7-0, by the Philadelphia Phillies and held to six hits by Curt Simmons, they accomplished the unusual feat of using two nine hitters and seeing both deliver.

Manager Birdie Tebbets called on **Charley Harmon** in the 6th and on **Nino Escalera** in the 8th. Each came through with a single, but was left stranded.

MILWAUKEE — The Braves chased **Don Newcombe** from the mound after two-and-one-third innings, but lost to the Brooklyn Dodgers, just the same, 7-6.

The Brooks, with **Junior Gilliam** contributing a double and tallying two runs, and **Jackie Robinson** collecting one hit in two at bats, pulled the game out of the fire just before rain halted proceedings.

Milwaukee appeared to have sewed up the decision in a 5-run outburst in the 5th. During the rampage, **Hank Aaron** rapped a double and Eddie Mathews blasted a grand-slam home-run. However, it all went for naught when the Brooks bounced back with five of their own in the next frame.

Charley White, catching the game under Manager Charley Grimm's new system of platooning, collected two hits — both doubles — in three times up. **White**, said Grimm, will play in the lefthanded platoon and thus will alternate as catcher with Del Crandall or Sam Calderone, his righty receivers.

Bill Bruton was 0 for 3 for the night. **Aaron** was charged with an error afield.

BOSTON — The Red Sox put across four runs in the first and made them stand up to beat the Chicago White Sox, 5-2.

Minnie Minoso contributed one hit—a RBI double—to the losing Sox attack.

PHILADELPHIA — Manager Eddie Joost played **Vic Power** at first base as the Athletics bowed, 9-1, to the Baltimore Orioles.

Power got one hit in two tries before being removed for pinch-hitter Don Bollweg in the 8th inning.

Tuesday

BOSTON — **Bob Trice**, given a healthy lead in the first three innings, coasted to his fifth win of the season as the Philadelphia Athletics drubbed the Red Sox, 16-6.

Aided by Gus Zernial's two homers, plus one of his own making, **Trice** had little difficulty after his mates had spotted him 11 runs by the third. He eased up in the late stages, gave up five of the ten hits he allowed in the last three frames.

Bob also contributed a double on his second time at bat. **Vic Power** had two hits—a single and double—and two RBI.

MILWAUKEE — The Brooklyn Dodgers moved into a virtual tie with the Braves by beating them, 2-0, behind Russ Meyer.

Junior Gilliam, with two hits in four at bats, was credited with driving in one of the Bums' runs. **Roy Campanella** was 1 for 4 for the evening and **Jackie Robinson** was 0 for 3. **Jackie** was credited with two sacrifice plays.

For the losers, **Hank Aaron** collected a double, his one hit in four at bats. **Bill Bruton** was blanked in five trips and **Jim Pendleton** flied out on his one appearance as a pinch hitter.

Charley White was similarly retired when he pinched hit in the seventh but remained in the game to get 1 for 2.

Monday

CLEVELAND—Living up to his role of chief headache of the team which descarded him, **Minnie Minoso** banged out two hits in each game as he and his Chicago White Sox mates divided a twin-bill with the Indians.

Minoso was 2 for 3 in the 6-4, first-game victory, and 2 for 3 again in the nightcap, which the Sox lost, 6-3. He included a homer and two doubles in his four hits.

In all, **Minnie** was on base eight of the ten times he went to bat during the afternoon. He scored three runs and batted in three more.

Larry Doby had a double for the Indians in the first game, a single in four tries in the second. **Al Smith** was 1 for 4 in each game while leading off for the Tribe, marking the 12th straight game in which he has reached base safely at least once.

BOSTON — Although everyone in both lineups seemed to be hitting the ball freely, **Vic Power** was held to one safety in eight times to bat as the Red Sox thumped Power and his Philadelphia Athletic teammates, 20-10 and 9-0.

PHILADELPHIA — **Roy campanella** celebrated the second day of his return to the lineup with a home run, one of three blasted by the Brooklyn Dodgers as they edged the Phillies, 5-4, in 12 innings.

