

After Crowding Giants and Yanks in Major Races, Western Teams Appear to Have Cracked

NEW YORK CLUBS IN FRONT, WITH SEASON ONLY 2 WEEKS OLD

After Good Beginnings, Several Teams in Big Leagues Have Flopped—Phillies Stay in First Division. Red Sox Take Fall Out of A's

By ROBERT W. MAXWELL
Sports Editor Evening Public Ledger

ALTHOUGH the major league baseball season is not yet two weeks old, several ball clubs highly touted to finish up in the first division folded up when the barrier was sprung and now are limping in the rear. Others, after an auspicious start, ran into rough going and took the nose dive.

Today both New York teams are leading their leagues. They have lost but two games each, which is quite a feat when one considers the opposition furnished. Western clubs have been crowding them, but they apparently have cracked. In some cases the good beginning has been entirely washed away.

Cleveland went on a rampage by knocking Detroit for a flat tire, but couldn't keep up the pace and started to finish second in the contests. The Browns also skidded, but recovered and now are on even terms with the Indians. Thus far the Yankees seem to have the class, for they are winning their games on good pitching and not depending on the sluggers. They are handicapped by the absence of Ruth and Newell, and if they can keep in front until these join the squad on May 20 it will be a tough job to stop them.

Washington has been a disappointment, but the season is entirely too young to count them out. The Senators have cashed in twice this year and suffered eight reverses. This record is good enough to put them in last place in any league. The Athletics have been a big surprise and the White Sox and Detroit are playing according to form.

The big surprise in the National is the Chicago club. The Cubs started the natives by winning a lot of games and on Saturday led the league. Today they are second, with Pittsburgh third and the Philadelphia Athletics fourth. The Cardinals got off to a good start, but have contracted the losing habit, but nevertheless have won more battles than they have lost.

The Braves have not lived up to the advance notices sent from the South, flopping to the Phils in the opening series and showing nothing like the form displayed in the exhibition games.

CINCINNATI has won one game and lost nine, and apparently Pat Moran is anchored in the cellar for some time to come.

Reds and Tigers Help Western Clubs

THERE are two answers for the strong showing of the Western clubs in the big leagues, and they are entitled Cincinnati and Detroit. The Reds are not so strong as last year. The new infield seems to be a bust and the pitching has not been so good. The new infield, with Cavery and Pinelli, has not functioned as well as was expected, and that threw a wrench in the machinery.

The Cubs made a great showing, and this is because they won five games from Cincinnati. The Pirates, after a bum beginning, played three games with the Reds and grabbed all of them. Two clubs in the first division owe their success to one weak sister.

On the other hand, Brooklyn is down in the depths because of the nine games played thus far eight were with the Giants. They had a chance to increase their average last week, but it rained three days and they couldn't play the Phils. Uncle Robbie had what one might call a tough break, for the Giants are stronger than any other ball club and are proving it day after day. Winning six out of eight from a club like Brooklyn cannot be done unless some class is shown.

The Cardinals picked on Pittsburgh for three straight and then went sootie. They mingled with the Cubs, lost two out of three, but yesterday they took a fall out of the Reds.

Absence of Cobb Handicaps Detroit

WHEN Ty Cobb injured his ankle and was forced to the sidelines Detroit took it on the hip. Tyrus is the entire works out there, and when he is out of the line-up the team loses its punch. Cleveland mopped up four games and the White Sox two, which gave them a season's record for consecutive defeats. They are back in the running now, having taken three from Cleveland.

The St. Louis Browns have thrown a jolt into the White Sox, yesterday's victory being the fifth registered over Kid Gleason's nine.

Washington's showing has been a surprise, but the Senators can be compared with Brooklyn. They have been having a private and personal series with the Yankees, and that is enough to ruin any ball club. Outside of three games with the Yankees, they have won only one game. New York took six and lost one. The Athletics grabbed two and slipped up once.

The Senators, however, will be heard from. They have about the best infield in the league, a high-class outfield and a fair pitching staff. The opposition has been too strong for so early in the season and the pitching has not been so good.

PERHAPS the cold weather had something to do with it, but that's a poor excuse. The Yanks had to contend with the same climatic conditions.

Sox Show Attack Against A's

OUR Athletics did not look so good against the Red Sox last week. They were rocked and socked on two separate and distinct occasions and the fans are still wondering what it is all about. On the first day Rommel was knocked out of the box, and Bryan Harris was ruined on Saturday. Thus the two best pitching bets were swept out in two starts and Mack had to call on his reserves to check the foe.

