

Around The Circuit — AMERICAN LEAGUE —

What a wonder Robert Moses had beaten him only eight times in eight years. Bob beating them seven times in 1935.

Prior to joining the Athletics in 1925, Grove won 106 games and lost only thirty-six for Baltimore, giving him a grand total of 336 victories and 135 defeats in sixteen seasons and one month.

Remember the old riddle that the reason hay horses eat more hay than gray horses was that there are more hay horses. For the same reason, the American League sluggers are gathering more home runs off right hand pitchers than they are off southpaws because there are far more right handers facing them.

Jimmy Foss, for instance, was leading the major league hammer-smiths with eight home runs up to May 9. Seven of the eight were off right-handers, and Russ Van Atta yielding the other one. Hal Trosky of the Indians made all of his six off right handers. Bill Dickey has split up his six, four off righters, two off southpaws. Puccinelli, a right hand batsman, has made four, all off right handers. Zerkow has four to his credit but made none off left-handers.

On the other hand, Lou Gehrig had made all of his three off southpaws, two of them being off Ostermueller.

Have the American League pitchers stopped pitching home run balls to Lou Johnson of the Athletics? On May 8, Bob had not knocked a four-bagger. He had collected seven by that date in 1935.

Merritt Cain, now with the White Sox, never was able to beat Boston when a member of the Athletics. As seven of the Browns in 1935, he turned the trick three times.

Down in their Florida training camp, the Detroit Tigers had three southern pitchers, Joe Sullivan in the only season. Hegett having been traded to the Browns while Wade was sent to Montreal. Cleveland and Washington each has three left handers, New York, St. Louis and Philadelphia each two. Chicago and Washington each one, a total of fifteen with Grove and Gomez the stand-outs.

Two of the New York Yankee farms are riding high in the minors, Newark topping the Inters-

national league and Oakland the Pacific Coast Circuit. Beaumont, a Detroit kindergarten, is leading the Texas league.

Although he has had fair success against several of the American League clubs, Buck Newsom of Washington is just a "cousin" to Cleveland, which club, in three seasons, has won ten out of eleven games from the big right hander.

Russ Peters batter hit 212 in 83 games with Albany, last year. Nevertheless he was hitting 462 in his first eight games as one of the Athletics, his twelve hits including two triples and two home runs. Russ, who joined the Lambda Chi fraternity at Washington and Lee, had driven in eight runs. He is only twenty-two years of age.

Wes Ferrel declared a few days ago he had caught but one line drive since becoming a pro pitcher and that was this month. George Walker of the Tigers was at bat and hit one right back at the Red Sox pitcher. Wes threw up his gloved hand to protect his face and the ball struck.

Stephen (Carl) Mesmer, the third baseman purchased from Los Angeles, by the Chicago White Sox for delivery next year, broke in with a bang at Ponca City in 1934, making four hits in his first game and four the next day—eight hits in three games and three in two. Carl says he has been playing semipro baseball since he was nine years of age.

Mickey Cochran, manager of the Detroit Tigers, Tom Yawkey, president of the Red Sox, Eddie Collins, vice-president and general manager, and Trip Sinkov, former star outfielder, batsman and manager, will form a quartette to go hunting in Wyoming, next Autumn.

Connie Mack says: "I do not believe I ever will forget my first training trip. We went down to Jacksonville in 1888 and do you know, it cost our club only \$1 a day for room and three meals for each player? And, they were good meals."

STUDENT CHATTER By THE CHATTERBOX

Birmingham again boasts a Regional track champion team, as a succession of men of the 1926 squad proved its claim to the title "a great team" by piling up the overwhelming total of 75 points to win the meet at Ypsilanti. 44 points more than the nearest competitor. This performance capped an undefeated season, during which season the team competed against Class A teams along with Class B opponents.

Birmingham seems to have a monopoly on good track teams. The Maroons hold several Regional meets and two State championships. They have been State Class B champions once, and should have been champs in another year, in fact, would have been swept for one of the team's stars spinning an ankle.

All of which leads up to this: It's great to be a winner but winner or not, the high school athletes of Birmingham deserve a better track and play field than the one serving that purpose now. Pierce Field is antiquated. The equipment what there is of it, is not sufficient. The track is hardened and baked to a degree that makes good performances on it practically impossible. The grass around the field is rarely if ever cut. The jumping and vaulting pits are baked too hard, to loosen and break up each time a boy wastes or practices, and even when they are turned over with a spade, the dirt is still too hard to insure perfect safety in landing. That is briefly the shape in which Pierce Field is now in.

There is no excuse for such a lack of interest as Birmingham parents and merchants have taken about the care of the field. The people of Birmingham should awake to the fact that Birmingham boasts one of the finest track teams in this part of Michigan, even in the entire State. The merchants should be proud of their boys' performances and desirous of a well-conditioned, well-equipped field for Birmingham school children of all grades, and schools. The merchants should realize that a winning team is an asset to a town, carrying its name far about the state. The people of Birmingham should arouse their latent community spirit and at least at the expense of the field, consider the track, and provide plenty of sand for the pits. The cost of completely reconditioning and equipping the field would not be beyond a reasonable amount, and the joy derived from the field by Birmingham school children and the knowledge that the students could play, practice, or compete on a well-equipped safe field would repay many times the amount expended for repairs.

Where is our community spirit? The town found a way to support a school baseball team if the high school students are deeply grateful to the local merchants and parents for helping us bring back baseball, and we feel sure that our parents, merchants, and friends will respond to this appeal with as much community spirit and whole-hearted cooperation as they always have done in the past.

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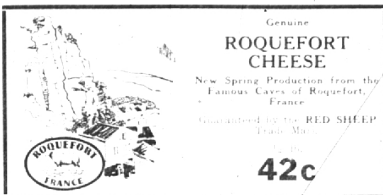
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