Campy had two hits, scored twice and drove in one run.

Junior Gilliam was hitless in five at bats and **Jackie Robinson** produced 1 for 3. **Gilliam** was charged with a fielding error.

Don Newcombe broke into the lineup in an unfamiliar role. He appeared as pinch runner for Georgia Shuba in the 9th and scored the tying run that sent the game into extra innings.

CHICAGO—Breaking into the free-swinging act with his Cub teammates, **Ernie Banks** collected a homer, scored three runs and drove in two as they thrashed the St. Louis Cardinals, 14-4.

Gene Baker did not see action for the second straight game.

Cardinal First Baseman **Tom Alston** failed to hit safely in three at bats for the day.

PITTSBURGH — **Willie Mays** banged out his 14th homer of the season to move into second place in the National League slugging derby behind Stan Musial.

The New York Giants, with **Willie** collecting 3 for 5 for the afternoon split with the Pirates, 4-0 and 3-4.

In addition to this circuit wallop, **Mays** smashed a double, stole a base and drove in three tallies.

Monte Irvin was 1 for 3 in the first game and 1 for 4 in the afterpiece. The opener went to the Giants on the strength of a masterful, 3-hit pitching job by **Ruben Gomez**. **Gomez** helped his own cause with two hits.

After getting two of his team's three hits off **Gomez**, young **Curt Roberts** was blanked in three at bats in the nightcap.

Sunday

PHILADELPHIA — The slump which has shackled **Vic Power** continued its hold on the Puerto Rican centerfielder as the Athletics broke even with Washington in a twin bill.

Power was held hitless in the 6-0 opening game defeat, and got one single in the 6-5 second game victory. **Vic** scored one run, had 15 putouts, indicating a busy day afield.

CLEVELAND — The Indians downed Detroit, 3-1, with **Al Smith** getting one hit and **Larry Doby** getting none.

Smith obtained a single and tallied a run.

BALTIMORE—A ten-game losing streak of the Orioles was snapped when the Birds beat the Chicago White Sox, 5-2.

Righthander **Don Larsen** scattered six Chicago hits and never in danger. **Minnie Minoso** was 1 for 4, getting a single and scoring one of his team's two runs.

CHICAGO — Cincinnati twice staged 9th inning rallies, failed to overtake the Cubs in the first game but accomplished the feat in the nightcap of the double-header.

The Redlegs lost, 7-5, then won, 6-5, from the Cubs.

Neither **Charley Harmon** nor **Nino Escalera** provided help for Cincinnati at the plate, although **Harmon** scored a run in the second tilt.

For the Cubs, **Ernie Banks** was 0 for 3 in the opener, but teammate **Gene Baker** had 2 for 2. **Banks** scored on one of **Baker's** blows. **Gene** was charged with an error afield.

In the second game, **Ernie** was 1 for 4. **Baker** sat out the nightcap, giving way to two veterans, Eddie Miksis and Bill Serena, who divided the chores at second base.

NEW YORK—Brooklyn halted the Giants, 5-3, but there was no stopping **Willie Mays**.

Mays connected for a homer and single for two hits in three trips. **Monte Irvin** continued in a rut at the plate, going 0 for 3.

Although hitless in two official at bats, **Jackie Robinson** scored a run and drove in another with a sacrifice fly.

Junior Gilliam was 1 for 5, and **Roy Campanella** 0 for 4. As the latter returned to the lineup for the first time since his hand operation a month ago.

PITTSBURGH—**Curt Roberts**, rookie second baseman and leadoff hitter for the Pirates, was 1 for 4 against Robin Roberts, of the Phillies, as the latter won, 8-0.

In the second game of the day's pair, **Roberts** was held hitless. The Bucs dropped this one, 10-7.

MILWAUKEE—St. Louis won, 3-2, over the Braves on the strength of a timely single by **Tom Alston**.

The Cardinals followed a 1st inning homer by Red Schoendienst with successive singles by Stan Musial, Ray Jablonski, Bill Repulski and Alston. The last one drove in the decisive marker as the Braves later tallied two to nearly catch up.