The Red Sox have a powerful attack and should cause a lot of trouble this year. There are some heavy clouters on the club, and when they start hitting something has to drop. However, the pitching staff is none too strong and Collins, Herli, Burns and Pratt cannot be called speed merchants. They will win many 10-to-8 ball games this year, the same as the Yankees in the past.

Connie has improved his club considerably by placing Dykes at third, Young at second and Doc Johnson at first. This appears to be a great combination, but it couldn't do anything starting with the other team knocking the pitchers loose from their uniforms. Young is not ready for the sidelines, despite the reports about his bad arm. He throws just as well as any one and is about as good a second baseman as we have had in years.

THE Athletics are in New York today to give battle to the leading Yanks. They have a tough assignment in front of them.

Tender and Barrett Are Matched

SUMMER boxing is among us, despite the raw, chilly weather. The first open-air show has been arranged and all the fans have to do is hope that snow will not interfere with the performance.

Herman Taylor, the boy matchmaker, and his robust companion, Bobby Gunn, have landed the much-talked-of bout between Lew Tender and Bobby Barrett. Briefly, here is how it happened:

Wednesday—Lew Tender claims the lightweight championship and challenges any man in the world.

Friday—Jimmy Dougherty reads an old paper, discovers the challenge and indignantly darts Tender to box Bobby Barrett. He issues a challenge.

Monday—Herman Taylor and Bobby Gunn get together that a match is pending and grab it. They hold it a secret and keep it from everybody except the newspapers.

The battle is to take place in the Phils' ball park on June 2. The weight is 135 pounds at 2 o'clock, and substantial forfeits are said to have been posted. That's all there is to it, but there will be more later.

Three-Run Short-End Scores Prevail

YESTERDAY all of the losing ball clubs pulled each other's stuff except one. In the American and National leagues five of the six losing teams scored three runs. Washington was the exception. The Yanks scored a shut-out in the final game.

HART AND HOBIN TO BOX IN EIGHT-ROUND BOUTS

Alex Meets Salvadore and Belgian Tackles Credell Tonight

Alex Hart, Ohio lightweight, protégé of Johnny Kilbane, who recently stayed the eight-round limit with George (K. O.) Chaney and Lew Tender in consecutive bouts, will meet Phil Salvadore, of California, in the main bout of eight rounds at the Olympia A. A. tonight.

Following his collision with Tender, Hart submitted to a minor operation. After a ten-day rest he resumed his ring operations and showed that he had regained his old-time form by outpointing Teddy Meyers, of Buffalo.

Pat Hobin, Belgian welterweight champion, will meet Mike Credell, of New York, in a return bout. Alex Stone, of New York, and Sam La Salle, a sailor, will engage in a return contest. Jimmy Green will square off with Jimmy Green in the opening.

FLEISHER TO MEET WOLFFEN IN FINAL

Clash Next Saturday for Allied Trophy—Grounds Not Named

The Fleisher Yarners, by their 4-to-1 score victory over Hardwick & Magee, will meet Wolfenden in the concluding match for the Allied Soccer Cup. The grounds have not as yet been selected. It was to have been played at Disston Field, but the plans have been changed.

Wolfenden-Shore yesterday defeated Marshall E. Smith in a play-off for the championship of Section A, first division, by 2 goals to 0. This gives Wolfenden the honors, and they will oppose Ascension, champions of Section B, next Sunday for the title of the division.

FAKE MESSAGE TO TILDEN CANCELS TENNIS TILTS

Atlantic City Police Seek Sender of Wire to World's Champion

Atlantic City, N. J., April 24.—A bogus telegram caused the cancellation of the exhibition tennis match scheduled here yesterday between William T. Tilden, 2d, world champion, and William Johnston, former world's titleholder, and Vincent Richards, national junior champion, and R. Norris Williams.

A special stand had been erected and a large crowd awaited the arrival of the net stars, when the discovery of the fake telegram was made.

The telegram was sent to Tilden from here to Philadelphia Saturday night and was signed "Tennis Committee." Paul W. Gibbons, president of the Middle Atlantic District Tennis Association, and Mayor Edward Bader, of this city, have placed the matter in the hands of the police.