Bill Bruton had two of the nine Milwaukee hits, both singles. He scored one of the Braves' runs on **Jim Pendleton's** pinch sacrifice fly in the seventh.

Hank Aaron was 1 for 4. Brooklyn committed no error afield. So did **Alston**.

OPTIONED OUT — Pitcher Joe Black on Monday was sent to Montreal by the Brooklyn Dodgers. The big righthander slumped badly in 1953 and had been tagged for 11 hits and nine runs in seven innings this year. Black is shown here as he looked in livery of the Royals before he went to the Dodgers and won "rookie of the year" honors in 1952 while leading them to the NL championship.

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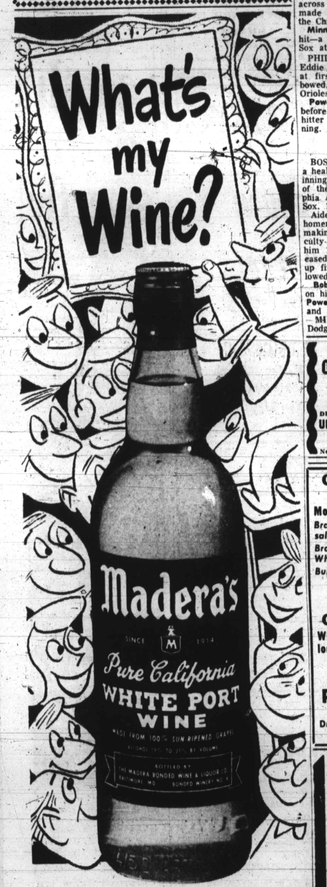

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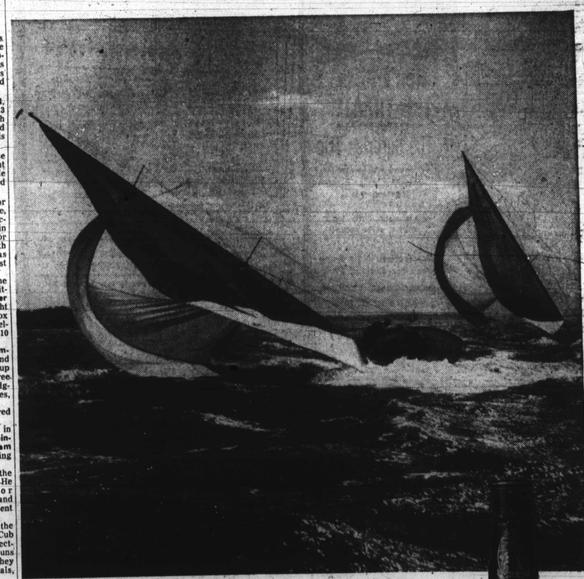

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KEGLER KING — Charles Leggett, right, receives the first place trophy after winning the Lafayette League Invitational bowling tournament. Making the presentation plus a $45 cash award, is Joseph Brown, proprietor of the Lafayette Alleys. The cash award was for Leggett's 392 high set. The women's diamond and $40-cash prize went to Mary Hill. Both are Baltimoreans.

2 outfield farmhands have Bird brass buzzing

Two outfielders who have been performing briefly for their prospective minor league clubs, are causing considerable eyebrow lifting in the front office of the Baltimore Orioles.

Joe Durham, who plays for San Antonio of the Texas League, and Willie Tasby, of the York (Piedmont League) club, form the pair which the Bird brass is praising in an announcement made this week.

Both 21 Years Old

Both are righthanded swingers and 21 years of age. Their play, the Oriole announcement says, has helped keep their teams in first place in their respective loops.

In the Double-A Texas circuit, where Durham patrols left field for the Missions, the New Iberi News (Va.) youngster is sporting a .313 average. Included among his 50 hits are 12 doubles, three triples and six homers.

Joe is exceedingly fast and rated a dangerous base runner.

Tasby Hitting .336

Tasby, on the other hand, pounded for a .336 mark to pace the York White Roses in the early pennant scramble. He has been far and away the leading offensive light for the class B Piedmont circuit leaders with 88 total bases in 34 games.

Another speedster, with six stolen bases to his credit, Tasby has driven home 40 runners and counted 34 limes. His 12 home runs to date put him ahead of his own 1953 pace when he slashed a total of 17 round trippers for the York club.

Morgan Alumni to honor Hurt

Edward P. Hurt, director of athletics and coach at Morgan State College, will be the honoree at the fifteenth annual luncheon of the General Alumni Association, President Eugene D. Byrd disclosed this week.

Coach Hurt is being honored for having completed his twenty - fifth year "of meritorious service" at the institution.

Commencing his coaching career at Morgan in 1929, Hurt has successfully coached championship teams in football, basketball and track.

The luncheon will be held at 1:30 p.m. in the Memorial Refectory on the campus.

Strand bowlers 2nd in tourney

CHICAGO — The Strand Beavers, of Baltimore, competing in their first national tournament, finished second in their bracket of the 13th annual NBA event here held recently at the Victory Recreation Center.

The Monumental City team, captained by Harvey Robinson, turned a 3-game score of 2505, to miss by only two pins a national title in their initial try.

Winner of the meet were the Wilmington Nite Owls, of Wilmington, Del.

Entered in the tourney in addition to the Beavers and Owls, were: Carney Post, Pittsburgh (Eddie Meagham, captain); Jersey Bombers, Elizabeth (William Hurd Jr.); Farris Brothers, Detroit (Leonard Holland); Termites, Cleveland (Roy Strickland); Bell's Morticians, Wilmington, Del. (Wilson S. Davis); Allen's Super Market, Detroit (Thomas Pollock); Leisey's Beer, Cleveland (Elmer Reed); Travelers, Pittsburgh (Harry Lott);

M-L Rendezvous, Toledo (John Wilson); Henry's Beer, Pittsburgh (Douglas Harris); Nite Owls (Leo Tolliver); Pittsburgh Courier, Pittsburgh (William Anderson);

Farrell's Insurance, Buffalo (George Johnson); Woodpeckers, Pittsburgh (O. S. Layne), and Davis Motor Sales, Detroit (Frank Davis.)

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426 athletes to take part in 39th municipal games

Four hundred and twenty-six athletes will take part in 32 events of the 39th Baltimore Municipal Games track and field meet at Druid Hill Park Saturday at 1 P.M.

Preceding the 32 events the 3-mile run will get under way at 1 P.M. Eight clubs will be represented in the meet.

They will include Banneker of Catonsville, Havre de Grace Athletic Association, Central AA, Baltimore Olympic Club, Chick Webb, Baltimore Cross Country, and Baltimore Cross City.

The only unattached participant scheduled to take part is Airman Hilliard B. Tucker of Andrews Air Force Base.

The Municipal games will be conducted by the Bureau of Recreation. First, second and third place trophies will be awarded to individual winners and to winning relay teams.

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Little Leaguers start tomorrow

The Turner Station - Sparrows Point Recreation Council will usher in the 1954 Little League Baseball season, Saturday, with action beginning at 12 noon.

A parade will get the opening ceremonies under way. Forming at the Sollers Point High School, the parade will be led by the school band and include all the Little Leaguers, as well as other groups.

The opening game at the Little League Field in Turner Station, adjacent the Gas and Electric Plant, will begin at 2 p.m.

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Grid Cardinals sign 3 players

CHICAGO—The Chicago Cardinals, professional football team announced Wednesday that they have signed three players for the 1954 NFL campaign.

Jack Spinks, a fullback with high promise as a blocker; Willie Carter, a speedy halfback, and George Gilchrist, a towering tackle were the three players involved.

Spinks was obtained from the Pittsburgh Steelers early last year on waivers. However, an injury limited his work with the local club until near the end of the season.

Carter, a former star at Tennessee State University, had a brief tryout with the Cleveland Brown in the beginning of the 1953 campaign, but was released. He was signed as a free agent.

Gilchrist also was taken on by the Birds as a free agent.

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