UNCLE DUD



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NORTH PHILS HAND OUT BIG SURPRISE

Defeat Pottstown Team With Steinader and Seibold on the Hill by 5 to 2

THE North Philadelphia baseball team has sprung the first big surprise of the independent season. The Wingo-hocking artists have played several practice games, but the first real test was staged yesterday at Pottstown.

In that Pennsylvania city the Philadelphia Terminal bunch holds forth, and P. T. boasts of a line-up that is considered one of the best. Well, the opening crowd by the count of 5 to 2.

Manager Reifender, of the winning crew, used Jay Steinader and Bob Seibold, formerly of the Athletics, on the hill, and with the Phils "looking like a million dollars," Reifender's gang came through.

With the Phils leading by 1 to 0 in the sixth inning, Seibold was yanked in favor of Steinader. The Pottstowners tied the score in their half, but the locals came back and added a couple more. Up until the eighth inning, Tommy Volz pitched the eighth and ninth.

The game proved that there are a bunch of good clubs in the Philadelphia Independent League, and some of those unmetastored invincibles are going to lose a lot of games. For the winners the playing of Young, Nick Carter and Jack Kelly excelled.

Two other clubs, the major local teams, traveled out of town and came home with well-earned victories. Brides-bride handed Bushwicks, one of Gotham's premier nines, a felt. Holden took his Hillside champs to Cressona and trimmed that club 6 to 2, the game going into extra sessions and the Darbyites winning out in the tenth with four tallies.

Saturday's Openings

Saturday's openings furnished the fans in several towns plenty to think about. Downtown at Broad and Bigler more than 10,000 persons crowded into Shetline Park to see the home team lower the colors of Fleisher Yarn.

All star league trimmings were an opening day were handed the fans, but the game wasn't much to brag about. The players on either side can play a whole lot better, and they can prove it.

The Phils had pitched before and their teamwork was a trifle ragged.

This was particularly true of Fleisher, who have been handicapped by being unable to have their field for practice. The grounds shared by the soccer team and no ball games have yet been played. Fleisher has a good bunch and a great manager, and they will be right up among the leaders.

Washington May Enter Western College Expected to Send Crew to Intercollegiate

New York, April 24.—Eastern rowing circles were agog today over the expected entry of Washington State University's crew. Pacific Coast champions, in the intercollegiate regatta at Touhy, Sept. 26, on June 28.

It has been anticipated that California, which finished second to the powerful Navy crew last year, would again send its oarsmen East, but the defeat of the Bears Saturday by Washington by the wide margin of nine lengths was considered here to have eliminated the Californians as an entry.

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Runs Scored for Week in Three Big Leagues

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	S	M	T	W	F	S	M	T	W	F	S	M	T	W	F				
Pittsburgh	4	1	8	10	14	37	5	9	17	4	1	3	8	26	1	1	1	1	1
Chicago	3	6	7	9	8	39	2	17	11	5	7	8	15	52	1	1	1	1	1
St. Louis	3	6	7	9	8	39	2	17	11	5	7	8	15	52	1	1	1	1	1
New York	5	—	—	—	—	5	7	7	4	10	7	8	25	1	1	1	1	1	
Brooklyn	10	—	—	—	—	1	10	10	10	10	10	10	49	1	1	1	1	1	
Philadelphia	2	—	—	—	—	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	19	1	1	1	1	1	
Phillies	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	19	1	1	1	1	1	
Cincinnati	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	19	1	1	1	1	1	
Boston	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	19	1	1	1	1	1	

PHILS AND A'S WIN SUNDAY BALL GAMES

Wilhelm's Crew Subdues Bridgeport, 10-5; Macks Trim New Haven, 9-3

The Phils and Athletics both observed Sunday by playing exhibition games, and both were returned winners by decisive scores.

Kize Wilhelm's athletes handed Bridgeport, of the Eastern League, a licking, 10 to 5, pounding Klan Clark, recently acquired from Cincinnati, all over the lot.

Wrightstone, Parkinson and Withrow all had their batting eyes with the Phils, connected with three hits apiece. Colonel Snover pitched for the Phils and did not exert himself at any time.

The Mackmen were also playing an Eastern League team, meeting Hill Donovan's New Haven crew. Connie Mack used three hurlers in O'Neil, Husty and Eckert, and had little difficulty in annexing the decision, 9 to 3.

Frank McGowan, a former New Haven player, was presented with a gold watch by Branford admirers on his first appearance at the plate.

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